

Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting
Wednesday, September 12, 2018 7-9 PM
Ellen M. Bozman Government Center, Dogwood & Cherry Rooms
Courthouse Plaza, 2100 Clarendon Boulevard
Minutes, approved without change, October 10, 2018

Present: Eric Goldstein, Chair; Chris Yarie, Vice Chair; Pamela Van Hine, Recording Secretary; Ian Blackwell; Eric Goodman; Andrea Walker; David Patton, Bicycle & Pedestrian Planner; Katy Lang, WalkArlington

Guests: Tim Aiken, Paul DeMaio, Gail Ginsburg, Phil Haxel, Greg Matlesky, Sarah McKinley, Christine Sherman, Clayton Swope, Mohammed Tabibi

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. and welcomed members, staff, and guests.

Public Comments: Sarah McKinley, President of the Columbia Heights Civic Association

A coalition of Columbia Heights, Penrose, and Arlington View Civic Associations is concerned about the County's proposal in response to a pedestrian fatality this past spring by Queen Street and Columbia Pike. Although the County proposal includes a new crosswalk across the Pike by Queen, it eliminates the crosswalks on the Southside of the Pike between Queen and Washington Boulevard. The coalition supports an alternative proposed by Board Member Dorsey for a new user-activated crosswalk and light at Rolfe that would also accommodate the increased bike traffic from the new trail along Washington Boulevard that ends at Rolfe. The County opposed this alternative in part because a crosswalk here could not be ADA-compliant, even though Rolfe had a crosswalk before the Pike was repaved. D. Patton gave Ms. McKinley some suggestions and both D. Patton and C. Sherman noted they would check on the status of these proposals for the Pike.

M. Tabidi, Special Operations, Arlington County Police Department: Quarterly Update on Pedestrian Crashes in Arlington

M. Tabidi presented County LERMS data for crashes to date in 2018. LERMS data only include crashes tracked by County police; TARP data include crashes in Arlington tracked by additional sources, such as NPS officers and state police. Total vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle crashes are down for 2018, although there is a significant increase in cyclists being at fault. He also noted that bike-ped crashes have increased and that DoVes may increase the crash rates. He stated that Lt Murphy was one of the people meeting with the Virginia Attorney General about DoVe regulations in Virginia and that Lt Murphy would be sending us a report on their conclusions. The Chair thanked him for his presentation and said we looked forward to the report on DoVes.

Tim Aiken, Federal Liaison, County Manager's Office: Update on the Arlington National Cemetery [\(ANC\)](#) [Southern Expansion Environmental Assessment](#)

T. Aiken quickly reviewed the history of prior ANC expansions and the details of the proposed preferred expansion plans, which would eliminate most of Southgate Road, add a new road (Nash Street) next to the Air Force Memorial, and realign Columbia Pike between the project boundary just west of the Air Force Memorial and east of South Joyce Street. A 6' sidewalk would be added to the south side of the Pike, and the sidewalk on the north side would be widened to 10' and shared with cyclists. A new parking facility would be added on the property south of the Pike, and a new, user-activated light and crosswalk would allow drivers to access the parking facility and pedestrians to cross the Pike safely. The plan also includes new access to the ANC from the south side and a redesign of the Washington Boulevard-Joyce Street interchange.

Most of the preferred alternative plans are acceptable to the PAC. However, the PAC feels that the 10' shared sidewalk on the north side of the Pike is inadequate for shared use with cyclists, especially given the 6% grade going down the Pike to Joyce from the Air Force Memorial. The closure of Southgate Road will force current cyclists and pedestrians onto the Northside sidewalk next to the Pike, new pedestrians and cyclists in the community will use the sidewalk more after the Pike has been realigned, and tourists will use it to visit the ANC, the Air Force Memorial, and two 9/11 memorials close to the Pentagon. Because significant parking will be lost with the closure of Southgate Road, many drivers will want to use the proposed new parking facility south of the Pike, then walk to sites nearby. The PAC unanimously approved a draft letter to the County Manager expressing its concerns about the sidewalk and shared the draft with Mr. Aiken. The speaker reminded that all comments are due by September 22, and C. Swope encouraged everyone to send comments to Congressman Beyer as well.

Paul DeMaio and Greg Matlesky, Arlington County Commuter Services, MetroBike LLC: [Arlington County Dockless Vehicle \(DoVe\) Shared Mobility Device Pilot](#)

G. Matlesky reviewed the history of DoVes in the region and then discussed the proposed County DoVe project. After analyzing comments from County organizations and citizens, staff hope to present their recommendations for a 9-month Shared Mobility Devices Demonstration Project to the County Board on September 22. Draft MOU and permit application are undergoing review by the County Attorney and others. Each participating company will pay \$8000 for each type of device deployed and will be allowed to deploy 200 DoVes of that type initially. Participating companies that demonstrate successful use and adherence to the MOU and permit will be allowed to increase numbers of DoVes deployed by increments of 50 up to 350 per mode per company. The County is developing detailed guidelines on how DoVes are being deployed, including user education, user restrictions (e.g. speed, age limits), and parking and riding regulations. Riders may not use scooters on sidewalks, but they can ride power-assist bikes on sidewalks, as well as other bikes. The speaker noted that Bird will have a new app that allows other users to report Bird users that have misparked scooters. The general public can report recurring problems to the County, contact the company directly, and/or move the misparked scooter to an appropriate location. Bird scooters are picked up by "Bird Hunters" who are paid to recharge them and redeploy them. Both scooters and pedal-assist bikes will be allowed to travel up to 15mph. PAC members expressed concerns about these speeds endangering pedestrians and enforcement of user regulations. In response to a question, the speaker acknowledged that pedal-assist bikes in manual mode could go faster than 15 mph, but the pedal-assist would be disengaged. The speaker noted that it is up to each company to ensure equitable distribution, that the County will be tracking trips taken closely, and that noncompliant companies could lose their contract. The Chair thanked the team for their presentation, and they promised to keep the PAC informed about the project.

Pamela Van Hine, PAC Recording Secretary, Update on [DAC-PAC Disability Walk-and-Talk](#): She gave a quick update of plans for the Walk-and-Talk and reminded attendees to read the handout before the event and bring several resources with them. The event will start promptly at 10:30 AM on Saturday, September 22 (rain date September 29).

Other Business:

Approval of August, 2018 minutes: The PAC unanimously approved the draft August 2018 minutes as submitted.

Revision of PAC Charter: The revision of the PAC Charter has been put on hold by the County Manager's office.

Upcoming Events (K. Lang, E. Goldstein, C. Sherman): [Parking Day](#) is Friday, September 21, and [Car-Free Days](#) are September 21-22. On October 13, [Wandering the West Pike](#) with Graham Coreil-Allen. C. Sherman noted that

[Core of Rosslyn Transportation](#) staff will hold a public meeting about proposed changes on October 2. She also noted that VDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program ([HSIP](#)) that could be used for pedestrian safety improvements in the County.

With no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:42 P.M. The next PAC meeting will be Wednesday, October 10, 7-9 P.M., in the Dogwood & Cherry Rooms. Topics will include a POPS update and construction TROW update.