

Arlington Transit Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes
Tuesday, July 20, 2021
7:00 PM
Microsoft Teams Meeting

TAC Members Present:

John Carten
Erika Chiang
Kate Garman
Deidre Grant
Richard Price
Harvey Berlin
Herschel Kanter
James Davenport
Andrew McAllister

Attendees Present:

Pierre Holloman (staff)
William Jones (staff)
Robin McElhenny (staff)
Kirk Dand (staff)
Cala Fils (staff)
Mark Mainardi (staff)
Kenex Sevilla (staff)
Dara Soum (staff)
Jiaxin Tong
Sue Gutierrez

Call to Order

- John Carten opened the meeting at 7:01 pm.

Introductions

- John Carten led roll call of TAC members present, Arlington staff, and others present.

Public Comment

- No public comments submitted, no speakers from the public.

Approval of Meeting Notes from May 11, 2021 TAC Meeting

- The amended meeting notes were approved unanimously.

Proposed TAC Charter Amendments

- Pierre Holloman noted the TAC had previously held discussions at their March and May TAC meetings on including the following Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (D.E.I) language into the TAC Charter:
 - ***Mission Section***

- ***The Committee will help with Arlington County's ongoing efforts to maintain and build an inclusive, open, and engaged environment where differences of beliefs, opinions, and values are integral to success.***

- The additional language to the Mission Section was approved unanimously by the TAC.
- Mr. Holloman stated there will be a call for nominations for a Vice Chair to the TAC at the September 14, 2021 TAC meeting as a result of the TAC adopting the addition of such language to the TAC Charter in May 2021.

Annual Transit Capital Projects Tour

Arlington Transit Light Maintenance Facility Expansion

- Pierre Holloman provided an overview of the Light Maintenance Facility Expansion Project. The goal of the project was to expand the existing facility on S. Eads Street to accommodate additional bus parking and better utilize yard space. This project increases the utility of existing yard and reduces the number of temporary parking spaces needed while Shirlington Road site is under construction. Mr. Holloman noted the project was completed ahead of schedule in November 2020 and under budget. The project permanently expanded the bus storage capacity of the site from 25 buses to 37 buses.

Ballston Multimodal Improvements

- Dara Soum noted the objective of the project's objective is to upgrade and modernize the existing Ballston Metrorail Station bus bay facility. Construction began in June 2020 and is expected to be completed by the summer of 2022. The total cost of the project is approximately \$4.7 million. The project will improve bus bay facilities, plaza spaces, access and safety, lighting, and provide new bus shelters and real time bus information displays. The project has been divided into four phases: Phase 1 – is currently under construction and nearing completion, Phase 2 – is expected to start construction in August 2021, Phase 3 is expected to start in winter 2020, and the last phase is expected to start in the spring 2022.

Bus Stop Improvements

- Mark Mainardi gave an overview of Arlington's bus stop program which includes the design and construction of bus stop accessibility improvements to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Nearly 520 bus stops out of 1,007 total bus stops in Arlington require varying levels of improvements to comply with ADA. Improvements being made as part of the program include bus stop passenger loading pads, curb ramps, bus shelters, benches, solar lighting, trash/recycling receptacles, flag poles, and more. The FY2022 program includes bringing approximately 20 bus stops into ADA compliance, replacing 10+ aging bus shelters, providing additional amenities such as benches and trash/recycle receptacles, and installing solar lights inside bus shelters. Fifteen solar lighting kits have been installed to date with an additional 41 to be installed by August 15, 2021.

East Falls Church Bus Bay Expansion

- Kenex Sevilla stated the project's goal is to expand the existing bus loop at the East Falls Church Metrorail Station to add up to 3 new bus bays. Additional work as part of this project includes replacing and realigning the signal at the bus loop entry/exit area, improve pedestrian access to the Park and Ride lots, and improve access to accessible

parking. The cost of this project is about \$5 million. As of July 2021, a refinement to the design concept has been completed and is advancing into design and engineering. At this time, the preliminary engineering and final design services are being procured. Final design is expected to be completed in summer 2022 and construction is expected to take place between winter 2023 to spring 2024.

Pentagon City New Elevator

- Robin McElhenny noted the project will add a new elevator on the west side of S Hayes Street for the Pentagon City Metrorail Station. The total project cost is \$10.3 million. In December 2020, the County advertised an Invitation to Bid (ITB) and an award was issued to W.M. Schlosser for \$5.6 million in February 2021. In March 2021, a third-party capital cost estimator, CCI, Inc. verified bids received for the project were in line with current cost and met the fair and reasonable test. As of July 2021, pre-construction activities are underway as W.M. Schlosser submitted a quality control plan, safety plan and baseline construction schedule for review and approval and doing work to finalize the helical pile design. Coordination with WMATA underway to ensure construction is performed in accordance with the approved plans and specifications. Construction is expected to start in September 2021 and be completed by spring 2023.

Arlington Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility

- Pierre Holloman provided an overview of the presentations made during the June public meeting and Public Facilities Review Committee (PFRC). Mr. Holloman noted that videos of both meetings have been posted online on the project site and the PFRC site. It was also noted that the traffic assessment for the project was posted to the project site. Another PRFC meeting will be scheduled for the middle to end of September to address several questions noted in the June PFRC meeting.

Report from Accessibility Subcommittee (STAR Call Center Procurement Update)

- William Jones provided an update on the STAR Call Center Procurement. Mr. Jones stated, Arlington is in continued procurement activities with the successful vendor. The goal is for the new contract to begin within 30 to 45 days after the contract is agreed to by Arlington and successful vendor. The new contract proposes to bring about improvements for passengers accessing trip information (by phone or online). These improvements (new scheduling software) will need to integrate with Arlington's Call Phone system and the service providers. More information on these improvements will be provided in upcoming meetings (September and October).

Additional Items from Committee Members and Staff

- No comments

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 14, 2021.