

## MEETING MINUTES

Information Technology Advisory Commission (ITAC)

Wednesday 7:30 pm

August 23, 2017

Comcast Xfinity Store

1515 North Courthouse Road

Arlington County Courthouse Building

Room 311

Arlington County, VA 22201

### In Attendance:

Chair: Frank Jazzo  
ITAC Members Present: Mary Crannell, Vice Chair  
Joshua Farrar  
Dr. Denise Haskins  
William Lang  
Anita Nolen  
Kevin Robins

Members Not Present: Phil Caughran (Excused)  
David Husband  
Dan Laredo (Excused)  
Martha Moore  
Patrick South (Excused)

County Staff: Jack Belcher, CIO  
George Parr, Cable Administrator

Cable TV Representatives: Louise Anderson, Verizon  
Marie Schuler, Comcast

1. Meet for Tour of Comcast's Xfinity Store
2. Meeting Called to Order at Courthouse Plaza

3. Public Comment

- Thank you to Marie Schuler for arranging tour of new Xfinity store

4. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings (June 28th) - Approved

5. Cable Administrator's Report (Jack Belcher, George Parr)

Small Cell Deployment - CIO Jack Belcher said that while there is very little the County can do with respect to the deployment of small cell sites, the County Board established rules for making application for a small cell permit, which includes a fee and a "shot clock". This new process started on July 1, 2017 and is in accordance with Senate Bill 1282, enacted by the Virginia General Assembly on April 26, 2017.

From the County's web site: "Arlington County has a new application process for approval of small cell telecommunications facilities on private property. Applicants must complete the Application for Small-Cell or Micro-Wireless Facility Installation on Existing Structures.

STEP 1: Pre-Submission - Determine Type of Project

Before applying for a small cell facilities permit, determine if your project (1) meets the definition of a small cell facility (as defined in SB1282), (2) is proposed to be located on an existing structure, and (3) is located outside of the public right-of-way. Applications for small cell facilities in the public right of way must be made through the Department of Environmental Services (DES).

STEP 2: Submit Small Cell Permit Application. Small Cell Facility permit applications are filed with Zoning Administration.

STEP 3: Small Cell Application Review."

5. Cable Administrator's Report (continued)

Digital Counties Award – On July 20, 2017, the Center for Digital Government (CDG) and the National Association of Counties (NACo) announced winners of the 15th annual Digital Counties Survey, which included Arlington County in its category. The survey, conducted by CDG in partnership with NACo, identifies the best technology practices among U.S. counties, including initiatives that streamline delivery of government services, encourage collaboration and shared services, enhance cybersecurity and even reduce carbon emissions.

From Digital Communities website: Arlington County, Va. (150,000-249,999 population category): Arlington County's primary goals are transparency, open government and economic development. Initiatives such as the Open Data Portal and a webcast program are helping the county achieve those goals. County board meetings, work sessions and commission meetings, including online real-time discussions, are streamed live over the internet and are increasing citizen participation exponentially.

Jack Belcher, who attended the award ceremony in Columbus, said that because there was a news embargo on the announcement and ITAC didn't meet in July, we couldn't share news of the award until now. This marks the second year in a row that Arlington has received this award.

<https://newsroom.arlingtonva.us/release/arlington-named-top-digital-county-for-2017/>

<http://www.govtech.com/dc/digital-counties/Digital-Counties-Survey-2017-Winners-Announced.html>

Platforms for Advanced Wireless Research (PAWR) – Arlington County and Joint Base Ft. Myer-Henderson Hall (JBM-HH) are collaborating with Virginia Tech in making application for a federal grant (from the NSF web site) “to create a test bed for an advanced wireless research platform with an emphasis on experimental exploration of robust new wireless devices, communication techniques, networks, systems, and services that will revolutionize the nation's wireless ecosystem, thereby enhancing broadband connectivity, leveraging the emerging Internet of Things (IoT), and sustaining US leadership and economic

5. Cable Administrator's Report (continued)

Platforms for Advanced Wireless Research (PAWR) (continued)

competitiveness for decades to come". These federal grants will be matched by participants in the private technology sector, i.e. Verizon, Google.

Mr. Belcher said Virginia Tech is competing against other academic research institutes for one of the four grants being offered, two of which will be awarded soon with funding to start January 1, 2018, while the other two grants will begin in 2019 and 2020. Virginia Tech thinks its chances are good as they estimate six serious contenders for the four grants. Mr. Belcher added that Virginia Tech has already made a commitment to the project by announcing that they're moving staff to the fourth floor of their office building on N. Glebe Road. He added that if Virginia Tech gets the award of \$50 million, private sector participants will move staff to Ballston to be close to the project.

The geographic area for the test platform, which will run along the Rosslyn-Ballston Corridor to JBM-HH to Long Bridge Park, has gotten great support from Base Commander Colonel Duggan as well as the generals who head the Military District of Washington.

