

Columbia Pike Construction Open House Feedback - January 9, 2020

(Concerns with the most number of comments are at the top of the list)

	Category	Concern	County Response/Action
1	Dinwiddie Street	Existing issues with the transit layover on Dinwiddie are made worse by new construction phase; visibility issues (from 9th Street onto Dinwiddie and right turns onto Columbia Pike), drivers turn left from the right-hand lane and causing backups	Clearing out bus pull-out area in front of 5353 Columbia Pike (Palazzo Condos) so it can be used as a bus layover area. Some buses that have been waiting on South Dinwiddie Street will move to the new location. Adding a left turn signal for southbound South Dinwiddie Street at Columbia Pike, to provide a dedicated signal for traffic turning left onto Columbia Pike.
2	Turn restrictions	Left turns should be restored to buildings whose only access is Columbia Pike as soon as possible. Can left turns be allowed at certain times?	With only one open lane in each direction, allowing left turns would completely halt traffic. No plan to reinstitute left turns until later phases of construction.
3	Detours	Detours are making all turns to and from Dinwiddie/Columbus more difficult. Is it possible to add left-turn lanes or remove no-turn-on-red restrictions?	Adding a left turn pocket on westbound Columbia Pike at the South Dinwiddie/Columbus Street intersection and a left turn arrow at the signal, to assist westbound drivers turn left onto Columbus Street
4	Lighting	Concerns with visibility of pedestrian crossings and low light conditions for pedestrians	Reviewing additional lighting, including temporary lighting, in certain locations, and coordinating with Dominion
5	Transit	Traffic back-ups are impacting bus reliability. Can the schedule be maintained through construction?	ART is adding buses to maintain service schedule
6	Frederick Street	Crossing Columbia Pike at Frederick Street is difficult for people driving and walking	Installing a temporary traffic signal at South Frederick Street by the end of March, until the permanent signal at this intersection is built later during the project, to improve safety for pedestrians crossing the street and allow traffic on northbound Frederick Street to turn left onto Columbia Pike
7	Transit	Is it possible to incentivize transit usage during construction?	Planning to incentivize transit usage with SmarTrip card giveaways
8	Turn restrictions	What can be done to lessen the impact on local businesses? Can turns be restored in front of the Plaza shopping center?	Working to expedite construction in front of the Plaza shopping center in order to open left turns into the Plaza
9	Communications	Desire for greater coordination with regional partners (Public Schools, Fairfax County, Bailey's Crossroads Business District, local TV, ART buses) to share messaging	Underway
10	Enforcement	Can officers be on the street directing traffic when detailed to Columbia Pike? Can they enforce all traffic laws, not just the new turn restrictions?	Police are providing spot enforcement
11	Public art	Public art is a positive addition for Columbia Pike	Noted
12	Dinwiddie Street	Turning from neighborhood roads on Dinwiddie Street (from 9th Street and the small access road to Arlington Mill) is very difficult due to traffic back-ups	Addressing with new left turn signal for southbound South Dinwiddie Street at Columbia Pike, will continue to monitor after initial changes are implemented
13	Communications	Desire for advanced warning on nightwork, driveway closures and any additional disruptions	Working with project staff and construction managers to ensure proper notices are provided

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14	Contractor management	Contractor crews beginning work/mobilizing equipment before work hours on weekends	Have reminded contractor crews of allowable hours for construction and noisy work
15	Contractor management	Contractor crews blocking access to driveways and parking on private property	Working with construction manager to address
16	Parking	Can parking be removed on Dinwiddie Street between 9th Street and Columbia Pike to provide more space for traffic?	Opening up parking spaces would not provide additional travel lane due to sidewalk bumpouts, continue to monitor area
17	Dinwiddie Street	Can the crosswalk at Dinwiddie Street and 9th Street be improved/made more visible?	Current set-up includes appropriate safety measures, will continue to monitor
18	Columbia Pike	Could the stretch of Columbia Pike in the work zone be converted to local-use only?	Not recommended, Columbia Pike is an important regional route in addition to serving local travel
19	Lane markings	Lane markings need additional visibility and are particularly unclear at night or in inclement weather	Adding bollards to improve visibility
20	Lane markings	Lanes on Columbus Street need to be more clear during construction -- drivers are using the middle lane as a northbound left-turn lane and a southbound travel lane	Adding bollards to make lane configuration clearer
21	Signals	As lights are retimed for traffic and buses are relocated, make sure pedestrian crossing times are maintained - this is already challenging at Dinwiddie Street and Frederick Street	Staff constantly review timing of signals and are adjusting as needed
22	Contractor management	Could the project be completed more quickly if work was done around the clock?	Some nightwork will be performed at certain locations, when necessary, but constant nightwork would be too disruptive to residents. Adding crews in order to complete construction as quickly and safely as possible
23	Public art	Make signage on Western Gateway public art inclusive of languages spoken, like Spanish and Amharic	Noted
24	Signals	Turning cars and buses from Four Mile Run Drive block traffic onto westbound Columbia Pike	Modifying signal coordination to address this issue
25	Communications	Make materials and communications widely available	Noted
26	Detours	Can improvements be made to some of the neighborhood detour routes, such as traffic calming or additional warning signage for pedestrian crossings?	Continuing to monitor detours as issues come up, will add signage as needed
27	Enforcement	Are officers currently issuing tickets for left turn violations?	Officers are issuing warnings except for severe violations
28	Schools	Coordinate with Arlington Public Schools about school bus stops and routes during construction	Actively coordinating with APS, moving school bus stop from South Dinwiddie Street and 9th Street South to South Dinwiddie Street and 8th Road South to move it further away from the congested intersection
29	Transit	How will/are buses that normally take lefts on/across Columbia Pike adjusting to construction?	Considering detours for future phases of construction