

RESTON MASTER PLAN SPECIAL STUDY
TASK FORCE
March 15, 2011

Task Force Meeting
South Lakes High School

Meeting Summary

7:05 p.m. Public Comment Period

- Joe Leighton made comments on his own behalf. He was not speaking on behalf of Reston Association. He stressed the need for a Reston South and Reston North parking lot with commuter bus service to Wiehle station. He stated that employers should offer incentives for carpooling which will reduce traffic. He emphasized the need for connections to Reston Town Center from the south side of the Toll Road. He also expressed a concern that residential development will not work on the south side of the Toll Road.
- Tom Loftus of the Equitable Housing Institute discussed a letter he sent to the TF last week. He encouraged the TF to work with DPZ to provide a balanced jobs/housing ratio. He stated that this balance must be regional and extend beyond the Metrorail station borders. This letter can be viewed here:
http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston/communitydocs/equal_housing_inst_comments_task_force.pdf
- Reston Association Environmental Advisory Committee representative Freya de Cola discussed her comments/edits for the Environment section of the Planning Principles. These comments are posted here:
http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston/vision_principles/community_comment/ra_planning_princ_track_chnges.pdf

7:17 p.m. Administrative Items – Patty Nicoson, Task Force Chair

- Patty asked that the following corrections to the meeting summary from the February 22, 2011 Task Force (TF) meeting: MWAA decision on how to handle air rights has been postponed several months; MWAA Director is Sam Carnaggio not Joe Pinaggio.
- The TF voted to adopt the meeting summary from 2-22-11 as amended; none opposed
- Patty discussed the draft letter from the TF to MWAA that was circulated for the TF comments and suggestions. There is still time to comment.
- Pete's concern with the draft letter is the possible delay in the project. MWAA did not preclude future air rights, but they did say they were not ready to spend the 34 million today. There is potential to delay the project due to Environmental issues or cost analysis. He does not want to misrepresent his views that the TF should support air rights.
- Dick Kennedy was impressed with letter, but also understands Pete's concerns. He would like for Patty to include a paragraph that supports air rights, but expresses concern over the delay?
- Mike Cooper discussed a recent Phase II meeting. MWAA reported that they are already over budget and requesting more money could present a problem and cause delays.
- Mike Corrigan stated that the tunnel at the airport is extremely important and will provide direct access from the airport into Reston.
- Patty will edit and bring back to the TF

- Issue of Visitability - Reston 2020 Access Committee has asked that this issue be addressed in the Comprehensive Plan Amendment. Heidi Merkel noted that staff is looking at options for addressing the issue in Plan guidance.
- Terry Maynard made a presentation to the Steering committee on densities near the transit stations; he is working with DPZ staff to make this presentation available online

7:30 p.m. Vision Sub-committee Area Wide Recommendations Final Report by John Carter and Kohann Williams, Co-chairs, the presentation can be viewed here:
http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston/vision_sub_committee/vision_reston_areawide_recs.pdf

- Judy Pew made comment re: tree canopy: she gave two examples – stream restoration created an incredible amount of tree loss (Walker Nature Center did a better job of maintaining the visual experience): the wood areas along Soapstone serve to buffer the houses along Soapstone and would harm the visual component if removed.
- A comment was made that a memorial garden should be referenced so that Reston can be a place to live, work, play and have a final resting place. Incorporating the “after life” is very important.
- Judy Pew commented on the importance of the bridges and tunnels. When more and more people move to the area to enjoy TOD the infrastructure must be in place first; in Maryland, development is held off until the infrastructure is built, but VA can’t do that; Reston has good infrastructure, but it can be better; air rights are also high importance.
- The co-chairs will continue to accept comments from the Task Force.
- Nick Bayer stated that he will submit some specific recommendations on stormwater.

8:00 p.m. Task Force Vote on Reston community-wide Vision statement and Planning Principles

- The Task Force worked through the various suggested edits. The following comments capture some key discussion points.
- TF discussed Robert Goudie’s suggestions that were circulated prior to the meeting. Those comments are posted here:
http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston/vision_principles/community_comment/goudie_comments_vision_and_planning_principles.pdf
- Mike Corrigan commented on the Village Centers. He is skeptical that the proposed principles provide adequate guidance about the desire for the character of existing neighborhoods to be preserved.
- Robert Goudie commented on property rights for owners within clusters
- Art Murphy suggested that Principle #4 be edited to remove reference to areas “not being targeted” for growth.
- Judith Pew suggested that Principle #2 include the following guidance: “Reston’s tree canopy has environmental significance and is an important component of the Reston visual experience.”
- Paul Thomas inquired about the parameters of the Phase I/II.
- Mike Corrigan noted that he opposed adoption of the Vision and Planning Principles as amended.
- The Task Force voted for the Vision statement as amended.
- The Task Force then voted for the Planning Principles with amendments to #2, #4 and #5 as discussed in the meeting.

9:10 p.m. Update re: Steering Sub-committee by Heidi Merkel, DPZ Staff, the presentation available here:
http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston/presentations/station_area_character_03-15-11.pdf

- Focus of each character statement
- Reston East/Wiehle Avenue has been the most problematic station to develop a character statement.
- Steering Sub-committee may vote on these statements at their next meeting

- Steering Sub-committee has also discussed the station area sub-committees recommendations re: Form and General Location of Uses
- The upcoming discussion will be about Mix of Uses
- Additional elements to be discussed include Relative Intensities, Transportation Network, Connectivity, Park System and Urban Design.
- Next Steering meeting will be held on March 23 from 8-10 a.m. at the North County Government Center

9:15 p.m. Upcoming full Task Force meeting

- Next meeting: Tuesday April 5 (this meeting has been postponed to April 26 at Lake Anne)

9:25 p.m. Adjourn – Patty Nicoson

Members Present

Bauer, Nick
Bowman, John
Carter, John Anderson
Costello, Frederick
Fairfield, Jeffrey
Goudie, Robert
Hill, Arthur
Keefe, William
Kennedy, Richard
Matthews, Milton
Mills, Colin
Murphy, Arthur
Nicoson, Patty
Otteni, Pete
Penniman, Bill
Pew, Judith
Schlichting, John
Seidenstricker, Jay
Simon, Bob
Stowers, Joe
Thomas, Paul
Volloy, Gerald
Walker, Robert
Williams, Kohann