

DRAFT Minutes
February 12, 2015
Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

1. Roll Call and Brief Neighborhood Report
2. Approval of January (unanimously approved)
3. Officers and Staff Report

Presentation by Mary Hynes:

Rick - If we were to build out how would that be and how much can we upzone?
Mary Hynes - You would need to look at the COG forecast. The county's approach is that we plan. We look at each area and make a plan about a density. We also need to look at the transportation corridors. We look at transit oriented development. We work to give planning guidance. If a developer wants to do something where we haven't planned, we do a GLUP study and we try to get a site plan in that conforms. Alexandra Bocian - How do we look at the vacancy in commercial areas? Shouldn't we occupy the places we already have before we build more? Mary Hynes - We have about a 30% vacancy rates. We want to occupy our buildings. We have hired a new Economic Development Director. We are trying to come up with creative ways and get our policy house in order. We are looking at permitting and certificate of occupancy. We are doing business breakfasts so we can hear directly from business owners. We are also completing a dark fiber network, which connects all of our traffic signals. Big companies want this dark fiber because it's like their own lane. We need to work to license the dark fiber. Ed Hilz - Update on Comcast license? Mary Hynes - We would like to work on our underground network first. The competition is fierce, but we need to see if Comcast and Verizon are willing to work with us. John Kirkpatrick- What does the Board plan to do given the streetcar is now been abandoned? Mary Hynes - The Manager is coming to us in February with a strategy moving forward and that will influence the capital improvement plan that we put in place. We also need to figure out what to do with bus storage. We need longer buses than the current 40' buses. Multimodal projects are still moving forward along Columbia Pike. The larger bus stops are still moving forward as well. Edie Wilson - We had a presentation in June about Shirlington Crescent. We need to have a discussion about everything in the county. A tricky situation in terms of equities. Those of us that live in places that don't have

master plans feel vulnerable. We feel an inequity in terms of facilities. We have a new financial reality but we need to look at it strategically. Mary Hynes - We have a whole team of staff that needs to work with school staff. The one saving grace you have is the special GLUP study. You are not completely unprotected. The Board will have a strategic session in March with the Manager and we'll work with her. The other component is that we are short of Planning Commission members and they are stretched in terms of reviewing plans. Unknown - Heard from a lot of neighbors about the timing and what is expected of the Community Facilities Study, can you elaborate? Mary Hynes - We laid out an 11 month timeframe. The charge does highlight several areas. The group is supposed to come back in November of this year. We are looking for consensus. Josh Handler - In Boulevard Manor we have been at the crossroads of all the development with schools, open space, etc. Mary Hynes - Ashlawn was the first and we learned a lot of lessons. It's not just about school seats. We need to work collectively as a community to take all factors into consideration. It's a team of county staff involved from the beginning. Ron Jacobs - We need more storage as we grow. Can we stop approving new development? Mary Hynes - People who own property have a right to build. The buses are an issue. The people that live west of us are not as transit oriented as we are. Our buses help these people get to where they want to go.

Richard Best Presentation:

Sarah McKinley - What is complete streets? Richard Best - It's a re-programmed traffic calming program. The traffic calming program is no more but we still have a need. We have reinvented the program and it's focused on safety and access. Sarah McKinley - Does it include the bicycle corridors? Richard Best - It could, but we are focused on residential areas. Sarah McKinley - How are you going to complete sidewalks? Where would you put them? Richard Best - It will be resident and staff driven and we are working on the process. Liz McGonigle - What will you do with the answers to the surveys? Will you publish it? Richard Best - We are going to go through all of them and work on the model for our program. We will provide a report and it will drive our process. Sarah McKinley - Are you going to have a vote? Bill Braswell - We are working to try and amend the guidelines for NC projects. We've had two meetings but we've had tremendous progress. One of the discussion items is how Traffic, Engineering and Operations (TE&O) work with NC. Jesse Boeding - How does this play into the sidewalk width email you sent out? Bill Braswell - That email gave us a bit of pushback but we are working with Ritch Viola to try and understand what the sidewalk exemptions are. Paul Bolejack - What about the other items that need to

be considered as part of this program? Richard Best - We don't have a huge amount of money but we would like to partner with other folks like NC.