Minutes of Parkfairfax Transportation and Land Use Committee (TLUC) meeting of December 13,2018

The TLUC convened its final meeting of 2018 on December 13th. Members reminisced and reflected on the many TLUC accomplishments of the past 12 months.

Most notably, extensive positive liaison with the VDOT/Transurban team has resulted in a commitment to reduce the visibility (size, number, placement) of I-395 Express Lane signage to be located at the Gunston Road entrance to the Shirlington Circle. Additionally, community gatherings with invited VDOT representatives were focused on improving the aesthetics of sound walls to be built along a portion of N. Quaker Lane and north of Gunston Road behind the 400 series buildings. VDOT has agreed to a 75 foot reduction in the length of the wall along N. Quaker Lane to balance landscape, power line and noise abatement concerns, and the use of an earth tone color for the community-facing surfaces of both walls.

Members also noted a recent predictable spike in accidents occurring in the I-395 HOV lanes owing to the removal of shoulders and other construction related activity. Without shoulders, emergency vehicles must block the left lane of the general purpose lanes to render assistance.

The Chair pointed out regular participation in the Alexandria Federation of Civic Associations (AFCA) monthly meetings following a long hiatus. Although Parkfairfax is not a major focus of the Federation, the invited speakers provide information relevant to all City residents.

The Shirlington Circle Interchange Study events were well attended by Parkfairfax and Fairlington residents earlier this year. VDOT has delayed the final public hearing until early 2019 when the results of traffic modeling and simulation for the various alternatives will be presented.

While interest in establishing Capital Bikeshare stations in Parkfairfax may seem rather ephemeral at times, it was confirmed that the rental station at the Fairlington Community Center has been removed due to low usage. The embrace (invasion) of dockless bikes and scooters further clouds the future.

The Chair again thanks the TLUC members for their contributions throughout 2018 and is looking forward to continuing to tackle many issues of importance to the Parkfairfax community next year. The TLUC always welcomes new members and we look forward to interested residents attending one of our exciting meetings in 2019. We will next meet on Thursday, January 10, 2019 at 7PM in the Party Room.

Happy Holidays to one and all!!!

Bob Gronenberg Chair Parkfairfax Transportation and Land Use Committee