Fairfax County Transportation Advisory Commission Meeting Notes

REGULAR MEETING – December 15, 2020, 7:30 p.m.

Held electronically due to the COVID-19 pandemic

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

Note-Taker: Pete Sitnik

TAC Members in Attendance: Chair Mike Champness (Dranesville), Vice-Chair MaryPauline Jones (Fairfax Area Disability Services Board), Secretary Roger Hoskin (Mason), Linda Sperling (At-Large), Kevin Morse (Braddock), Alexis Glenn (Lee), Pete Sitnik (Mount Vernon), Jeremy Hancock (Providence), Kelley Westenhoff (Hunter Mill District), and Eric Thiel (Springfield).

TAC Members Absent: M. David Skiles (Sully).

Others in Attendance: FCDOT staff: Henri Stein McCartney, Neil Freschman, Brent Riddle; Tonya McCreary, and Calvin Lam.

Special Guests/Observers: None

Opening Remarks of Chair, Roll Call, and Electronic Meeting and FOIA Procedures

The meeting was called to order by Chair Champness at 7:36 p.m. To fulfill procedural obligations of virtual meetings, Chair Champness and Vice-Chair Jones performed the opening procedures for a virtual meeting via WebEx. Chair welcomed new Commissioner Kelley Westenhoff, Hunter Mill District, public, and guests. The chair had no opening remarks. The meeting notes from November 17, 2020, were not available, therefore, the action was postponed until the next meeting.

Update on Reston and Tysons Managed Curbside Parking Study

Henri Stein McCartney, Senior Transportation Planner and Neil Freschman, Section Chief, Capital Projects and Operations Division, FCDOT, intermixed with discussion and Q&A. The full presentation is available at the TAC website.

The Board of Supervisors approved managed curbside parking study. Fairfax County currently has a limited number of parking restrictions. The study is the first step toward future implementation of managed curbside parking, which could include limited duration parking, paid parking, and other restrictions. The study focuses on the Reston Transit Station Areas and the Tysons Urban Center. Benefits of managed curbside parking include supporting TDM goals and discouraging vehicle trips, promoting parking space turnover, and creating potential revenue streams for parking/transportation programs. The study recommendations for short-term include

working with VDOT to evaluate existing parking restrictions, develop tools for managed curbside parking, and work with the Police on enforcement approaches for new parking features. The medium-term recommendations include creating a plan to implement on new streets and to coordinate with Board offices, stakeholders, residents, and VDOT. Staff will prepare policies and ordinances over the next 12 months.

Commissioner Hoskin asked how the managed curbside parking can be applied to Fairfax County. Mr. Freschman replied that the benefits of managed parking can be effectively applied in commercial areas with on-street parking and high demand. Regarding questions about private streets, Ms. McCartney stated that the study focused on public streets only; however, they are looking proactively to use these tools on the new streets when they are accepted into the VDOT secondary road system. Commissioner Morse asked how the parking enforcement would apply to the commercial vehicles parking on street. Ms. McCartney replied that the commercial vehicles can park in commercial zone areas. The parking enforcement will respond to complaints or reports about illegally parked vehicles. Commissioner Hancock asked about the issue of parking spaces reserved for pickups. Ms. McCartney replied that those spaces are located on private streets. She has not seen any of the pickup spaces on public streets. The County could consider allowing some short-term spaces at some locations, but the challenge is how to enforce those restrictions. Mr. Freschman stated that staff would start with the less restrictive measures and will adjust accordingly to the public's responses and demands. Commissioners Westenhoff and Jones discussed the parking situation in the Town of Herndon. Commissioner Glenn asked how the parking enforcement will be done. Mr. Freschman stated that it will be done via an ordinance. Chair Champness agreed with the less restrictive approach that staff had proposed in the study. He was happy to see the study got its funding from the Board. He stated that managed parking is part of the complete street system. Vice-Chair Jones asked about the parking areas in front of restaurants are being converted as dining spaces due to COVID, and if they would remain post-pandemic. Ms. McCartney replied that those are happening on private streets, and not on public streets.

Public Comment Period

There were no members of the public attending the meeting who wished to speak.

Planning for TAC Work Plan Priorities Development Facilitated Working Session ("Off-Site")

Chairman Champness and Vice-Chair Jones discussed the plan for the "Off-Site" Work Session for the TAC Work Plan and the people that they would like to invite to the meeting. Commissioners will use a survey to find a date for the "Off-Site" meeting that would be on a weekend, preferably a Saturday.

Motion to Enter into a Closed Session

Chairperson: I move that the Transportation Advisory Commission go into Closed Session, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(11) for the purpose of discussion and consideration of a special award. The subject matter to be discussed and considered is the

annual Transportation Achievement Award. The Award recognizes the outstanding performance by a Fairfax County employee who, through exceptional performance, has made contributions which advance or support the objectives of the County Transportation Plan. The Award also recognizes the original contribution made by an employee toward enhancing the quality of transportation in Fairfax County.

In Closed Session: Discussion of the 2020 TAC Award and Lifetime Achievement Award.

Motion Coming Out of Closed Session

Chairperson: In accordance with Virginia Code Section 2.2-3712, I move that the Transportation Advisory Commission members certify that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in Closed Session.

Other Business and Announcements

- Chair's Report: discussion including a short description of his conversation with Board Transportation Committee (BTC) Chair Alcorn, the TAC Bylaws, the summary of the BTC meeting on December 8, 2020, and the continuation of having electronic meetings after the end of the pandemic.
- Agenda for future TAC meetings
- TAC Alumni Letters of Service
- Commissioners' Updates

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:11 p.m.