

**FAIRFAX COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

DATE: Wednesday, September 11, 2013
TIME: 7:15 P.M.
PLACE: Hidden Oaks Nature Center

MEMBERS PRESENT

Stella Koch (Chairman, At-Large)	Frank Crandall (Dranesville)
Larry Zaragoza (Vice Chairman, Mt. Vernon)	George Lamb (At-Large)
Linda Burchfiel (At-Large)	Robert McLaren (At-Large)
Hana Burkly (Student Member)	Glen White (Mason)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jeff Allcroft (Springfield)	Michael Sanio (Hunter Mill)
Frank Divita (Braddock)	Rich Weisman (Sully)
Johna Gagnon (Lee)	

STAFF

Kambiz Agazi	Noel Kaplan
--------------	-------------

GUESTS

Jeffrey Hermann

Briefing from the Fairfax County Department of Transportation on Transportation Demand Management

Presentation from Jeffrey Hermann, the TDM Coordinator with the Fairfax County Department of Transportation, entitled "The TDM Proffer Process in Fairfax County."

Issues addressed:

- Goal is for county to reduce single occupancy trips using proffer system
- Determine trip reduction goals from standard baseline behavior for each type of land use
- Determine level of participation (e.g., in Tysons, based on distance from Metro stations)

- While TDM is a proffered agreement, adjustments to the TDM program are able to be made after the fact due to how the proffers are worded and how the new TDM program functions.
- Per typical proffers, developers provide annual report to demonstrate trip reduction, and county can monitor success of proffer system
- Developers pay into incentive fund that is used to help change behavior, e.g., for bike lanes or smart cards to be used for mass transit
- Developers support this standardization because they know what steps must be taken up front and because if they accomplish their goals it's possible to receive a release of the applicable Remedy and (in Tysons) Penalty Funds after build out
- Program has succeeded in reducing trips; success stories are Plaza America in Reston and the EDENS development in Merrifield
- Concerns raised by the use of shuttles
- Idea raised by an EQAC member for energy demand management proffers applying a similar model
- Suggestion to include TDM reporting in the Annual Report on the Environment
- Quality control for developer TDM reports—auditing and monitoring
- Transportation Management Associations

Motions made: None

Follow-up actions: None

Development of an EQAC position on the draft stormwater management ordinance

Issues addressed:

- The draft stormwater management ordinance and a related draft amendment to the Public Facilities Manual--Proposal to send letter stressing that the ordinance should not be able to weaken regulations but can only make them more stringent.

Motions made:

- Stella Koch moved that a short letter be transmitted to the Board of Supervisors stressing that the ordinance should not weaken existing requirements. Seconded by Larry Zaragoza

Record of the vote: The motion passed unanimously

Follow-up actions:

- Stella Koch will draft a letter for circulation to all members present at the meeting to ensure that the letter is consistent with the vote.

- The letter will then be transmitted to the Board of Supervisors.

Discussion of the August 2013 consideration of environmental issues associated with the Pleasant Valley Road/Braddock Road intersection project

Issues addressed:

- Review of the approval of a memorandum at the August meeting and issues raised by the discussion generating a set of clarifying questions; staff pursuit of these questions with the Clerk's Office and related discussions with the Chairman.
- The timeline for possible Board of Supervisors consideration of the issue as it relates to the timing of EQAC's review.
- Discussion regarding the possible revision of the memo to address issues raised during the August discussion, in light of the timeframe available for an EQAC position.
- Direction for revision of the memo to present it in broader policy terms and to present the recommendation regarding a Board of Supervisors public hearing as more of a direct request from EQAC and less a reflection of community concerns

Motions made:

- (1) Bob McLaren moved that EQAC withdraw its previous letter on this matter. Glen White seconded the motion.
- (2) Bob McLaren moved that EQAC authorize Stella Koch to write a revised memo along the general lines of the earlier memo, but with the Braddock Road/Pleasant Valley Road issue presented as an example of a broader policy concern. Stella Koch seconded the motion.

Record of the vote: Both motions passed unanimously. Stella Koch abstained from the vote on item (1); there were no abstentions for item (2).

Follow-up actions:

- Stella will draft a revised memo consistent with the motion.
- The draft memo will be circulated to all members present for the vote to ensure its consistency with the motion.
- The memo will then be transmitted to the Board of Supervisors.

Consideration of changes to and prioritization of EQAC's legislative position statements for the 2014 legislative session.

Issues addressed:

- Proposed changes from Linda Burchfiel to the August 14 approved position regarding Community Net-Metering.
- Revisions to the revised draft position statement
- EQAC's decision to retain its previous position regarding uranium mining

- Consensus against prioritizing position statements this year.

