



**ARLANDRIA ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION
ACTION PLAN ADVISORY GROUP MEETING #7**

Thursday, September 22, 2011

7:00PM

Four Mile Run Park Community Building, 4109 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA

MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting notes are recorded by City staff to provide a written record of principal items of discussion, key comments, decisions of the Advisory Group and comments from the public. They are not intended to be a verbatim transcription of events at the meeting.

Welcome & Introductions

Brandi Collins, Urban Planner with the Department of Planning & Zoning (PZ) welcomed meeting attendees, provided an overview of the meeting agenda, and requested that those present introduce themselves to the group.

Updates

Four Mile Run Park Expansion & Community Building

Laura Durham, Open Space Coordination with the Department of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Activities (RPCA) provided an update on the Four Mile Run Park Expansion project and the renovations to the new Four Mile Run Park Community Building. Phase I of the Park Expansion project is underway with site improvements and planting commencing in the fall. The stage on the northern side of the building should be installed in the next month. General Services will submit a new CIP request to City Council to obtain funding to install HVAC in the new building.

Retail Enhancement Efforts & Small Business Support

Rebeca Blanco and Sara Pierce with the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership (AEDP) provided an update on their efforts thus far. After extensive outreach to the local business community, a new business association has been formed – Arlandria-Chirilagua Business Association (ACBA). An informational document was distributed describing the Mission of ACBA, its officers, Goals & Objectives, and contact information. AEDP introduced the officers and board members that were present. The President of the ACBA, Nelson Zavaleta (owner of Sea Tax Services) made remarks to the group. AEDP provided information related to the façade grant program and future technical assistance programs they will organize. They also answered questions raised by members of the AG and the public.

Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)

Overview of City CIP Process

Steve Kaii-Ziegler, Division Chief with PZ, provided a comprehensive overview of the City's CIP process. The overview included the City's current CIP budget (\$1.096 billion from FY12-FY21), general schedule of hearings and decision making, and opportunities for members of the public to influence the CIP.

FY12 – FY21 CIP Projects

Laura Durham of RPCA and Carrie Sanders, Principal Transportation Planner with the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services provided an overview of FY12-FY21 CIP projects related to the Arlandria neighborhood. They also answered questions raised by members of the AG and the public. A full list of projects in Arlandria is provided in the *List of Approved FY12 – FY21 CIP Projects* handout.

Open Discussion

Maya Contreras & Brandi Collins, Urban Planners with PZ, facilitated a discussion with the members of the Advisory Group to obtain feedback on the current 10YR CIP. Members of the AG were also asked to provide suggestions for other potential CIP projects. Suggestions for new projects should support the Arlandria Action Plan but do not have to reflect existing recommendations within the Arlandria Action Plan. The list of AG suggested CIP projects include:

- Phase 2 of the Four Mile Run Park Expansion project (there are 2 phases and only Phase 1 is funded)
- Bike lanes along Mt. Vernon Avenue
- Coordinated Four Mile Run Park Planning (between the City and Arlington County)
- Parallel parking installation along Mt. Vernon Avenue in front of the Four Mile Run Park Expansion site
- Community gardens
- Realignment of Four Mile Run Road (to extend into the side yard of 24 Express)
- Reduce curb cuts at 24 Express
- Increased safety at Hillside Park

Next Steps

Executive Committee

Steve Kaii-Ziegler, PZ, lead a discussion with the AG on role of the Executive Committee and the need to recruit new member(s) to fill the vacancy due to the retirement of Kristin Langlykke from her role at Arlandria Neighborhood Health Services, Inc (ANHSI). Jake Cuomo (Humes Springs Citizen Association) and Pat Miller (Arts Community representative) volunteered. Melissa Russell (Lenox Place) recommended Jim Matthews (Commercial Property Owner). The AG accepted the volunteers. Staff stated that they would follow up with Jim Matthews on the nomination.

Mt. Village Center development special use application

Maya Contreras, PZ, provided an update on the Mt. Vernon Village Center Development Special Use Permit (DSUP) application. The applicant's attorney, Duncan Blair, and architect Ronald Ngiam, CORE Architects, provided additional commentary and detail on the project. A graphic was shared at the meeting. City staff informed the meeting attendees that the graphic would be made available after the meeting (graphic available at the project website: www.alexandriava.gov/Arlandria). The project will include 50,000sq of retail (amount of existing retail) and 478 apartments located in two buildings. A community meeting solely devoted to discussion on the project will be held on Wednesday, October 5, 2011 at 7PM at the Four Mile Run Park Community Building.

Meeting Handouts

Implementation Tasks Matrix

List of Approved FY12 – FY21 CIP Projects

Advisory Group Roster