Fairfax County Trails, Sidewalks and Bikeways Committee Meeting Notes

Regular Meeting – 7 PM, 12 February 2020

Location: Fairfax County Government Center,
12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax, VA 22035, Conference Room 8
Web Site: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/trails

Note-Taker: Jim Klein

Committee Members in Attendance: Representative At-Large and Chair Ken Comer, Robert Cosgriff (Braddock), Jim Klein (Mount Vernon), Wade H. B. Smith (Dranesville), Stiven Foster (Providence), James Albright (Mason District), Karl Liebert (Springfield), Karen Ampeh (Sully), Beth Iannetta (Fairfax County Park Authority), Mark Tipton (Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations), Shawn Newman (Fairfax County Alliance for Better Bicycling),

Committee Members Absent: Robert W. Michie (Lee), Soledad Portilla (Northern Virginia Builders' Industry Association), Katie McDaniel (Clifton Horse Society), Dan Iglhaut (Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority)

Others in Attendance: Nicole Wynands (FCDOT), Lindsay Marfurt (FCDOT), Anna Bentley, FCPA

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ken Comer at 7:00 PM.

Agenda and Discussion Topics

Approval of the Minutes

The meeting notes from the December 2019 meeting were approved by voice vote with amendment reflecting minor editing.

Sally Smallwood, Safe Routes to School, FCPS (handout attached)

- Reviewed SRTS program accomplishments, goals and plan for next year (Goal is to get more kids to walk or ride to school; target high walking percentage schools)
- Electronic survey with 300 responses on parent survey; biggest concern is safety at intersections, then speed of traffic
- Next year fund part-time coordinator; fund two more schools with bikes, live healthy
 Fairfax, provide incentives for walk/bike to school day events; focus on 2-3 schools to get
 a day or two a week differently on mostly kiss and ride schools; more travel tallies and
 electronic survey

Introductions:

- Anna Bentley, new planning branch manager for FCPA
- **Lindsay Marfurt**, new Planner II (tech position replacing McKenzie) background in urban planning, GIS support for bicycle and pedestrian program (maps, wayfinding/signage, etc.);
- **David Loss** from traffic calming division outreach and shared micromobility manager

Staff Report

- Active Fairfax scope (handed out at meeting) now sent on to FCDOT consultants; beefed up systematic safety element asking for safety action plan; on-call service contract will be used giving more flexibility to adjust scope if issues change moving forward;
 - Magisterial District input from committee members? see page 3 for schedule; still 2-3 months to kick-off; Input from Magisterial Districts can be provided to FCDOT and consultants in any format (google maps or hand drawn OK too; format is flexible; FCDOT looking for all ways to get input)
 - Attachment A currently funded, B (requested); components of study asked for by Supervisors Acorn, Lusk is included in A (but not called Vision Zero)
 - Cross-county connectivity –Ken Comer asked if there is role for chair/at large representative for tracking larger trails. Nicole described three types of trails
 - Regional e.g. those identified as part of the capital trails network, PHNST, East Coast Greenway
 - Countywide e.g. Cross County Trail
 - Minor feeders and neighborhood trails
 - Data collection a big part of A extensive discussion of how to ensure that quantitative data captured from cell towers/cell phones is supplemented by qualitative data that is contributed by trail users and neighbors
 - o Public Outreach would like Committee input on outreach plan (task 3, a and b)
- **Public Facilities Manual (PFM)** relative to trails this is by-right guidance so limited as to what can be done; changes noted in handout to Chapter 8; in review for past year
 - Working committee (s) representing affected agencies take the lead (Engineering Standards Review Committee) includes balanced input from representative interests
 - Land Development Services (Jan Leavitt, at FC); best avenue for determining Committee input method; Committee representative to reach out to JL; time is of the essence if comments are desired
 - Examples of revisions/discussions: eliminating 4' path changing to 6-8' with 10' or wider option; asking for different standards for roadside facility as compared to other trails; to better address flexibility of differing conditions (e.g. FCPA does not want VDOT standards in sensitive parks)

Active/Unresolved Issues

- TSB Committee's Winter Cancellation Policy— Motion to use Fairfax County government schedule; seconded, vote was unanimous (RESOLVED)
- Future Presentations no further discussion
- ACTIVE Fairfax Transportation Plan see staff report
- Regulation of Electric Scooter Companies status of adopted regulation discussed briefly
- West County Trail at I-66 OTB Trail at Compton Road meeting at VDOT with stakeholders (attended by Robert Cosgriff) resulted in positive action by VDOT to retain/enhance connection; Cub Run Trail connection also endorsed by VDOT; follow-up needed to confirm implementation
- Status of FCPA trails planning/coordination with FCDOT Anna Bentley introduced (Planning Manager) with brief discussion
- Lorton VRE coordination connection between PHNST and CCT no further discussion
- Mason Neck Trail Extension no further discussion
- Route 1 Embark/BRT planning and VDOT widening (see new business Route 1 fatalities)
- Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail no further discussion

- Mt. Vernon Trail Extension at Grist Mill Park no further discussion
- **Committee Membership Update** Organizations need updated letters to Clerk request that Chris Wells send out email request to organizations with sample letter
- Lorton/VRE Pedestrian/Trail connections: no new update
- **Huntley Meadows:** no new update (results from December 2019 public input meeting to be folded into Trails Plan)
- I-66 Outside the Beltway: see Compton Road above
- Sleepy Hollow project: no further discussion
- **495 Next** March 12, meeting at Langley HS for working to convince NPS to make connections from 495 trails to trails in park

New Business

Pedestrian deaths on Route 1 – three of first four fatalities in County were on Route 1);
 Motion to draft a letter requesting County take immediate steps with VDOT to increase safety in advance of next meeting for Committee action at March meeting; moved, seconded and approved unanimously. Jim Klein will draft the letter

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

