

Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting
Wednesday, December 11, 2019
Ellen M. Bozman Government Center
Dogwood & Cherry Rooms
Courthouse Plaza, 2100 Clarendon Boulevard
Minutes (approved without change January 8, 2019)

Present: Eric Goldstein, Chair; Chris Yarie, Vice Chair; Pamela Van Hine, Recording Secretary; Ian Blackwell; Jim Feaster; Gail Ginsburg; Eric Goodman; Tom Korn; Andrea Walker; David, Bicycle-Pedestrian Planner

Guests: Sam Murrey, TE&O, Speaker; Elizabeth Gallagher

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M. and welcomed PAC members, staff, and guests. He asked E. Gallagher if she wanted to join the PAC, which she did. The Recording Secretary will send her the link to the application form.

Chair's report: The Chair reviewed the draft PAC 2020 meeting schedule, noting that the April meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 28 as a joint meeting with the BAC and the PRC (Parks & Recreation Commission). He proposed a walking meeting for June 10 and solicited suggestions for sites; Columbia Pike was mentioned. The November 11 meeting, a holiday, will need to be rescheduled. Finally, he asked PAC members if we wanted to continue to meet every month; the consensus was that we did. The Chair also asked members to send meeting topic suggestions to him; D. Patton mentioned that Michelle Stafford, staff, Neighborhood Complete Streets, would like to return to the PAC soon to update us on NCS projects.

County online surveys: The Chair encouraged PAC members to complete the online surveys that were highlighted in recent PAC GG posts: County budget, Boundary Channel Drive, and three proposed Neighborhood Complete Street projects. He also encouraged members to check the [Engage Arlington page](#) for additional notices.

Sam Murrey, TE&O, Invited Guest Speaker: Traffic Gardens in Arlington County:

The speaker briefly reviewed the concept of a [traffic garden](#) and showed several illustrations of them from around the world. He is working with relevant groups to explore developing a pilot traffic garden in Arlington. He plans to collaborate with APS, SRTS, DPR, BikeArlington, WalkArlington, and relevant committees and commissions. He is seeking suggestions for possible sites, preferably a site with existing hardtop, close to schools, conveniently accessible through various transit modes, and with supporting facilities such as bathrooms, seating, drinking fountains, and parking. He said the "typical" cost is between \$75,000 and \$1,000,000 per garden. In addition to County funding, he is seeking grant support. He hopes to have programs that are both child-focused during school hours and that would encourage parent participation on weekends. Eventually, he feels that programs should be open to anyone who feels the need for training before hitting the streets. He hopes that the PAC will support the traffic garden in the upcoming CIP.

Pamela Van Hine and Ian Blackwell, PAC Representatives on the SPRCs: PAC Role on the Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC):

The speakers stressed that it was important for PAC to be represented at SPRC meetings because the site plan review process is the primary way that new sidewalk, intersections, streetscapes, and other street infrastructure is built around commercial developments. And once the buildings are built to the build line, it's too late to expand the sidewalk in most cases. The speakers expressed some of their frustrations with the current SPRC process and asked the PAC for help in these areas: 1) volunteers to attend specific SPRC meetings when the speakers were not available, 2) PAC review of specific pedestrian issues that come up in specific projects, and 3) PAC brainstorming on how PAC can participate more effectively in the SPRC process, while still being compliant with County policies and procedures. The Vice Chair, who also serves on the Transportation Commission, discussed the constraints on all Commissioners, and suggested that the PAC may want to send formal recommendations to the TC through TC staff. The Chair said that SPRC would be discussed further in 2020.

Eric Goldstein, Chair: Joint BAC-PAC Letter on Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) - Next Steps:

The draft letter, prepared by the BAC Chair from comments at the joint BAC-PAC meeting in October, was distributed and discussed. The Chair asked to PAC members who attended that meeting to confirm that the

information in the letter was complete and accurate as discussed during the meeting and asked all PAC members to support sending a final letter.

Motion: The Recording Secretary MOVED that the PAC support sending this joint letter with the BAC on Maintenance of Traffic, that the PAC supports additional edits as needed, and that the PAC supports identifying additional relevant co-signers. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by attending PAC members.

Eric Goldstein, Chair: Vision Zero Update:

The Vision Zero External Stakeholder Working Group met for the first time in November. The Chair is the primary PAC representative, Eric Goodman is the backup, and the Vice Chair represents the Transportation Commission. The working group will meet every other month, with a goal of drafting a County Vision Zero Action Plan by Fall of 2020. Their "homework" was to develop a list of essential values for Vision Zero, and the Chair had asked for recommendations. The Recording Secretary read her list. Additions and corrections are welcome. Follow County Vision Zero activities through the [Working Group website](#).

Eric Goldstein, Chair: Budget FY2021 - What are PAC Priorities for General Operating Budget and for CIP?

The Chair showed a list of possible budget priorities culled from his call for suggestions, and PAC members added other projects to the list, which was roughly sorted into operating budget and CIP projects. The Chair stated that his goal was to have a draft letter with PAC priorities for the FY 2021 operating budget ready for discussion and approval at the January 8, 2020 PAC meeting.

Announcements and Minutes:

Approval of draft November 13, 2019 minutes: [Draft minutes](#) from the November 13 meeting were posted online.

Motion: The Chair MOVED that the draft November 13 be approved as submitted, with minor edits. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

P. Van Hine reported on the PBIC webinar [Improving Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety in Work Zones](#) and NCPC recommendations for the Arlington National Cemetery Southern Expansion Environmental Assessment/FONSI reports (go to NCPC [archives page](#), find reports for December 5 NCPC meeting, scroll down to File number 8009). She is pleased that the ANC SE plans show 8' sidewalks on both sides of Columbia Pike and a 10' bike lane on the north side, separate from both the street and the sidewalk. She encourages everyone to watch the webinar and review the NCPC reports and meeting video.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:49 P.M. The next PAC meeting will be Wednesday, January 8, 2020, in the Dogwood & Cherry Rooms. A key goal of this meeting is to approve a draft general budget letter based upon the topics discussed in the December meeting.