

Arlington Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, November 12, 2014 7PM – 9PM  
2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Room 311

17 Attending:

Dennis Jaffe, Chair; David Goodman; David Patton; Tom Korn; Jim Feaster, Christine Ng; Rosemary Ciotti; Eric Goodman; Ellen Armbruster; Pamela Van Hine  
Guests and Speakers: Kris Krider; Lauren Hassel; Larry Marcus; Thomas Unger and Steve Unger; Richard Hartman and Dennis Sellin

Minutes

Public Comments:

Scout Unger reports on pedestrian issues on Glen Carlyn Road:

Scout Unger, from Falls Church, gave an excellent and well-illustrated presentation on pedestrian hazards along Glen Carlyn Road. D Goodman displayed the relevant street map, which showed that the described problem areas are in unincorporated Fairfax County, not Arlington County. D Goodman and others gave the Ungers several suggestions for further strengthening their presentation and strategies, including the appropriate contact in Fairfax County, Chris Wells. D Patton recommended emphasizing details and, ideally, data on the problem and its implications, and not pushing particular solutions.

Kris Krider and team describe plans for Envision Courthouse Square:

K Krider gave a slide presentation that described the planning process, key issues (circulation, open space, buildings, cultural resources, and sustainability), and plans. Mr. Krider asked for comments and support, if possible. T Korn noted how important trees in the median can be, and C Ng expressed concern that the proposed open space did not include formal walkways across it, because pedestrians will continue to cut through this area. Final presentation to the Arlington Board will be in December. More information is available on the project website: [sites.arlingtonva.us/courthouse](http://sites.arlingtonva.us/courthouse).

Lauren Hassel of *WalkArlington* announces key new APS 10-month employee:

Lauren Hassel, Outreach and Promotions Manager for *WalkArlington*, announced that with recent Safe Routes to Schools funding, Arlington Public Schools was able to hire Tom Norton as Arlington's Safe Routes to School Coordinator. Tom will start in the position on November 17. The grant-funded position runs through June 2015. She will ask Tom to attend a future Arlington PAC meeting.

Larry Marcus, TE&O Bureau Chief, introduces his team, philosophy and plans:

Larry Marcus, the Bureau Chief of Arlington Transportation Engineering and Operations since January, noted that he and his 60 employees are responsible for all road and transportation issues

in Arlington. His overall philosophy, honed in his previous job in Rockville, is to strongly support safe transit and to maximize transit flow to all, motorized vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists, and mass transit users.

He presented slides that described the transportation strategies in Rockville and which he recommends using in Arlington. The strategy is data-driven, using mashup technologies to create maps of key transit information based upon crash data (TARP), high volume locations, safety ratings of intersections, missing sidewalks, and access to transit. He showed slides that illustrated examples of the 5 point intersection safety rating system. He noted that a key component of the Rockville program was to celebrate success. The committee was not aware of accurate TARP data at this time, and R Ciotti encouraged reading the Neighborhood Conservation Reports for key relevant information.

When he asked what concerns we had as a group, D Goodman summarized that we need to know how to counteract the often official response that there is an insufficient number of pedestrians and sometimes there are too many impediments to making changes that would increase pedestrian safety. E Armbruster talked about the dangerous intersection in her neighborhood, and Mr. Marcus acknowledged that in the past in some places, keeping traffic moving smoothly had taken priority over pedestrian and cyclist needs. But he reassured us that this prioritization is no longer true and that he personally wants to know where problems exist so that they can be addressed. In the discussion that followed, the group highlighted that currently Arlington does not have a clear way for the public to submit problems, which led to a brief discussion of the role the Arlington PAC could play in funneling issues to the department. Mr. Marcus also encouraged us to invite specific individuals from his department to future meetings on a periodic basis throughout the year to address specific issues.

The meeting concluded approximately 9:20PM.

Next meeting: Wednesday, December 10th at 7:00pm at 2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Lobby Level, Birch Room