

Task Force Schedules Next Phase of Tysons Corner Public Input for Week of July 16

Test Scenarios for Future of Tysons are Being Evaluated

The Tysons Land Use Task Force and the team of consultants working on planning the future of Tysons have developed three scenarios to test potential future growth in Tysons. These test scenarios were shaped by the public input provided during the March 2007 workshops and from ongoing Task Force activities. The test scenarios look at different ways of integrating four planned metrorail stations into Tysons Corner.

The test scenarios are not designed to be actual choices for the future of Tysons but to test how different planning approaches may or may not work. The test scenarios -- along with the "base case" derived from the current Comprehensive Plan -- are being evaluated to learn how well they address the Task Force Guiding Planning Principles and key factors for future transportation and quality of life in Tysons Corner.

A fact sheet with background on the work of the Tysons Land Use Task Force can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/tysonscorner/.

Public Input to Test Scenarios Will Be Conducted Week of July 16

The Task Force will present the evaluations of the test scenarios at three identical public workshops. Results will be presented and a question and answer period held. Then participants will discuss these test scenarios in small groups and provide input on the scenarios. This input will help the planning consultants design actual working alternatives for the future of Tysons Corner, and ultimately a preferred alternative which will be available for public review in late fall 2007.

Monday, July 16
7 PM to 10 PM

Hunter Mill District
Vienna Elementary School
128 Center Street South
Vienna, VA 22180

Tuesday, July 17
7 PM to 10 PM

Dranesville District
Spring Hill Elementary School
8201 Lewinsville Road
McLean, VA 22102

Wednesday, July 18
7 PM to 10 PM

Providence District
Marshall High School
7731 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22043

All meetings will be identical and individuals may attend any session regardless of their district. There is no advantage to attending more than one session.

Web Input Will Also Be Accepted

The Task Force website will feature a section describing the evaluation results and a comment form seeking public input on specific implications of the test alternatives. Web input will begin on July 16 and remain open through July 30 at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/tysonscorner/.

Background

In March 2005, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors created the Tysons Land Use Task Force to consider the impacts of the four planned Metrorail stations. The mission of the Task Force is to gather community input and recommend updates to the Tysons Comprehensive Plan. The Task Force is a 36-member group representing residents, businesses, major employers, and community and civic organizations. The Task Force and the county are working together with the community to create a collective vision for a positive and exciting future for Tysons Corner.

Building on Community Values

The Task Force's first task was to study the 1994 Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan and issues related to planning for growth and transit-oriented design. The Task Force then sought extensive public input to identify key values and concerns for the future of Tysons Corner. In January and February 2006, the Task Force talked with 424 people – via 20 dialogues and on-line comments – who identified a wide variety of important community values, issues and concerns regarding Tysons' future. These values included creating an increased sense of place in Tysons Corner, improving traffic conditions, protecting surrounding communities, increasing residential options, and managing growth, among others.

Identifying Strong Planning Principles and Planning for Growth

After considering all of the values and issues raised by the community, the Task Force identified a set of draft Guiding Planning Principles to provide clear and fundamental direction for planning a future model of Tysons. The Guiding Planning Principles were finalized in October 2006, and can be found at the Tysons website. In March 2007, over 300 Tysons area stakeholders participated in six Task Force workshops to provide input on how future development should be allocated in Tysons Corner and what would make a future Tysons more livable. Stakeholders identified the desire for more greenspace and civic uses; increasing the ability to move around within Tysons; focusing growth at transit stations; achieving higher density around stations; and ensuring lower density on the edge of Tysons.

Continuing the Dialogue

The Task Force is committed to open communication and ongoing public input to its work and process. The County website (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/tysonscorner/) contains all available information and materials pertaining to the Task Force. The Task Force also maintains an email listserv for interested citizens and a telephone information line. All Task Force meetings are open to the public and the schedule is posted on the website. A timeline of public outreach opportunities may be found at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/tysonscorner/plprocessinput.pdf>. Interested stakeholders are invited to sign up for email or regular mail updates on the website or at the contact points identified below. Comments, input and questions can be provided by phone at 703-324-1344, email at tysonscornerspecialstudy@fairfaxcounty.gov, or mail to:



Tysons Corner Special Study, Dept. of Planning & Zoning
12055 Government Center Pkwy., Suite 730, Fairfax, VA 22035-5505

Reasonable accommodations will be made upon request. Please call 703-324-1334, TTY 711, for more information.