



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of June 12, 2010

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT – Revisions to Appendix IV

DATE: June 7, 2010

SUBJECT: Leeway Conservation Plan Update

DISCUSSION: The Leeway Neighborhood Conservation Plan was presented to the Planning Commission on June 1, 2010. At the meeting, the Planning Commission requested clarifications to some of the staff comments on Appendix IV, which are addressed as follows:

County Manager: MB

County Attorney: Cum SA

Staff: Kellie Brown, CPHD, ONS

36.

Traffic and Transportation

Recommendation No.	Location In Plan	Civic Association Recommendation	Comment (Department)
33	Pg 34	The County should improve traffic flow on Lee Highway near the I-66 on- and off-ramps to eliminate back-ups that occur on the surrounding streets, particularly during rush hour.	<p>Transportation, Engineering, and Operations (TE&O) staff will review the signal timings along the Lee Highway corridor as part of the traffic signal optimization project scheduled to start this year. (DES)</p> <p><u>The East Falls Church Area Plan is recommending future improvements to the intersections of Lee Highway/Washington Boulevard and Lee Highway/Fairfax Drive. The principal intent of the improvements is to improve conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists while not impeding traffic flow. (DES)</u></p>
34	Pg 34	The County should install left turn signals, synchronized so as to minimize congestion, on all approaches to the Lee Highway and North Sycamore Street intersection.	<p>TE&O staff will evaluate all approaches for left-turn phases. If warranted, staff will consider the feasibility of implementing such phases on the overall intersection and corridor operations. (DES)</p> <p><u>The East Falls Church Area Plan is recommending future improvements to the intersection of Lee Highway and Sycamore Street to improve pedestrian safety. The plan also calls for reducing the width of Sycamore Street in the vicinity of this intersection to provide one through lane in each direction and separate left-turn lanes. The capacity of Lee Highway would not be reduced. (DES)</u></p>

Parks, Recreation and Beautification

Recommendation No.	Location In Plan	Civic Association Recommendation	Comment (Department)
39	Pg 38	Rededicate the remaining portions of the undeveloped John Marshall right-of-way, from Lee Highway to Washington Boulevard, which the County owns in fee simple, as the John Marshall Park (a linear park of Arlington County).	<p>County does not currently have a plan for transferring right-of-way to park land. (PRCR).</p> <p><u>The County supports, in concept, the informal use of portions of the undeveloped John Marshall Drive right-of-way as a park. However, a formal change of the use of many of those segments of right-of-way would likely prove to be extremely difficult, time-consuming and costly, if not impossible to complete. The right-of-way of John Marshall Drive is made up of various types of acquisitions by, and dedications to, the County that must go through specific legal processes in order to change the use for which they were dedicated. Some of these processes would require the consent of, and/or a high level of cooperation from all abutting property owners - e.g., consent to abandonment of right-of-way; rededications to the County (for public park purposes) by abutting property owners of right of way vacated by the County to the abutting property owners.</u></p> <p><u>Any change (abandonment; vacation; acceptance of new dedication) in the use of an existing street right-of-way (fee simple dedication or easement) must also be approved by the County Board. That process requires an amendment to the County's Comprehensive Plan and its Master Transportation Plan. Such approvals require public hearings before the Transportation Commission, the Planning Commission, and the County Board. The public process also involves input from the affected neighborhoods, local civic associations, and the Park and Recreation Commission. (PRCR)</u></p>