

Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting
Wednesday, April 10, 2019
Ellen M. Bozman Government Center, Dogwood & Cherry Rooms
Courthouse Plaza, 2100 Clarendon Boulevard
Minutes (approved as submitted May 8, 2019)

Present: Eric Goldstein, Chair; Pamela Van Hine, Recording Secretary; John Armstrong; Ian Blackwell; Gail Ginsburg; Eric Goodman; Tom Kornis; Leeann Sinpatanaskul; Andrea Walker; David Patton, Bicycle-Pedestrian Planner; Christine Sherman, Principal Planner, TE&O; Katy Lang, WalkArlington

Guests: Lt Daniel Murphy, ACPD; Jake Smith, DOT Intern; Mike Doyle and Phil Muse, Alexandria Families for Safe Streets

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:08 P.M. and welcomed PAC members, staff, and guests. There were no public comments.

Eric Goldstein, Chair's Report: The Chair noted the three letters that he sent to the County Manager recently at the recommendation of the PAC: supporting [DOT planning staff](#) in the FY2020 budget, the draft [Bicycle Element](#), and the draft [PSMP](#). He also mentioned an agreement with the BAC Chair to meet jointly for the Wednesday, July 10 meeting, regular PAC date, and for the Monday, October 7 meeting, regular BAC date. The May 8 PAC meeting will focus on the County pilot dockless vehicle program and the June 12 meeting will focus on safe transportation to schools.

Invited Speaker: Lt Daniel Murphy, Special Operations, Arlington County Police Department: Update on Pedestrian Safety Issues: Lt Murphy's quarterly update to the PAC focused on the County pilot dockless program and police department personnel growth.

- The [dockless program](#) will be extended to a full year to obtain more data, as the poor weather this winter severely depressed scooter use. He noted the passage of [HB 2752](#): Motorized skateboards or scooters; operation; local authority, which authorizes localities to regulate the operation of these companies. County staff are working on a County ordinance that he hopes will prohibit scooter riding on sidewalks and include an age restriction.
- *Police staffing and restructuring:* The police department currently has 356 officers, with 14 at the training academy and 25 in field training. The [restructuring plan](#) approved last year means that police officers will continue to work in an increasingly complex environment that requires staffing flexibility.
- Lt Murphy noted that the spring Street Smart campaign, from April 15 through May 10, will focus on safe behavior of pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers. He also encouraged PAC members to read and be familiar with current Virginia regulations on [pedestrian safety](#). He reminded the PAC that members could contact him any time with concerns, comments, and suggestions.

Invited Speaker: Jake Smith, Intern, TE&O: Planning for Expanded Deployment of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) in Arlington County:

The County currently has 10 RRFBs, with two new ones in the Shirlington area now operational. The County now has plans to add 20 more RRFBs in 2019, which will almost triple the County RRFB inventory. The purpose of this planning project is to ensure that the new RRFBs are deployed based upon best practice evidence, rather than how the existing RRFBs were located. Staff studied driver yield rates without RRFBs and with RRFBs and discovered a sweet spot for RRFB deployment around 30 mph. At much lower speeds, drivers already yield, so RRFBs are not necessary; at speeds 40 mph and higher, drivers do not yield and RRFB deployment is ineffective. County staff have developed their own formula for deployment that incorporates a benefit cost ratio based on HSIP, a VDOT

use priority ratio that grades intersections A-E, and other pedestrian comfort factors. The speaker showed a County map with yellow corridors that are probably the most appropriate locations for RRFB use and noted that each proposed side would have a full engineering study that would consider other factors such as schools, parks, and other pedestrian destinations.

Invited Speaker: Katy Lang, WalkArlington: Update on Plans: Because of time constraints, this discussion was postponed until the May meeting. Meanwhile, Ms. Lang encouraged PAC members to think about projects and activities that could be done with WalkArlington/BikeArlington staff. She noted the DAC-PAC disability walk as an example.

Invited Guest Speaker: Mike Doyle, Alexandria Families for Safe Streets: What Is AFSS?

Mr. Doyle presented a brief slide show and video about the AFSS. AFSS is a 501(c)3 organization, started in 2017, that advocates for pedestrian/cyclist safety in Alexandria. AFSS has been a key partner in Alexandria's Vision Zero program, from collecting signatures to encourage the city to begin its program, to serving as a watchdog on the VZ program implementation, to serving as a key VZ coalition member. AFSS holds safety educational programs throughout Alexandria, speaking at schools and community events. AFSS also advocates in Richmond to change transportation laws, such as stronger penalties for drivers that hit pedestrians. AFSS seeks funding, additional members, and regional partners to expand their efforts. For more information, visit [their website](#).

Other PAC Business:

- *Approval of [Draft PAC Minutes](#) from March 13, 2019:* The Committee unanimously MOVED to approve the draft March 13, 2019 minutes as submitted.
- *News and Announcements:* K. Lang distributed literature for Bike to Work Day, Friday, May 19, and noted that she would be posting other upcoming WalkArlington events to the PAC GoogleGroup. L. Sinpatanaskul promoted the W&OD trail cleanup on Saturday, April 13. She also noted that the Lee Highway Alliance has an "open design studio" every other Friday, noon - 3:30 P.M. from April 19 through June 28, in the Lee Highway Alliance office, Russell Building, 4620 Lee Highway, Suite 208. J. Armstrong encouraged PAC members with APS students to complete an online APS Engage survey on [bus transportation](#). Deadline is April 12.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:58 P.M. The next PAC meeting will be Wednesday, May 8, at 7 P.M. in the Dogwood & Cherry Rooms. The PAC will be reviewing the County trial dockless vehicle program.