

The Parkfairfax Transportation and Land Use Committee convened its monthly meeting on November 12, 2020.

As the October meeting had been cancelled, there was a robust agenda for the November event.

1. The Chair updated the Committee on plans for DASH bus service following the Alexandria Transit Company Board of Directors' meeting the previous evening. The Alexandria Transit Vision Plan previously approved for FY22 implementation (July 2021) is being reexamined in light of budget and ridership challenges posed by the COVID pandemic. Three options have been laid out and the decision as to which one ultimately gets implemented will depend on CARES funding and City Council budget approval. The options affecting Parkfairfax-Pentagon service are:
 - Full 2022 ATV (+18% cost) = N23 and N24 each run every 20 minutes (10 minute combined freq. at MC/Gunston)
 - "Current Services" ATV (Cost-neutral) = N23 and N24 each run every 30 min (15 min combined freq. at MC/Gunston)
 - Reduced ATV (-10%) = N23 and N24 each run every 60 min (30 min combined freq. at MC/Gunston)

Note N23 and N24 are renumbered AT3 and AT4 respectively. Also note "current services" in DASH parlance refers to an adjusted service level City-wide, where cost neutral must offset increased operating expenses. It is recognized that AT3 and AT4 currently operate on a 60 minute headway due to extremely low ridership in comparison to other routes at the present time.

AT9 service is expected to maintain a minimum 30 minute headway.

A series of public hearings and community outreach events will be held early spring 2021 and Parkfairfax residents will be informed and encouraged to participate.

2. Members reported resident uncertainty as to who to contact regarding watermain breaks, sidewalk repairs, leaf removal, road signage issues, streetlight outages, etc. etc. The confusion is accentuated by the existence of Parkfairfax-controlled streets and parking areas along with City-controlled streets. The TLUC has requested an ALEX311 flyer and will prepare an information page for publication in a future newsletter in an attempt to sort out best contact points for various service issues.
3. A member suggested that clarification of Parkfairfax recycling guidance would be of benefit to the community. Confusion exists over what plastics are recyclable (e.g. no. 1, 2, all?), Styrofoam, etc. as well as what is suitable for Wednesday pickup vs. Maintenance Yard drop-off. The \$64,000 question is what to do with newspapers and paper-bagged recyclables when it rains on a Wednesday morning!
4. It was reported that there is a Parkfairfax-owned unpleasant Ginkgo tree near the southwest corner of Gunston and Martha Custis (on Martha Custis) that confronts passengers alighting their DASH bus there.

5. A healthy discussion ensued regarding campaign, political and other signage displayed on common elements by residents in contravention of the bylaws. It was reported that signs related to the recently initiated composting program were also observed. It is considered that rule violations fall within the purview of the Covenants Director.
6. Lastly, the Chair extolled the virtues of 19th century Impressionism, noting that by applying imprecise brushstrokes to canvas, Monet, Manet, Renoir and other geniuses created brilliant masterpieces beloved the world over. While their works adorn some of the greatest art galleries, it is puzzling as to why we permit our exterior painting contractor to apply such abstract techniques to our doors, door frames and fascia boards. The latest round of painting best described as the opposite of “neat,” featured white paint artistically broad brushed over red brick and creatively dripped onto concrete slabs. We should expect better.

The next TLUC meeting will be December 10, 2020 at 7 PM.

Best regards,

Bob Gronenberg

TLUC Committee Chair