



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

November 15, 2022, at 7:30 pm

Location: Virtual Meeting

Web Site: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/tac/meetings>

Note-Taker: Roger Hoskin

TAC Members in Attendance: Vice Chair Pete Sitnik (Mount Vernon), Linda Sperling (At-Large), Secretary Roger Hoskin (Mason), Kevin Morse (Braddock), Jeremy Hancock (Providence), Eric Thiel (Springfield), and Christy Garton (Fairfax Area Disabilities Services Board – FADSB)

TAC Members Absent: Chair Mike Champness (Dranesville), Phylicia Woods (Herndon), and M. David Skiles (Sully).

The Lee District position remained vacant.

Others in Attendance: Michael A. Davis (Land Development Services), Austin Gastrell (Department of Planning and Development), Dan Reinhard, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) staff: AJ Hamidi, Tom Burke, Eric Teitelman, Ricky Foley, Zachary Krohmal, Marcus Moore, and Calvin Lam.

Special Guests/Observers/Public: N/A

Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Sitnik at 7:35 pm. The Vice-Chair then proceeded with the protocol necessary to justify a virtual meeting.

To fulfill procedural obligations of virtual meetings, Vice Chair Sitnik and Secretary Mason performed the opening procedures for a virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams. Meeting recording and materials will be posted online at: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/tac/meetings

The location of each member was announced by voice since they are participating remotely.

- At-Large: Linda Sperling - Springfield
- Braddock District: Kevin Morse – Burke

- Mason District: Roger Hoskin (Secretary) – Falls Church
- Mount Vernon District: Pete Sitnik (Vice Chair) – Mount Vernon
- Providence District: Jeremy Hancock – Falls Church
- Springfield District: Eric Thiel – Fairfax Station
- Fairfax Area Disabilities Services Board: Christie Garton - Fairfax

The Chair made a first motion to *"determine that each member's voice can be adequately heard by each other member of this Commission."* It was seconded by Commissioner Hancock and unanimously approved.

The Chair made a second motion that *"the State of Emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic makes it unsafe for this Commission to physically assemble and unsafe for the public to physically attend any such meeting. I further move that this Commission may conduct this meeting electronically through a dedicated audio-conferencing line, and that the public may access this meeting by Microsoft Teams online platform or by calling: 1-571-429-5982, phone conference ID: 373 730 387#. The phone number for ADA is 711. Access information is also available at the TAC website at: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/tac/meetings".* It was seconded by Commissioner Morse and unanimously approved by the Commission.

The Chair made a third motion that *"all of the matters on the agenda previously furnished and posted on the TAC website are necessary for continuity in Fairfax County government, and/or are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations and the discharge of this Commission's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities".* It was seconded by Commissioner Morse and unanimously approved by the Commission.

Minutes

A motion to accept the September meeting notes was made by Commissioner Morse and seconded by Commissioner Hoskin. The minutes were approved unanimously as amended by Commissioner Morse's edits.

Follow-up on the Parking Reimagined Project

The goal of this project is to bring parking requirements into a better balance with parking demand. Overall, minimum parking will likely be reduced from present levels. This reduction will allow more compact land development, reducing development costs, boosting business development, and creating a greater affordable housing supply. Baseline reductions will vary depending on land use density. The new addition is the addition of bicycle parking requirements.

The remainder of the presentation was a detailed explanation of the proposed base rate reductions for each category of land use. Most recent data suggest that present parking requirements are in excess of demand. Presently, these base rate reductions are proposals and subject to revisions.

This project began in October 2021 and will end with a public hearing in early 2023. A detailed draft proposal will be presented for public discussion and enactment as ordinance. The

Commission's comment centered on multi-car households in multi-family developments where demand for parking will exceed demand. The presenters responded that evidence of parking "spillover" are in older developments that were under-parked when they were built in newer developments, suggesting that demand is in line with recommendations.

Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) General Update

The Richmond Highway Corridor Improvement includes a three-mile road widening project by VDOT and a BRT project under the purview of FCDOT. The upgrade in the roadway is expected to expand the roadway to include pedestrian and bicycle trails that are buffered from the automobile throughway and the BRT transitway. The rest of the presentation focused on acquiring the right-of-way and incorporating issues raised by stakeholders in the area into the design. The BRT review included a detailed explanation of the 13-turn lane analysis and the many tradeoffs encountered in designing each intersection; each intersection had unique attributes that required a unique design. The intersection design was undertaken with an eye to improving pedestrian and bicycling access and safety. The posted speed limit will be reduced from 45 mph to 35 mph throughout the corridor.

Public Comment Period

Since there were no members of the public present, there were no comments.

TAC Transportation Achievement Awards

Vice Chair Sitnik presented the 2021 TAC Transportation Achievement Award at the Board meeting on November 1, 2022. The Scotts Run Trail Project team was the winner of the Award. The team members were from different County agencies, VDOT, and other private partners.

Other Business and Announcements

Discussed were the topics for the TAC meeting with the Board of Supervisors. The topic will center on alternative metrics for evaluating roadways. An objection was raised because the topic was very technical. However, a tutorial should be available at the December meeting.

Adjournment

Secretary Hoskin made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded by Commissioner Thiel. The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 pm.