

Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting
Wednesday, January 9, 2019
Ellen M. Bozman Government Center, Dogwood & Cherry Rooms
Courthouse Plaza, 2100 Clarendon Boulevard
Minutes (approved without change March 13, 2019)

Present: Eric Goldstein, Chair; Chris Yarie, Vice Chair; Pamela Van Hine, Recording Secretary; Jim Feaster; Eric Goodman; Tom Korn; David Patton, Bicycle & Pedestrian Planner; Katy Lang, WalkArlington

Guests: Gail Ginsburg; Dr. Hui Wang

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:06 P.M. and welcomed PAC members, staff, and guests. There were no public comments.

News Items:

- P. Van Hine noted that [Transportation Camp](#) is on Saturday. She also noted that although the deadline for comments on the NPS Draft Environmental Assessment for Memorial Circle was December 29, the project website closed before the deadline because of the federal government closures. She encouraged attendees to send written comments and offered to provide electronic copies of the relevant NPS reports. Finally, she reminded attendees about these upcoming [Bicycle Element Update activities](#): a Webinar on January 16, open houses on January 14 and January 22, and a January 22 deadline for submission of comments through the online feedback form.
- K. Lang reported that the Active Transportation section of Arlington County Commuter Services (ACCS) has a part-time [marketing position](#) and [event/outreach intern position](#) open and a full-time [BikeArlington Program Manager](#) position open, and she encouraged any interested parties, especially recent graduates, to apply. She also noted that the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) is still developing plans for a pilot pedestrian leadership training program, which she hopes will include some more advanced training. She will keep us updated on the program.

Dr. Hui Wang, Bureau Chief, Transportation Engineering and Operations (TE&O): Arlington County Streetlights Management Program (SMP):

Dr. Wang provided an overview of the SMP project that included its history, background, rationale, status, and recommendations. She emphasized that implementation of the SMP would be incremental, starting with new developers' projects, current streetlight CIP funds of \$2.5million, and other CIP projects that need streetlights for completion. Federal and state funds will also be sought. Priority will be given to activity centers, transit corridors, crash sites, and crime prevention sites. The SMP provides consistent guidelines for developers to follow, thus making County approval more efficient and less costly.

She followed her general SMP commentary with an update on County negotiations with Dominion Energy for improved service and rates. The current VEPGA agreement includes both Carlyle and Cobra LED lights and a flat installation fee of \$130/light. Ongoing 2019 negotiations address decreasing LED rates, providing a dedicated streetlight portal for tracking and reporting service issues, a data sharing agreement, and updating the penalty clause. The portal would allow both citizen users and County staff to track service issues.

Dr. Wang's presentation finished with a plea for support for the SMP so that it can have County approval imminently and TE&O can begin implementing it, including ordering equipment. She stressed the urgent need for finalizing the SMP because of significant new building projects being developed. J. Feaster said that he would not want to hold up implementation as described, and the Vice Chair described his concerns that the SMP has two very different components: the highly technical specifications for streetlights, which did have significant input from the community and might be appropriately and ultimately an administrative decision; and the policy decision

to divide the County into commercial corridors that would have County lights and residential areas that would continue to have Dominion Energy streetlights. He feels that the public should have had the opportunity to weigh in on the districting policy rather than deciding it administratively. P. Van Hine supported the Vice Chair's comments, noted that they reflect the Committee consensus from the December meeting, and that having guidelines ready for developers makes sense. Dr. Wu said she was meeting with the County Manager about the SMP the next day and that she would discuss our comments with him. She also said that services and costs for Dominion Energy streetlights will continue to be monitored closely and that the districting plan can be revised/updated as needed. Currently, however, the County does not have sufficient funds available to take over all County streetlights and that stating we were planning to take all of them over would cause significant deterioration in DE service and the County's ability to negotiate with DE successfully.

Chris Yarie, PAC Vice Chair: Draft PAC recommendations for FY 2020 Budget:

The Vice Chair asked for comments on his revised budget letter. P. Van Hine asked whether Safe Routes to Schools was supported through WalkArlington's budget. K. Lang confirmed that it is not, and this sentence will be revised. The Chair asked if we should add a sentence about updating the MTP Pedestrian Element, which led to a lengthy discussion about what should be changed in it and whether updating it should be a priority of either the PAC or the County. The Chair also suggested that the contents of the current Pedestrian Element are relatively current, though many of the implementation actions have not been fully or successfully implemented. He suggested that what was needed now was an implementation plan rather than a full Element update. The consensus of the Committee was to support the Chair's recommendations to work on an implementation plan, to begin planning for a full update with a County Vision Zero program implementation, and to add a line in the letter reminding the County Manager of the need for an update. The Committee had no other suggestions for the draft budget letter.

The Committee MOVED, seconded, and approved sending the FY 2020 Budget letter to the County Manager, with a minor correction to the section on WalkArlington and a sentence about the need to update the Pedestrian Element at some point.

PAC Business:

- *Approval of [May 9, 2018](#) and [December 12, 2018](#) Minutes:* The Committee MOVED to approve the May 9 and December 12, 2018 minutes as submitted, with minor typographical errors corrected.
- *Holding joint BAC-PAC Meetings:* The Chair led a discussion on the interest and value of future joint BAC-PAC meetings, including a February 2019 meeting about trails and future programs on topics of joint interest, such as bike-ped safety with police staff and bike-ped friendly MOT guidelines and implementation at construction sites. The PAC supported the Chair's recommendations, and he will contact the BAC Chair to confirm plans for a joint BAC-PAC meeting on Monday, February 4.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:07 P.M. The February PAC meeting will be a joint meeting with the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC), on Monday, February 4 (regular BAC meeting day) at 7-9 PM in Room 311 (regular BAC meeting room). The meeting will focus on trails and include Parks & Recreation staff. The PAC will hold a brief business meeting after the joint meeting.