

April 10, 2014

To : Braddock Road Citizens Task Force / Advisory Committee, Kevin Morse Chairman, Tom Kennedy Vice Chairman, Committee members and Supervisor Cook

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Following the April 2, 2014 meeting of the Braddock Road Citizens Task Force, (Braddock Road Citizens advisory committee), Dave Moulton, the Dunleigh HOA representative, met with our community on 8 April to discuss the information presented at your first meeting and share information from it. **We are very glad you have started this important dialogue on behalf of community and it sounds like you had a good first session. Thank you for posting the comments from the 3 other community associations, the meeting minutes and the materials from the Feb 19 meeting on-line.**

In our discussion on 8 April we had some reactions that we felt were very important to share. Please review the following. We are very glad to discuss further and want to work in partnership with this group.

The Dunleigh HOA Board does not view the published time for development of a quality RFP as realistic. A "mid May" completion of the RFP appears to allow **insufficient** time to fully develop the RFP, for citizens to engage, review and contribute to it prior to soliciting 3rd party proposals. This could result in awarding a contract with an incomplete scope of work and lack of community alignment. We request and recommend that the time for through community input and review, (Citizens committee and broader community meeting) be extended (likely by 2 months or more?) to accomplish this key task.

Developing the RFP for any project where 3rd party services are contracted is a very key task and it is a big job. We need to be as specific as possible about the areas of data collection and cases/options to study to ensure valuable feedback at completion.

While many good areas of study are mentioned in the 3 page "Multi modal study outline" document, we think there's a great deal of work to do on it. Some more specific thoughts / input:

1. Sufficient community input and sharing timing: By mid-May the committee will have only met twice. We understood you had a very productive first meeting, but it was primarily an introduction vs. a working session.
 - a. To be consistent with the messages shared by Supervisor Cook ~ "broad multi modal mechanisms will be studied" "...the community will be kept informed via quarterly meetings"etc; a second quarterly meeting in May or June would be a good time to review a full draft of the RFP once it is prepared.
2. RFP Content: As noted above, there are many good areas of study in the 3 page document but please find some comments regarding the focus, organization and content of the document:

- a. **The RFP needs to define the Goals and Objectives of the study and the CASES to be analyzed.** We don't see this fully developed in the current document. The case outline should include:
 - i. Document current situation and base case data
 - 1. Time of travel from X to Y at various times of day today.
 - 2. The traffic volume, etc.
 - a. Supervisor Cook mentioned 73000 cars per day east of Burke Lake Road and 32000 cars per day west of Burk Lake Road.
 - b. Where are they coming from? Going? (i.e. establish the % of flow from within Burke and from South County, Clifton, Manassas, Centerville issue, etc.
 - 3. The synchronization or lack of synchronization of lights.
 - 4. Noise levels in immediate back-yards
 - 5. Number of bus riders
 - 6. Area growth projections, source data, commuting patterns, etc.
 - 7. Document specific limitations of current facilities.
 - ii. Base Case Improvements: what are they?
 - 1. Pedestrian Crossings, Trail Connections, Bus Stop improvements, neighborhood cut through mitigations, etc.
 - iii. Case 1 – Do nothing, what are the impacts over time? (delays, people find other routes, people eventually get on busses?)
 - iv. Case 2 – Improve light timing => what is the resulting impact?
 - v. Case 3 – Improve light timing and turn lanes => what is the resulting impact?
 - vi. Case 4 – above scope + HOV lane. (build an HOV lane down the center of Braddock targeting no widening with turn lanes above?)
 - vii. Etc. Etc.
 - viii. A section of the RFP should be devoted to understanding what other "Smart Development" research and options are available for other outside the box broad solutions that we mentioned but may not each have the expertise to fully articulate.
 - ix. **We recommend a workshop or series of workshops to develop the information above.**
 - b. A statement such as "perform corridor traffic analysis to assess vehicular weaving and merging issues" is a good statement but it open ended and general, it does not outline deliverables or scope.
 - c. Another good statement, "evaluate landscaping needs and community priorities, including discussion of existing landscaping, " captures some important issues but needs to be re-worded to define scope and criteria and incorporated into a list of base case needs. Such as provide sufficient land scape, berm or barriers to reduce / maintain the traffic noise to XX db level for immediate neighbors.
3. There is little mention of incorporating the more broad-reaching / brainstorming / thought provoking areas of study mentioned by supervisor Cook in the community meeting, requested by

the community members on February 19 and mentioned in our input document to the committee. **This is a significant concern of the Dunleigh HOA. These more far reaching discussions were front and center at the community meeting BUT we do not see them in the current outline. A partial listing:**

- a. VRE improvements. A significant expansion of service. Better connections of the VRE with Metro to increase ridership.
 - b. Pentagon Bus improvements. Expanded service hours for current riders and to encourage others to ride. What can be done to keep the buses on schedule and riders safe crossing the street. (This service has been a success for many years, we need to maintain and grow it)
 - c. Other park and ride construction and or regional solutions:
 - i. Impact of the Centerville park and ride mentioned by Supervisor Cook in Centerville.
 - ii. What about considering others:
 - 1. Roberts Road?
 - 2. Expand Keene Mill Road Park & Ride – build a Garage on existing lot?
 - 3. Build Park and rides along FFX County Parkway.
 - 4. Further expansion of the Springfield Franconia metro lot
 - 5. Expansion of the Metro lines west from Vienna or Springfield? (yes a very large project)
 - d. The Dunleigh HOA questions the viability and benefit of a 500 car park and ride at Rolling Road / Braddock Road will add significant value.
4. Please share who the RFP will be bid to. Is this bid list established? Are these local firms? Are they firms with the capability and track record to seek out solutions for multi-modal smart development from other cities and countries to similar issues?

Bottom line, the Dunleigh HOA suggests /request the committee to set a realistic timeline to develop a quality RFP that defines the study in greater detail, provides specific cases and objectives, identifies the need to find more far reaching multi-modal regional solutions and allows time for community review and input, (both at the committee and broader community level.). We again recognize this is not an easy task and can imagine the committee might consider a phased approach to the RFP and study process focusing first on examining and quantifying the as-is case and further regional research on commuting patterns. If such a phased strategy were to be adopted, this would also require a change to the milestone schedule.

We appreciate and seek open lines of communication on this important project. If the study and assessments are indeed genuine efforts to determine the best course of action for our neighborhoods and region, then we expect all options need to remain on the table for the most practical solutions to be considered over the next decade and beyond. We want to preserve and improve quality of life in our neighborhood and region.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or Dave Moulton with any questions. We do request a reply from you and your members regarding the overall issue of the RFP scope and development timeline. We are glad to participate in discussions and workshops on this topic.

Thanks & Regards,

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