Because this process is on a fast track, the County Board was asked to make a commitment to participate in this project, which they did on short notice at a closed session on July 18<sup>th</sup>. While there were many questions about what the County's role will be in the project during a brief discussion period, (i.e. Virginia Tech will reimburse the County for its expenses should they get the award) the Board voted unanimously at 1:30 am to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Virginia Tech and a resolution that said this endeavor is something in which the County should be involved. The final application was due by July 31<sup>st</sup>

The White House and NSF are currently going through their final assessments. To that end, during two separate weeks beginning the last week in October, they will make site visits that will last a day and a half each. The visits will either be between October 30 and November 3 or November 13 and November 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Belcher said it's essential that the chair of the County Board be present for a meet and greet. ITAC board members are welcome too. The tour, which will be described, will include the R-B Corridor, JBM-HH and Long Bridge Park

5. Cable Administrator's Report (continued)

Platforms for Advanced Wireless Research (PAWR) (continued)

Finally, Mary Crannell asked if DARPA was aware of the project. She said she would reach out to her contact there if necessary. Mr. Belcher said he didn't know but that Virginia Tech had been reaching out to just about everybody.

Next Century Cities - County Board Member Katie Cristol was approached by Next Century Cities about Arlington joining the organization. Next Century Cities is an information sharing organization of about 150 cities (very few counties belong). The other Board members have said they're on board with joining following Ms. Cristol's return from being out of town.

The following is from Next Century Cities web page:

"Next Century Cities supports mayors and community leaders across the country as they seek to ensure that everyone has fast, affordable, and reliable internet access.

Across the country, innovative municipalities are recognizing the importance of leveraging gigabit level internet to attract new businesses and create jobs, improve health care and education, ensure civic participation, and connect residents to new opportunities. Next Century Cities is committed to celebrating these successes, demonstrating their value, and helping other cities to realize the full power of truly highspeed, affordable, and accessible broadband."

<http://nextcenturycities.org/about/overview/>

<http://nextcenturycities.org/wp-content/uploads/Next-Century-Cities-Two-Pager.pdf>

6. Administrative and Other Issues:

- Teleworking - ITAC board member David Husband asked that this topic be included in the next meeting following the teleworking presentation made by Arlington County Human Resources. Because Mr. Husband was not in attendance, the topic will be included in the agenda for the September meeting.

6. Administrative and Other Issues: (continued)

- Arlington Mill Demonstration Project – Following a presentation by staff regarding the pilot project, Mary Crannell, on behalf of ITAC, wrote a letter to the Board in support of the initiative. Since then, APAH, owner of the affordable housing at Arlington Mill, has elected to pursue a path that does not include the use of ConnectArlington fiber. Joe Webster, who made the presentation to ITAC will provide an update at the next meeting. Meanwhile the letter is on hold.
- Verizon Construction Update – Louise Anderson said that the Arbor, one of the HOA's in South Fairlington is on track to begin FIOS service in 35 days (the end of September). Soon, sales materials will be distributed to the homeowners. Meanwhile the other six HOA's in south Fairlington can expect service by year end. Finally, North Fairlington, the biggest HOA with 1700 households, recently had its design approved. Residents can expect service in 2018 following construction. Meanwhile, Fairlington Court, a small HOA, never signed a PAL so they will not be getting FIOS.
- Comcast Construction Update – Marie Schuler said that Comcast is on target to complete its upgrade via its deployment of fiber. It was noted that by shrinking the size of its nodes Comcast will improve its speed and quality of service.
- County Fair – ITAC Exhibit – Frank Jazzo and Mary Crannell attended the County Fair on Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup> for two hours and handed out ITAC brochures while talking with other Arlingtonians, including board member John Vihstadt. Discussion followed about need to update brochure so there's more emphasis on Arlington County's achievements in technology rather than an emphasis on television cable administration.
- Upcoming Meetings: APS's Matt Smith is working on arranging a joint meeting in October between ITAC and the school superintendent's technology advisory group. Board member Libby Garvey to attend.
- Board Vacancy: Ken Cohn (term expired July 31, 2017) – Requests for applications have been made. Need to know if previous applicants have become board members of other committees.

#### 7. Regulatory & Legislative Update (Frank Jazzo)

- ITAC submitted one suggestion to the County to submit to the state legislature as requested. David Husband wants to see the state loosen its restrictions on municipalities from lighting fiber.
- Verizon announced that it is planning to build and operate a core public safety communications network, similar to FirstNet. The new network will operate separately from Verizon's core commercial network and will provide public safety priority access to its nationwide network.
- FCC Chairman Pai appointed members to the Streamlining Federal Siting Working Group of the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee. Former FCC Commissioner, current Arlington resident and President/CEO of the Wireless Infrastructure Association, Jonathan Adelstein, was named Chair.
- The FCC will host a public workshop on 9/11 to discuss best practices for improving situational awareness during 911 outages.
- FirstNet and AT&T released draft state plans to U.S. Governors and Virginia became the first state to opt in to FirstNet.

#### 8. Good of the Order

#### 9. Adjournment