Motions made:

- (1) Linda Burchfiel moved that EQAC withdraw its previous Community Net-Metering position statement. Bob McLaren seconded the motion.
- (2) Linda Burchfiel moved that EQAC accept the new position statement as revised at the meeting. Larry Zaragoza seconded the motion.

Record of the vote: Both motions passed unanimously, with no abstentions

Follow-up actions:

- The revised position statement will be transmitted to the County Executive's Office.

Follow-up to the selection of Environmental Excellence Award recipients

Issues addressed:

- The idea of whether or not honorable mentions should be awarded for the Environmental Excellence Awards
 - Is this a good idea?
 - If so, what process would EQAC need to pursue?
- Consensus to not pursue the honorable mention idea
- Request to staff to advise EQAC of pending retirements so that EQAC can send letters of thanks as appropriate

Motions made: None

Follow-up actions: Staff to advise EQAC of pending retirements of environmental staff

Identification of a date for the annual public hearing on the environment

Issues addressed:

- Scheduling of the annual public hearing
- Consensus in support of Jan 13, 2014

Motions made: None

Follow-up actions: Noel Kaplan will confirm the reservations of the Board Auditorium and South County Center for the selected date.

2013 Annual Report on the Environment

Air Quality Chapter

Issues addressed: Review of the draft Air Quality chapter

Motions made: Bob McLaren moved acceptance of the chapter as presented. Larry Zaragoza seconded the motion

Record of the vote: Unanimous approval

Follow-up actions: Editing and finalization of the Air Quality chapter.

Noise Section

Issues addressed:

- Review of the draft Noise section
- The appropriateness of EQAC making a recommendation relating to another advisory committee without checking with that committee first
- Whether text in the chapter sufficiently speaks to the rationale for a proposed deletion of a comment addressing review and analysis of noise data from Dulles Airport

Motions made: None

Follow-up actions:

- Noel Kaplan will seek guidance from the Airports Advisory Committee regarding the draft recommendation addressing the decommissioned noise monitoring station in Great Falls.
- Other revisions to the section will be made (e.g., the rationale for deletion of a comment) and the section will be revisited at the October 9 EQAC meeting.

Spotlight on Fairfax County Public Schools

Issues addressed:

- The rationale for including this section again in this year's report
- A request from a Supervisor for expansion of the Spotlight section to address FCPS and DPWES collaboration on stormwater management
- Consensus to retain the section with the added discussion
- Perspectives of EQAC's Student Member

Motions made: Bob McLaren moved acceptance of the section as presented. Larry Zaragoza seconded the motion

Record of the vote: Unanimous approval

Follow-up actions:

- Editing and finalization of the section
- Over the course of the year, review of the issue of dumping of recyclables and consideration of a future request for guidelines for recycling at schools that would be applied consistently across the school system

Environmental Excellence Awards appendix

Issues addressed:

- The draft appendix highlighting the 2013 award recipients
- Consensus supporting the appendix as drafted

Motions made: None

Follow-up actions: None

General follow-up actions: All remaining chapters/sections will need to be reviewed at EQAC's October 9 meeting. The meeting will be dedicated to completion of the report. Noel Kaplan requested that chapter/section drafts be provided to him by October 1 *[later moved to October 2]*

Approval of meeting minutes

Issues addressed:

- Review of the minutes of the June 12, 2013 meeting
- Deferral of consideration of the April 10, 2013 and August 14, 2013 minutes

Motions made: Larry Zaragoza moved acceptance of the June 12, 2013 minutes, with one revision as suggested by Noel Kaplan. Glen White seconded the motion.

Record of the vote: Unanimous approval, with Bob McLaren abstaining

Follow-up actions:

- Per standard practice, the approved minutes will be posted to EQAC's website, and a note will be sent by e-mail to all Board member offices advising them of key meeting agenda items and availability of the minutes

Chairman's Items

None.

Council Member Items

Issues addressed:

- Green Breakfast on September 14
- Notable items from a recent tour of the new Costco store along Richmond Highway

Motions made: None

Follow-up actions: None

Staff items

Issues addressed:

- Presentation from the Department of Transportation at the September 17 BOS Transportation Committee meeting on September 17—Restarting the “County Dialogue on Transportation”
- Upcoming Planning Commission Environment Committee meetings
- Planning Commission public hearing on the draft stormwater ordinance—October 9
- Request for comments on the list of policy questions relating to the Planning Commission Environment Committee review of electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- BOS Environmental Committee meeting—October 15
- Discussion of future meeting agendas

Motions made: None

Follow-up actions:

- Tentative scheduling of a discussion of green building guidance for hotels—November meeting
- Future agenda items to include an update on the status of recommendations from the Private Sector Energy Task Force and the idea of seeking proffers for energy reporting from buildings

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 PM.