

This does not represent a verbatim transcript of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting. Any questions regarding the agenda and discussions outlined below should be directed to the Department of Community Development at 703.787.7380 or at community.development@herndon-va.gov.

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Monday, April 17, 2023

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee (PBAC) met in a public session on Monday, April 17, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Large Conference Room at the Herndon Municipal Building, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon, Virginia.

In attendance were Committee Members: Chairman Cesar del Aguila, Sherry Blanton, Michelle Duquette, Syed Iftikhar, Anne John, Janis Linkov-Johnson, Ian MacDonald, Michael McFarlane, and James Nardei.

Absent Committee members: Darryl Branting and William Savage.

Staff members present: Fadrique Iglesias, Community Planner; Cindy Roeder, Director of Parks & Recreation; and Lisa Webster, Administrative Assistant.

Absent staff members: Jonathan Franssell, Civil Engineer; Sgt. Joseph Furman, Herndon Police Department - Traffic Section; Bryce Perry, Deputy Director of Community Development

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman del Aguila opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Ms. Duquette (*mother of committee member Michelle Duquette*) inquired about curb width concerns on 900 Ballou Street and Park Avenue, particularly the safety of ADA pedestrians. Chairman del Aguila stated, that the original approval met the ordinance guideline at the time. But we will see if this can be revisited with the Town Council and Zoning Department.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman del Aguila stated that the January 30, 2023, summary meeting notes would be reviewed at the next meeting.

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4. OLD BUSINESS/PROJECT UPDATES

a. Public improvement project updates

i. Spring Street

- Stop sign with the new permanent stop bar. New speed study done since stop sign was installed, speeding still not identified as issue, latest accident does not speed related. Police presence continues.
- Member Johns stated that two (2) stop signs were added. However, several cars miss the stop signs since the signs are in such close proximity when traveling toward Elden Street. The added white stripping has made a significant difference along with Herndon Police presents. Scale from 1-10 (10 being excellent) 5 rating. More issues with distracted drivers than speeding. Discuss other measures that could be added (***reflected tape or speed bumps***) for improvement; gather more information and discuss at the next meeting.
- Bicycle lines are now stripped down (***not as visible***).
- A three-way stop sign was proposed.
- Member Johnson commented on the issue of crossing Spring Street/Herndon Parkway (Town's entrance).

ii. Van Buren Improvements (Complete Streets)

- Almost completed. Some concrete curbs are being replaced and repaired, new asphalt in areas, particularly around crosswalks. Traffic signals at Alabama activated.
- Chairman del Aguila stated this was discussed at Town Council and met the guideline at the time of approval (certified by Zoning Department); they will revisit the current ordinance to inquire about any updates/changes.
- Member MacDonald discussed improvement to traffic lights; unclear if better.

iii. Van Buren and Herndon Parkway

- Curbs all done, final paving almost completed, striping will be next
- A new stop sign and road stripping was added (***the stripping is worn but will be replaced in the spring***).

The end date of these two projects has been consolidated as there are project elements that are tied together. The current end date is the end of May. The Alabama Dr. intersection is open, and the traffic light is working now in this intersection.

iv. East Spring Street Improvements

- Project is ongoing, expected completion is in 2024. A pre-construction meeting hosted by VDOT, discussing the project details and timing of the

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construction was held. A video of the meeting is on VDOT's project webpage at https://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/e_spring_st.asp.

- Member MacDonald discussed the visible issues left of Alabama (*Downs Neighborhood*).

v. Transit-Related Area Growth (TRG) Update

- Staff member Iglesias stated that over 400 participants participated in the TRG survey. Community Development staff members held an information class at Herndon High School with government students both in English and Spanish.
- Three Visions
 - *Scenario 1*, a large linear park, pedestrian connection is below the dominion transmission lines that then crosses at the Herndon Parkway into the Sugerland Run RPA.
 - *Scenario 2*: there's a string pedestrian connection between the metro area and sunset business park along Herndon Parkway.
 - *Scenario 3*, there's a large park. Plaza area across from the HTOC promenade.

