

Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting  
Wednesday, February 12, 2020  
Ellen M. Bozman Government Center  
Dogwood & Cherry Rooms  
Courthouse Plaza, 2100 Clarendon Boulevard  
Minutes (approved as submitted, March 11, 2020)

Present: Eric Goldstein, Chair; Chris Yarie, Vice Chair; Pamela Van Hine, Recording Secretary; John Armstrong; Ian Blackwell; Jim Feaster; Gail Ginsburg; Eric Goodman; Tom Kornis; Andrea Walker; David Patton, Bicycle & Pedestrian Planner; Mary Dallao, WalkArlington Program Manager; Neal Hunter, DPR PAC Liaison

Guests: Steve Bridgett, Permit Administration Manager, DES (Speaker); Michelle Stafford, Principal Planner, Neighborhood Complete Streets (Speaker); Elizabeth Gallagher

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. and welcomed PAC members, staff, and guests. There were no public speakers.

**Chair's Report:** The Chair noted the two PAC letters sent to the County Manager in January: a [January 18 letter](#) listing pedestrian safety priorities for the County FY 2021 budget and a January 30 joint BAC-PAC letter about [safe accommodations](#) - improving MOT guidelines, planning, communication, and enforcement. He mentioned that the County Manager will be presenting the draft FY 2021 budget starting next Tuesday, February 18 and that the CIP budget planning process will soon follow.

The Chair promoted topics and speakers at upcoming PAC meetings - Lt Murphy will present his 2019 bicycle-pedestrian crash report to the PAC and the April meeting will be a joint BAC-PAC-CPR meeting on Tuesday, April 28 in the Navy Annex. Please note the change in both location and date for this exciting meeting.

**Steve Bridgett, Permit Administration Manager, DES/DOT: Safe Accommodations during Construction Projects:**

The speaker led an informal discussion about construction MOT in the County by reiterating his small department's role - to administer and enforce the MOT construction agreements that other County staff prepare for specific projects - commercial developments, individual housing, and County transportation projects. He fully supports providing safe and convenient access - to the extent possible - for pedestrians and cyclists through all MOT sites and understands that construction MOT is a key part of the County's Vision Zero program. His staff is limited, the volume of construction in the County continues to grow, and other County inspectors cannot help. He does request and use County police officers for some enforcement encounters. In response to a question, the speaker noted that they do have access to County traffic monitors, though they have not used these records to document violations. He noted that in general they do not keep formal documentation records of violations because of limited staffing and the high volume of violations. He does keep his notes. He also noted that transportation projects are often awarded to the lowest bidder, causing some recurring MOT violations.

The speaker will sit down with D. Leach to review the [joint BAC-PAC letter](#) and prepare a response. He seeks better ways to ensure enforcement of MOTs, including stopping project work until the MOT problems are resolved. He encourages us to report any issues directly to him and would like share more information with Lt Murphy as well, as construction issues reported to police are not being forwarded to him at this time. He also noted that sometimes bike lanes have to be closed because of construction trucks needing part of the bike lane when they park.

**Michelle Stafford, Principal Planner, Neighborhood Complete Streets, DES/DOT: Update on the [Neighborhood Complete Streets Program \(NCSP\)](#)**

The speaker quickly reviewed the purpose and history of the NCSP and the pilot NCSP projects in 2018 and 2019. Among the goals of the pilot projects was to test if the NCSP policies and procedures actually worked for selecting, public communicating, and implementing individual NCS projects. These initial projects were tactical projects, which could be implemented quickly and inexpensively and could be reversed if they did not work. Lessons learned included that a [Webinar](#) could be a powerful outreach tool - for the specific project and for general public outreach, while limiting staff time and effort. Another lesson was that not all projects could use a tactical (paint/bollards/etc.) treatment; sidewalks need to be built, not painted, so one of the pilot projects became a

capital (CIP) project. Another outcome was the firm decision that if a project was highly rated, it should be built, with various challenges to be overcome. Staff also found that the current evaluation criteria needed tweaking because being near schools was giving a site too much of an advantage and being near libraries and other civic buildings got no credit. NCSP staff are revising their charter (including adding the PAC) and developing new policy documents and scoring systems and a project budget, all of which will be going to the County Board for discussion and approval. The speaker said they have funds in the CIP for a limited number of projects and seek other funding, possibly PAYGO, to fund more tactical projects.

**Other Business:**

*Mary Dallao, WalkArlington Program Manager:* [WalkArlington Update](#): Ms. Dallao, the new WalkArlington Program Manager, reviewed her history in the County, including working for 8 years in communications with the Rosslyn BID. She looks forward to developing new, interesting, and fun walks throughout the County and offering more child-friendly programming, such as the recent [Walking School Bus](#), scavenger hunts, nature walks. She will also focus on safety and accessibility for all and encourages everyone to send her ideas. T. Korn suggested a toy exchange. On March 19 in Rosslyn, pedestrians can make [reflective jewelry](#) followed by a walk in the area. The County will celebrate [National Walking Day](#) at four sites throughout the County and hold a social walk in the evening in Rosslyn. Ms. Dallao is working on a Roosevelt Island walk, although working with NPS is challenging.

*Review and Approval of the [draft January 8, 2020 PAC minutes](#):*

**Motion:** J. Feaster moved to approve the draft minutes, with correction of a few typographical errors. The motion was seconded, and PAC members unanimously approved the minutes with corrections.

*News items:*

The Chair cited several important upcoming online surveys, including the first Vision Zero community survey, WMATA budget priorities, [Plan Lee Highway Open Design Studios](#), and mentioned the upcoming [Community Engagement Forum](#), Unitarian Universalist Church, 4444 Arlington Blvd on March 16. The Vice Chair updated the PAC on several pieces of pedestrian safety legislation, including for speed cameras and [vehicles stopping at crosswalks](#). Ms. Van Hine briefly discussed the February 11 Arlington National Cemetery Southern Expansion Defense Access Road [Design Public Meeting](#) and the potential impact of this project on the Foxcroft Heights community and pedestrians, cyclists, transit riders, and drivers through the Columbia Pike during and after the multi-year construction.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:05 P.M. The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 11, 2020 in the Dogwood & Cherry rooms. Lt Murphy will update us on bike-ped crashes in 2019.