



Meeting Summary

July 30, 2007, 7:00 PM

Fairfax Chamber of Commerce, 8230 Old Courthouse Road

- I. Call to Order: The Task Force approved the July 9, 2007 meeting summary as submitted.
- II. [Summary from the July 2007 Outreach Events](#): Chairman Tyler thanked all the Task Force members who not only participated in the public workshops, but also served as facilitators at the table dialogues.

Doug Sarno of The Perspectives Group summarized the results and feedback from the outreach events the week of July 16. He announced that 256 members of the public attended the evening workshops; 42 employees participated in three daytime focus group meetings; and 154 names were added to the Tysons listserv, bringing its total to 557.

Perspectives summarized issues raised during the question and answer sessions which followed PB PlaceMaking's presentation at the evening workshops:

- Concern about the desired levels of growth
- Balancing through traffic with pedestrian safety and accessibility
- Impact of transit on congestion
- Impact of elevated rail on urban design
- Need for parking and access to Metro stations
- Challenge of providing infrastructure to serve new development

Perspectives then reported some findings from the table dialogues. Following PB's presentation and the Q&A session, participants at each table discussed the questionnaire that was subsequently posted to the Tysons website. County staff served as notetakers at each table. A summary of the notes from each workshop table showed that a majority of participants who expressed an opinion agreed on the following points:

- Growth at Tysons should be focused near transit stations
- Need a functional grid of streets and a public transit circulator
- Need to improve access for pedestrians and bicycle riders
- Need to add parks and open space and civic meeting spaces
- Need housing that includes workforce, accessible and other types
- Street level retail uses should be added to Tysons neighborhoods

Perspectives concluded its presentation with two final slides. The first slide was entitled “What’s Next?”, and it showed that between July and November, the consulting team will formulate, test and refine two “advanced alternatives.” The analysis of those alternatives will be presented at a public workshop in December, after which the consulting team will formulate, test and refine a preferred model. Following that step, the Task Force will make its recommendations regarding amending the Comprehensive Plan for Tysons.

The second slide was entitled “Process to Develop and Test Alternatives,” and it showed details for the months of August and September. Activities include Consultant Liaison Subcommittee meetings August 20 and 27 and September 17 and 24; and a meeting of the consulting team in Portland August 22 and 23.

- III. Task Force Discussion of Scenario Analysis and Community Input: Task Force members asked for a breakdown on participants at the March and July workshops, and on the respondents to the online questionnaires. Members also asked about the concerns expressed at the employee focus group meeting for Human Resources Directors, and were told that much of that discussion focused on transportation to, from, and through Tysons. One of the HR Directors also mentioned that people don’t take jobs because they can’t afford to live at Tysons. Affordable housing was discussed by more people at the focus group meetings for MITRE employees and public sector employees.

A Task Force member suggested that it would make sense to target housing at Tysons to young people and empty nesters. Chairman Tyler said that Bay Area Economics was looking at the demographics of the urban housing market. It was mentioned that Arlington County Economic Development did a recent study on the demographics of the Rosslyn-Ballston Corridor, and that its findings might be relevant to future residents of Tysons.

- IV. Report on Implementation Outreach Event September 18: Brenda Krieger, Chair of the Implementation Subcommittee, handed out a [brief description of the outreach event](#). This is expected to be a panel discussion followed by a question and answer session. Panel members will include GB Arrington of PB PlaceMaking. Ms. Krieger also passed out a [document describing the Subcommittee’s goals and recommendations](#) regarding implementation of the new plan for Tysons. She noted that none of the Subcommittee’s recommendations require new State enabling legislation; they are all available to Fairfax County under current Virginia law. Task Force members observed that Tysons may end up serving as an example for other areas in Fairfax County that are in the process of redevelopment.
- V. Discussion regarding VDOT: Clark Tyler announced that the Task Force had received a [letter dated July 13, 2007, from Dennis Morrison, District Administrator for VDOT](#). This was in response to the [Task Force’s letter dated June 21, 2007](#). In this letter, Mr. Morrison stated that VDOT supports the grid concept in principle but would like to review Cambridge Systematics’ modeling results before making a commitment. He also encouraged Fairfax County staff to share information on the

proposed street grid with the Dulles Rail Project team, to help coordinate utility relocation.

Chairman Tyler stated that the Task Force is continuing to work with the Rail Project and VDOT to establish a “war room,” to coordinate construction projects at Tysons.

Wade Smith recognized the work that Claudia Llana and Cina Dabestani of VDOT have done over the past five years. Ms. Llana mentioned that her agency has been working with FDOT and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) on the redesign of Route 7, in an effort led by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT). She also stated that VDOT has no plans to widen Route 123; the only change they are planning is the addition of stops for transit buses.

Ms. Llana reminded Task Force members that John Lynch gave them a [presentation on Context Sensitive Solutions](#) in September 2005. Mr. Dabestani stated that VDOT is trying to accommodate all users, and to treat pedestrians as equal users. In the redesign of Route 7, VDOT included right turn bays to improve pedestrian safety.

Chairman Tyler pointed out that during the recent employee focus group meetings, there was concern expressed about signalization on Route 123. Mr. Dabestani said that VDOT will have to add a pedestrian phase to traffic signalization. That in turn will affect capacity and levels of service. Traffic signals that include a pedestrian phase are also more expensive.

- VI. Other Items: The next Task Force meeting will be September 10, 2007, at 7 pm in the large conference room at the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce.
- VII. Adjourn: 8:30 p.m.