Concerned about traffic volume and higher density/mixed use.

- For each scenarios: streets are expected to be complete with focus on all modes of travel.
- Anticipate one pedestrian connection to the Downs neighborhood to the north of the TRG.
- Envision a reimagining of sunset business park to an artsy retail area with more pedestrian-oriented design.

This is just preliminary, and a more refined version of the scenarios will be presented at the public meeting on May 18th. PBAC members are encouraged to attend that meeting. It will hold at 7pm in the Council Chambers at 777 Lynn Street.

vi. Herndon's Traffic Engineering Improvement Committee (TEIC)

- Staff member Iglesias provided an overview of the committee's purpose to evaluate specific inquiries, comments or complaints received about the management of traffic in the town.
- Chairman del Aguila inquired if the minutes were published or available for review for the PBAC committee. Mr. Iglesias stated that he would request a summary if available.
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5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Bike-to-Work Day

- Staff member C. Roeder confirms May 29, 2023, from 5:30am -10:00am. Last year (2022), over 400 cyclists participated.

b. Herndon Festival Bike Valet

- Staff member C. Roeder confirmed that Herndon Festival will take place from June 1 – 4, 2023 with free bike valet and bus shuttles. All volunteers are welcome to assist with the bike valet.

c. Farmers' Market Opening Day

- Staff member Iglesias confirmed the Farmers' Market will begin on Thursday, May 4, 2023 and end on November 9, 2023, hours from 8:00 am-12:30 pm.

6. COMMENTS

a. Comments from the Staff

- Staff member Roeder highlighted the excellent work of DPW's engineer Lawrence LaTour (with assistance from the new Town Arborist, Nick Maletta) with the grant funding for the Sugarland Run Stream Trail; part of the W&OD Trail (*on the Herndon Police Dept side*) and encouraged all to view the video viewing; will send link to the committee.
- Staff member Iglesias confirmed the next PBAC meeting date for Monday, July 17, 2023, at 7:00 pm.

b. Comments from the Committee Members

- Chairman del Aguila discussed:
 - The Town Council initiative of rebranding the Town and increasing the Town's diversity footprint.
 - Multicultural festivals in the downtown area.
 - Mini Saturday festivities and possible change to a Saturday Farmers Market.
- Member Iftikhar inquired about issues with parking downtown if the Farmers Market was moved to Saturday due to vendor trucks.
- Increasing traffic issues were discussed, and a "No Turn on Red" option proposed in the Town of Herndon; members overwhelmingly was against this proposal. Proposal to make Lynn Street completely a One-way Street; most members were in favor of this proposal. Member Duquette expressed the importance of ensuring all the new sidewalks/walkways adhere to ADA

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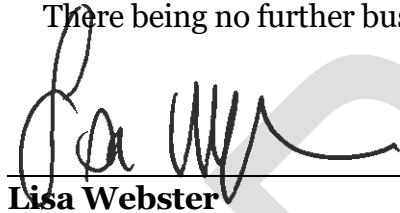
compliance guidelines. Member Duquette also said that all future surveys are also TDD accessible since she did have difficulty completing her survey and required her mother's assistance. Member Blanton suggested TRG survey should limit response options (*top 5 concerns*) to obtain a more comprehensive survey finding. Member Iftikhar inquired about missing trash/recycle cans, suggested numbered cans, and contacted the Town DPW department for replacement. Members Blanton and McFarland encourage other members to walk around the Town to observe walkways and cut-throughs in the Town. Chairman del Aguila discussed Capital Improvements plans for new sidewalks and walkways, which will adhere to the VA assembly, Town, and State codes. Member Johnson discussed the area of Center and Locust Streets (near the preschool center), stating that drainage was unstable.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman del Aguila called the meeting adjournment; Members Blanton, Duquette, Iftikhar,, John, Linkov-Johnson, MacDonald, McFarlane, and Nardei agreed.

Absent committee members: Darryl Branting and William Savage.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.



Lisa Webster
Administrative Assistance