

Minutes of Parkfairfax Transportation and Land Use Committee meeting of 09 Aug 2018

Members of the Transportation and Land Uses Committee (TLUC) gathered the evening of 09 August for informative and important discussions on a variety of issues affecting the Parkfairfax community. August 9th also marked the 44th anniversary of the resignation of former Parkfairfax resident President Richard Milhous Nixon.

The Chair heralded the arrival of Parkmobile on September 1st replacing the PANGO app for parking meter payment via smartphone. Parkmobile already serves DC, Arlington, Prince Georges and Montgomery counties as well as over 500 cities nationwide. Experience dictates Parkmobile will improve the dependability of paying by smartphone for the roughly 1200 metered parking spaces in Alexandria and reduce the need for multiple apps.

Attention was called to the article in the August FORUM soliciting support for establishing a Capital Bikeshare station in Parkfairfax. It was noted, however, that the bikeshare station at the Fairlington Community Center will soon be removed due to low usage. The demand in Parkfairfax is unknown and it is hoped the newsletter article will help determine whether a station here is viable.

The Chair explained that discrepancies were discovered in the vote counting for I-395 sound wall F2 adjacent to the east side of the Quaker Lane hill. Given the low participation and razor thin margin, VDOT recently conducted a "recount" and concluded there was actually a slight margin in favor of the wall, so it will be built. Wall F1 from Gunston Rd. north into Arlington County was approved by a wider margin and will also be constructed. It appears the low response rate to resident balloting may be due, at least in part, to VDOT's mailing of ballots to anonymous addresses, rather than named residents. An additional concern has just surfaced regarding the erection of large permanent electronic highway signs, including one opposite the Gunston Rd. focal point. Such signage may be incompatible with our designated historic community and countermands the beautification campaign of former first lady Lady Bird Johnson. There are additional concerns regarding the wall construction schedule, design, color, dimensions for which the TLUC has invited VDOT to address the residents of the 300 and 400 series building and the Parkfairfax community at large. That event is tentatively scheduled for Thursday October 11th and will be confirmed in an article being prepared for the September FORUM.

Unsurprisingly, the Chair waxed and waned about his upcoming participation in an Alexandria Transit Vision Plan workshop on September 29th where about 50 bus and rail geeks will gather at T.C. Williams HS for 4 hours of brainstorming and strategizing. And then everyone will call Uber or Lyft for their rides home.

TLUC members commented on a proposed policy to regulate Personal On-Demand Storage (PODS) units in Parkfairfax. The proposed policy includes fees, set equal to the City's, to discourage residents from exploiting common element parking areas to avoid paying City fees. With some revisions, the draft policy resolution was forwarded to the Covenants Committee for consideration at their 14 August meeting.

Our next TLUC meeting will be Thursday September 13th at 7PM in the Party Room. As always, we are hoping for a good crowd, eager to tackle the ever-growing list of transportation and land use issues facing our community.

Best regards,

v/r

Bob

Bob Gronenberg

Chair

Parkfairfax Transportation and

Land Use Committee