

DRAFT Minutes
March 9, 2017
Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

1. Roll Call and Brief Neighborhood Report
2. Approval of November and February, 2017 Minutes (approved)
3. Officers and Staff Report

Katie Cristol and Christian Dorsey Discussion:

Rob Swennes - There is a funding issue. I'm sure you've been briefed and we'll be meeting with Jay Fisette soon but we wanted to discuss it with the two of you.

Sarah McKinley – The cost of our street improvement projects have doubled over the past 6 years. It's a result of things such as stormwater, materials, Memorandum of Transportation (MOT), administrative costs, operating costs.

Christian Dorsey - There is also the competitive bid issue. When you have smaller projects you don't tend to get as good of a bid. It's not about estimating better, because we know staff does their best to make assumptions. Katie Cristol -

We had a contracting conversation about procurement. Phil Klingelhofer - The funding level has been flat for the last several bond cycles. Bill Braswell - You see the big buildings, but maybe not the single family homes that have been torn down. A lot of those contractors use sub-contractors. We have to go out with the contracts and we are in competition with the bigger folks. We are here to take the heat away from the Board members. We do a good job getting consensus from the neighborhoods. We do need more money. We are in competition with the construction. Sarah McKinley - We had a funding round in December that has been pulled from the County Board's agenda and we are committed to those neighborhoods. We also have a June funding round that we are working towards. My neighborhood did an NC Plan to get a project and we had to stop funding rounds and it was hard for the membership. We want to encourage continuity. Jim Feaster - We've benefited in Ashton Heights from developer money. Does the transfer of development rights set up to make it easier for us to access those funds? Christian Dorsey - Maybe not easier, but we need to figure out how to leverage those funds in a more effective way. Katie Cristol - There has to be a certain amount of density and neighborhoods don't necessarily have that density. Christian Dorsey - I see a structural problem in NC in that the program has not kept up with inflation. Katie Cristol - We need to target areas in the

county where we can get land acquisition. Tracie Morris - About 20 years ago, developers would give neighborhoods money for improvements. There is about 6 small pots of money. The funds were earmarked for neighborhood traffic calming. Sarah McKinley - I'm curious to know about PayGo money to help us get over the hump and get through it. Katie Cristol - A lot of the Paygo was rolled in FY18 budget. Jim Feaster - The purpose of the NC Program is to bind the neighborhoods together. Sarah McKinley - We will likely plan to ask for much more money in the 2018 bond. Terron Sims – Arlington Public Schools are giving folks two choices which is building another school or making schools bigger. Katie Cristol - What kind of changes have you seen in the community. Rob Swennes - We've seen more pressure for needed park land. Sarah McKinley - Our communities are becoming much denser, but we still have to consider how to take care of our residential neighborhoods.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm