



MEETING MINUTES OF THE HYBRID JOINT FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING

September 25, 2024

The Joint Facilities Advisory Commission (JFAC) convened its meeting at 7:00 p.m. on September 25, 2024.

PRESENT (IN-PERSON)

Stacy Snyder, Chair
Brian Harner
Star Hy
Claire Noakes
Diana Preston
Natalie Roy
Steve Young

PRESENT (VIRTUAL)

Wells Harrell, Vice Chair, participated virtually from home (via Teams) due to a medical condition that prevented his physical attendance.

ABSENT

Andy Greenwood

STAFF

Emily Garrett, Arlington County Government (ACG)
Ajibola (Aji) Robinson, Arlington Public Schools (APS)
Matt Ladd, ACG

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- [Link to Teams Recording](#)
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SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEMS

Chair's Update

Chair Snyder introduced Ajibola (Aji) Robinson, the new APS staff liaison replacing Robert Ruiz. She updated JFAC on the new School Board and County Board liaisons and welcomed everyone back after not meeting since May.

Public Comment

None.

Overview of Updated Electronic Meeting Policies

Emily Garrett, ACG staff liaison, provided a [presentation](#) on the updated electronic meeting policies that incorporated changes following the General Assembly session, granting more flexibility than the current

meeting requirements, and developed by the County Attorney. She also gave an overview on Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) regarding meetings and emails. Members discussed the legal support for email communications with multiple members between meetings.

Adoption of Electronic Meeting Policy

Commissioner Noakes moved adoption of the [electronic meeting policy](#). Commissioner Young seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Noakes moved approval of the meeting minutes for November 2023, February 2024, April 2024, and May 22 and 29, 2024. Commissioner Roy seconded the motion. Chair Snyder moved to amend the main motion to remove all Teams chats from the minutes, except the links shared during the November 2023 meeting. Commissioner Young seconded the amendment, which passed unanimously. The Commission approved the main motion, as amended, 8-0.

Arlington 2050 Envisioning Discussion

Prior to the meeting, the County Board Office (CBO) asked commissions that met before September 30th to include an “envisioning discussion” on their agenda. Chair Snyder read Arlington County Board Chair Libby Garvey’s message and reiterated JFAC’s mission to help frame the discussion. JFAC discussed principle challenges and recommendations from the 2015 Arlington Community Facilities Study, creative thinking regarding scarcity of land in Arlington, creating “village” like hubs of walkable services, the need for seamless planning between APS and ACG that might include consolidation of some services such as transportation or specialized facilities, and the need for land use and public facilities planning to be open to evolving and changing demographics, changing climate, and changing community needs. Chair Snyder stated that she will provide a compilation of notes taken during the discussion to CBO.

Legislative Priorities

Prior to the meeting, Arlington County Board Chair Libby Garvey asked commissions for their group’s perspective and expertise in the development of Arlington’s legislative priorities for the upcoming 2025 General Assembly Session. The Commission discussed topics including funding for sustainability of joint schools and public facilities and a capacity study of the electric grid. Chair Snyder indicated that she will provide a response to CBO including the suggestions raised by JFAC members.

Discussion on Adopted County CIP

JFAC reviewed the [Proposed 10-Year Plan for Facilities, Energy, & Resiliency](#) that was presented to the County Board on June 11, 2024. JFAC had planned to review the presentation at the June meeting, but it was canceled due to lack of quorum. It was noted that there had not really been a chance for full discussion of the County CIP and that this was an opportunity to look at it broadly and identify agenda items to focus on for the next few months.

Members discussed whether some facility condition studies might be expedited to align with APS deep dive studies, reuse of existing resources, electric vehicles, condition assessments, synthetic turf, and looking at various sites holistically in the larger, long-term context. There were questions raised about the planned expenditure for Courthouse Complex renovations, particularly for two floors in a building that is slated to be vacated in 7-10 years. Members also identified multiple sites that should be considered together for long-range planning, including the Trades Center, Carlin Springs, and Quincy Sites.

There was discussion on synthetic turf which highlighted costs, environmental concerns, recent feedback on the proposed Kenmore field conversion that opposed synthetic turf, and the need for collaboration among Commissions to get true public engagement. The chair noted that this issue is outside JFACs purview but agreed to reach out to other commissions.

Public Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.