



County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

Fairfax County Transportation Advisory Commission Meeting Notes Regular Meeting – 7:30 p.m., July 17, 2018

Location: Fairfax County DOT, 4050 Legato Road, Suite 400, Conf. Rooms 400.06 & 400.08
Fairfax, Virginia 22033

Web Site: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/tac/meetings

Note-Taker: Jenifer Joy Madden

TAC Members in Attendance: Chairman Jeff Parnes (Sully), Vice Chairman Jenifer Joy Madden (Hunter Mill), Secretary Roger Hoskin (Mason), Mike Champness (Dranesville), and MaryPauline Jones (Fairfax Area Disability Services Board).

TAC Members Absent: Linda Sperling (At-Large), Kevin Morse (Braddock), Vacant (Lee), Michael Shor (Mt. Vernon), Micah Himmel (Providence), and Eric Thiel (Springfield).

Others in Attendance: Supervisory staff in attendance were Jenny Kaplan (Dranesville), Joan Clark (Lee), Jesse Herman (Hunter Mill), Peyton Onks (Springfield), and Clara Pizana (Mason). Calvin Lam (FCDOT).

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeff Parnes at 7:40 p.m.

Agenda and Discussion Topics

The meeting began with introductions. Supervisory staff then detailed how TAC can be useful to them and their supervisors. Ms. Kaplan said TAC could be a lead in the Futures Group effort. Supervisor Herrity's aide Peyton Onks explained her district's transportation priorities and asked for help in engaging citizens on the Rolling Road and Fairfax County Parkway widening and Shirley Gate Extension. She stated that TAC has become much more than a mechanism for nominations for the TAC award. It is now a part of coordinating on issues such as the TPP.

In the Mason District, Clara Pizana says she is mainly concerned with car-related issues, such as traffic calming. A Land Use aide handles transit-related matters such as bus stops. Ms. Pizana suggested that TAC generate quarterly updates so the aides know what is going on and how they can collaborate.

Chair Parnes explained his various roles including with Sully District Council and Fairfax Federation of Citizens Association, as well as his duties on the TAC. He mentioned there are also District Councils throughout the county (although not all districts have them). The Chair went on to point out that many transportation problems aren't confined to just one particular district, but

involve others when traffic backs up. Chair Parnes pointed out that he now shares TAC monthly agendas with the supervisors' offices.

Commissioner Champness then reviewed the Futures Working Group presentation after asking how the TAC can help the aides with public outreach. He attempted to explain how the aides and TAC members could support each other in the Futures effort. The Chair then asked the transportation aides how TAC can help them. Ms. Pizana says she is very busy with transportation and not land use planning. However, on some land use projects, there may be a need for coordination on the transportation side. Ms. Onks wondered what a TAC member does when a community member gets in touch. Mr. Parnes encourages them to organize with others and go to a district council meeting. Ms. Onks asked that if anything pertains to Springfield comes up at a TAC meeting to please let her know so she can better support her supervisor. Ms. Clark reports that in Lee District the "hot" projects are "Embark" (Route 1 widening and the BRT) and also the Frontier Drive project now that TSA is moving in. She mentioned that she needs as much input as they can get. As for visioning Futures planning, she said TAC is "spot on" with.

Ms. Clark brought up the fact that there are transportation needs for people who have doctors appointments but don't have a cellphone. They need alternatives to very expensive cab rides. Ms. Pizana replied that at one point Fastran and Metro Access used to fill those needs. Also in the early 2000's, as a pilot that did not succeed, they tried a lunch shuttle bus to move people from one part of the corridor to another. She surmised that the pilot may have flopped because people are still married to their vehicles. There was a mention of Fairfax Council on Aging to provide rides, but Ms. Clark said she has not yet been able to solve the problem. Commissioner Madden suggested that it might be helpful to have a status report on the Tysons Circulators and what's working and what's not.

Chair Parnes thanked the aides for their participation and all present agreed there should be a continuing dialogue.

