

Arlington Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC)
Wednesday, October 14, 2015
Courthouse Plaza, Dogwood & Cherry Rooms
2100 Clarendon Boulevard
Minutes (approved November 4, 2015, with edits)

Present: Dennis Jaffe, Chair; Pamela Van Hine, Vice Chair; Ellen Armbruster; John Armstrong; Jim Feaster; Dan Foster; Eric Goldstein; David Goodman; Eric Goodman; Tom Korn; David Patton; Collin Weber

No Public or Invited Speakers

Approval of Minutes: Copies of draft minutes from August and September were distributed. Both sets had motions to approve, which were seconded. Both sets were unanimously approved by those PAC members who attended those meetings, with one correction in an e-mail address in the September minutes.

Update on South Walter Reed Drive Improvement Project: E. Goldstein and D. Jaffe updated the committee on the latest plans for the slip lane between Arlington Mill Road and Walter Reed Drive. According to E. Goldstein, the proposed traffic control technology was unclear if it provided safe crossings for pedestrians and cyclists. V. Mosley and other DES staff will have an on-site review sometime on the morning of Thursday, October 29th. Although the Chair, Vice Chair, and E. Goldstein cannot attend on this date, T. Korn, C. Weber, and D. Patton indicated that they might be able to attend. V. Mosley and an engineer will be attending the PAC meeting on November 4 to present new data and their revised, close to final plans. They will also be presenting to the BAC at their November meeting. Both groups will have limited time to respond before the plan is implemented.

Update on Ballston SPRC Meetings: E. Armbruster, the PAC representative to the SPRC, provided the PAC with a detailed written report on her perceptions of inadequate project plans for pedestrian access and safety. She and T. Korn, an at-large SPRC member, then led a lengthy discussion of the recent Ballston Mall SPRC meetings and project, including Arlington County funding for the project. At the Chair's request, they promised to provide him with a list of the 4-5 key problems.

Other Topics Discussed Before and After Main Topics:

At the PAC September meeting, B. Obikoya encouraged the public to report access problems during construction projects by calling or e-mailing DES. Tonight, E. Goodman proposed posting a sign at all construction sites that would list the Arlington County phone number to call if a citizen encountered a problem. The PAC thought this was a great suggestion. Staff will investigate feasibility internally, and E. Goodman will draft a letter that could be sent to the County Manager.

J. Feaster announced that he was recently appointed as the Parks and Recreation representative to a new Arlington initiative, the [Public Space Master Plan](#), which will inventory all public space in the county. He also reported, when asked by D. Goodman, on the discussion about sidewalk width at the September NCAM meeting. He noted that many of the NCAM members were not aware that there are many existing criteria for exceptions to the 5' rule, and after realizing the mechanism to handle exceptions, no motion was approved. D Goodman noted, after searching, that the current MTP mentions both a 4' minimum and a 5' desirable width for sidewalks in residential areas.

D. Goodman also asked D. Foster if he had any updates on plans for the Virginia Hospital Center. Dr. Foster replied that he could not discuss at this time, and the committee noted that this time of negotiation was a good time to push for pedestrian and cyclist safety features.

Upcoming events:

J. Armstrong mentioned the 14th Annual U.S. Freedom Walks, sponsored by the American Volkssport Association, on Saturday, October 17. D. Patton displayed the website for committee perusal.

T. Korn noted the upcoming [Lee Highway Alliance & Arlington County meetings](#) November 6-9 at the Langston Community Center. He indicated that the project was citizen-driven and supported and covered Lee Highway westward starting at Cherrydale.

The Vice Chair mentioned two upcoming events – the Fall Street Smart campaign, October 27-29, and two Arlington County Board candidate events, on Thursday, October 22 and on Friday, October 23. She will post details on these events to the PAC GoogleGroup.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M. Because of the federal holiday, the next PAC meeting will be **Wednesday, November 4, at 7 P.M., in the Azalea Room**. V. Mosley will be our guest speaker.