

Work Session for Walking Town Meeting of the County Board of Arlington County, Virginia, held in the Fairlington Civic Association area, Arlington, Virginia, thereof on Tuesday, May 12, 2009, at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: BARBARA A. FAVOLA, Chairman  
 JAY FISETTE, Vice Chairman  
 MARY HUGHES HYNES, Member  
 J. WALTER TEJADA, Member  
 \*CHRISTOPHER ZIMMERMAN, Member  
 \*arrived at 6:38 p.m.

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**WALKING TOWN MEETING IN FAIRLINGTON CIVIC ASSOCIATION AREA.**

The Board held a work session for a walking town meeting in the Fairlington Civic Association area from 6:00 p.m. to 8:35 p.m., which included, but was not limited to discussion on the following matters:

<b>Walking Tour Stop</b>	<b>Neighborhood Topics/Issues</b>
<p><b>1. <u>Fairlington Community Center (FCC)</u></b></p>	<p><b>Welcome:</b> The Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) would like to highlight the completion of Phase I of the Center; and expound on Phase II insofar as the proposed and upcoming changes affecting the landscape on the immediate grounds. Phase I &amp; II are resultant of ongoing County funding.</p> <p><b>Unresolved policy:</b> The scheduled renovations will enhance the programs and activities held at FCC, such as providing a play space for the preschool program between one of the wings and a better playing surface for the soccer field. FCA would like to emphasize the need for Parks Recreation and Community Resources (PRCR) to provide programming support to develop neighborhood-oriented programs like those that PRCR conducted before the building renovation.</p> <p><b>Additional Follow Up Items:</b> What are the project items that constitute Phase II of the project and what is their status?</p> <p><b>Parking:</b> At the Fairlington Community Center, some of the reason for the crowded parking lot is residents who park their cars overnight and/or during the day. It was mentioned that zoned parking had recently been installed somewhere nearby and that the lot parking had gotten more constrained as a result. Does the County ever post its lots for "Users" only and, if so, is it a possibility for this location?</p>
<p><b>2. <u>Utah Street Park—inclusive of dog park/softball and open field.</u></b></p>	<p><b>Nefarious activity &amp; ongoing flooding:</b> Discuss illicit activity taking place during the evening hours (i.e., insufficient lighting, and efforts towards better community policing).</p> <p><b>Additional Follow Up Items:</b>  <u>Auto Larcenies:</u> Car break ins on 32nd Street; Are there prevention strategies?  <u>Park Use:</u> After hours use of park</p> <p><b>Discuss the ongoing sewer back- up problems:</b> The installation of the pipes under I-395 near Utah Park will hopefully resolve this problem.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ construction is affecting and protracting this project.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ball field:</b> Water run-off from the ball field causing soil erosion by the steps; and depositing mud on steps and walkway.</p>

	<p><b>Parking lot lights:</b> One light does not work, and another pole remains damaged because of a vehicle.</p> <p><b>Additional Follow Up Items:</b></p> <p><b>Lighting:</b> Bad Lighting due in some part to tree canopy which obstructs lighting and needs to be trimmed in some locations.</p> <p><b>Dog Park Maintenance:</b> Smell and keeping up with maintenance and dogs off leash in grassy areas Evaluate potential for connecting with Community Canine Areas (CCA) organization to help dog owners self police and assist with pet related issues at the dog park.</p> <p><b>Picnic Shelter:</b> Status and content of the picnic shelter project and construction via the Neighborhood Conservation Program.</p> <p><b>HOT Lanes project and local streets:</b> Impact of adding ramp and traffic signals to Shirlington Traffic Circle on local feeder streets such as Quaker Lane and Shirlington Road, and those from Parkfairfax and the Village at Shirlington.</p>
<p><b>3. <u>Noise attenuation, sound barriers and open sewer pipe</u></b></p>	<p><b>The impending HOT Lanes:</b> This project will increase the amount of traffic and currently there are no bona fide proposal/approvals for sound barriers to mitigate vehicle noise that comport with our historical standards set forth by, and to preserve the unique characteristics of Fairlington writ large. This is a concern to those residents bordering both sides of I-395.</p> <p><b>Additional Follow Up Item:</b> Neighborhood wants sound barriers to be consistent with historical character of Fairlington buildings.</p> <p><b>Unresolved policy:</b> Collectively, VDOT has not articulated a cogent and well-covered plan that addresses these concerns related to the aforementioned and proposed changes to the Shirlington traffic circle. Moreover, the concerns and consequences of VDOT adding both a ramp and additional traffic signal(s) to this circle are infinite. This spillover will invariably affect Quaker Lane, Shirlington Road, Parkfairfax and Village at Shirlington</p> <p><b>Dilapidated sewer pipes in Fairlington:</b> Residents have questions about ownership, ongoing maintenance and storm water drainage and management, especially as it is affecting Fairlington Commons Condominium Association and adjacent grounds. Land and soil erosion is obvious resultant of these sewer pipes.</p>
<p><b>4. <u>Impact to residents should this Firehouse close</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>A quick tour of Station 7 and brief comments from Station Chief, Captain Stilwell</u></b></p> <p>In FY 07, Station 7 provided response and service to 1,390 calls of distress in and around Fairlington. In order to provide and preserve the community, and afford all residents the benefits with an active fire station, it is with high priority we continue to have this fire station remain [fully] operational. Fairlington Citizens Association and Fairlington are grateful for the county's position to continue funding this historic building.</p> <p>Has Arlington County discussed and approved any future work, in addition to the recent maintenance performed?</p>
<p><b>5. <u>Conclusion:</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Summarize the tour and address ancillary topics of concern that were not obvious or discussed during the tour:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bus stops on South 31<sup>st</sup> Street. Current space constraints make it difficult for the operators to pull out of the traffic lanes when making stops. Request action</li> </ul>

	<p>be taken, such as installing “no parking” signs, to create pull-off space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Additionally, cars pass buses, despite a “double yellow” line, which could lead to a pedestrian safety issue.</li><li>• <b>Noise:</b> Noise from bus route announcements.</li><li>• Speed cushions for different wards, (i.e., 36<sup>th</sup> Street &amp; Taylor intersection)</li><li>• Helicopter noise</li><li>• Repaving: Repaving around and near traffic islands of 34<sup>th</sup> Street between S. Wakefield and South 36<sup>th</sup> Street.</li></ul>
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**ADJOURNMENT.**

Without objection, at 8:35 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

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BARBARA A. FAVOLA, Chairman

ATTEST:

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HOPE L. HALLECK, Clerk