TAC Transportation Achievement Awards

Chair Parnes requested that those who have not served on the Awards Committee, such as Commissioners Sperling and Jones serve. Commissioner Hoskin volunteered to serve as Chair and the third member of the committee. Chair Parnes charged the subcommittee with acquiring and evaluating nominations and making a recommendation. Nominations will be due around the September 30, and a recommendation should be available in time for the November meeting. Commissioner Hoskin suggested a qualifications statement will be helpful in obtaining nominations. Chair Parnes tasked last year's nominating committee with devising a nomination template. Commissioner Champness suggested the template should include a description of the award. Chair Parnes suggested providing examples of previous nominations. Commissioner Madden suggested creating a template that prompted applicants to fill out the specified requirements for the award. Chair Parnes suggested making the form available online. Commissioner Jones suggested that providing prompts will encourage people to fill out the form.



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Approval of the Minutes

The approval of the meeting notes from the May 15, 2018, were postponed to the next meeting, because a quorum was not met. The June 19, 2018, meeting was a field trip. There were no meeting notes to be approved.

Comment & Feedback on Previous Meeting's Presentations

May 15 Legislative Briefing: no comments were made.

June 19 trip to the VRE Stations and Rail Yard: the consensus is that the train trip was enjoyable and worthwhile. Chair Parnes explained to a citizen visitor who works for VRE what happened on the trip. TAC traveled on the 2 p.m. train so TAC members did not disrupt the commute.

The discussion then moved on to the next field trip which is to the Silver Line II. TAC members need details so they can plan for the August 21 visit.

TAC Subcommittee on Planning for the Futures Work Group Meeting

Commissioner Champness, referring to the Futures Working Group brief, pointed out that the next steps are to have TAC members volunteer to do various aspects of the agenda. He suggested that some items, such as data management, could go on the front burner. He then discussed the TAC relationship with the Planning Commission. He suggests we ask the Planning Commission how they would approach these issues. Commissioner Champness then brought up how various TAC members could take on the responsibility of various Futures topics, but that there aren't enough members present to make assignments. Commissioner Hoskin said he knows best about on-demand transportation. Commissioner Madden suggested there should be a meeting with state, county and Virginia Tech authorities who manage transportation-related data. Commissioner Hoskin suggested Commissioner Thiel assist on that topic. Chair Parnes has asked reports be submitted on sub-topics by July 31 so they can be made available for the next Work Group meeting on August 7.

Other Business

Chair Parnes reviewed today's Board Transportation Committee meeting. Regarding the I-66 HOT lanes, more people are commuting by carpool and most major parallel routes have not been negatively impacted except the George Washington Parkway. For those who try to avoid the tolls, Route 50 takes then 3 minutes longer than it used to be. Only 0.3% of all commuters pay a \$40 toll. The most-used segment is Glebe Road onto the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge. Throughput has increased and average speed is faster than before. Tolls are less going back in the afternoon. Chair Parnes has asked for information on tolls per road segment.

As for WMATA, concrete is failing at many Metro stations, therefore there will be widespread shutdowns in summer of 2019. Because funds have been diverted to Metro improvements, no new county transportation projects will be started before 2025, although existing projects will be completed.

Planned Agenda for next meeting

Topics for Future Meetings (Candidates for holding meetings at alternate location indicated in **bold**)

- **August 21:** Trip to Dulles Rail Yard, Airport Station and Innovation Station
- **September 25:** VDOT Traffic Data Collection and Analysis
- **October 16:** MWAA – State of Dulles International and Reagan National Airports
- **November 20:** Fairfax Connector and Metrobus Plans for Alternative Service during WMATA's Reconstruction of Blue/Yellow Lines South of Reagan National Airport Station
- **December 18:** Annual TAC Holiday Dinner with Discussion on Futures Work Group
- **TBD:** Joint meeting date with the Planning Commission's Transportation Committee on what their vision is for future development and any changes in planning and zoning guidelines that may be needed to account for future work environment given the pace and impacts of technology advances

Announcements and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.