

Minutes of Transportation and Land Use Committee (TLUC) meeting of July 8th, 2021

The Parkfairfax TLUC convened its July meeting, virtually, on July 8th 2021 to discuss topics old and new:

1. The report of the TLUC-inspired lighting survey, performed by On-Site Lighting and Survey LLC of Buffalo MN on May 11th had not yet been received prior to the July meeting. It was distributed the following day, and On-Site “confirmed that parking lots and surrounding walkways have very low light levels.” As previously noted, the statement of work for this \$9K contract has eluded the TLUC, and probably the Board, so it became apparent only after receiving the report that the survey focused exclusively on our parking areas. On-Site suggested various types of floodlights, post lanterns and bollard illumination posts that could be used to improve parking lot lighting but stopped short of specific recommendations. Management subsequently received assurance from On-Site that they could source 3000K or possibly 2700K (warm white) lighting to be compatible with the historic character of our community. So, while the foot-candle measurements taken in our parking areas were presumably accurate, absent a statement of work, it remains unclear whether On-Site fulfilled their contractual obligations and what benefit can be derived from their limited survey. There are walkways, steps and other common element areas that also warrant attention as do reports from residents about existing fixtures that focus excessive illumination on bedroom windows. The TLUC is considering a more comprehensive assessment of Parkfairfax lighting this fall, at no cost to the Association.
2. A member reported resident interest in erecting Little Free Library boxes in Parkfairfax. I’m sure many have seen those cute little boxes placed all over town, allowing folks to borrow a book or add to the collection. I understand one of the goals of the program is to increase literacy in certain areas where it may be lacking. Literacy may not be the issue here, but I suppose there is nothing wrong with promoting reading. While not open 24/7, nor on everyone’s itinerary, we are fortunate to have a fairly large and diverse lending library in the lobby of the Management Office. We are also fortunate to be close to the public library in Shirlington which recently resumed near-normal operations. Nevertheless, I have asked the organizer of the Parkfairfax Book Group to discuss with her members the desirability of installing a few Little Free Library boxes here. I am awaiting a response shortly. The effort includes consideration as to where to locate the boxes, with ideas ranging from bus stops to swimming pool entrances to tennis courts to the former Spruce Island. The cost of installing and maintaining these boxes, while not excessive, would have to be borne by the Association.
3. The TLUC also discussed the recent decision by Arlington County and developers to scrap the plans to triple the density of the Park Shirlington Apartment complex and instead retain and renovate the existing 293 units.
4. The New DASH Network will augment and alter bus service throughout the City beginning September 5th. In addition to the new routes, ALL DASH buses will become “fare-free” at all times starting September 5th. A flyer, tailored for routes serving Parkfairfax will appear in our August newsletter.

The next exciting TLUC meeting will convene August 12th at 7PM.

Best regards,
Bob Gronenberg
Parkfairfax TLUC Chair