

Neighborhood Complete Streets Commission
Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 14, 2020 *Online Meeting*

- **Members Present:** Elisa Ortiz, Richard Gibson, Ed Hilz, Dwight Hlustick, Francesca Guerrero, Bill Braswell, Margarita Brose, Eric Goodman, Steve Wardell, Girair Simon, Kevin Sweeney, Giles Crimi (quorum reached)
- **Members Absent:** Mae Hanzlik, Walter Zantinge
- **Non-Members Present:** Chris Slatt, Justin Boatner, Alistair Watson
- **Staff:** Michelle Stafford, Akram Ahmad
- **Meeting called to order:** 7:30 pm
- **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the November 2020 meeting approved unanimously
- **Public Comment:** Alistair Watson and Justin Boatner spoke about accessibility challenges in various places throughout Arlington, including around the Arlington Career Center and in the Aurora Highlands neighborhood. There is a need for additional accessible facilities, as well as repairs to existing pedestrian facilities.
- **Chair's Report:**
 - ***Schedule of NCSC Meetings*** – The regular meeting dates for the January and February meetings fall on the MLK and President's Day holidays. Staff will send out a doodle poll to reschedule.
- **Potential Project List:**

Staff have been working on rescoring the NCS location list to reflect the changes to the Project Ranking Guidelines, and to incorporate locations nominated since November 2017. The challenge is the criteria quantifying speed and volume of vehicles (Group 1C on the NCS Project Ranking Guidelines). Speed data collection has resumed, but volume data is not being collected as the current volumes do not reflect pre-pandemic levels.

MOTION: I move that the Neighborhood Complete Streets program temporarily suspend the Group 1C criteria, to be reevaluated in six months. (Moved by Elisa Ortiz, Seconded by Kevin Sweeney – 9 in favor, 3 opposed.)
- **Discussion RE: Fire Code & Neighborhood Street Design:**

The discussion focused on the conflict between Arlington County's Master Transportation Plan, and the Virginia Fire Code. Fire code calls for a clear width travelway of 20 feet, which amounts to up to 6 feet wider street design on a neighborhood street with a yield condition (assuming on-street parking on both sides of the street, and the street is not a one-way street). There is not a clear process to resolve

the differences between the two policies, which has impacted project scoping.
Francesca Guerrero agreed to draft a letter for consideration at a future NCSC meeting.

- **Adjourned:** 9:12 pm

Submitted by Michelle Stafford (2/03/2021)