

Environmental Policy Commission Minutes
January 28, 2013 EPC Regular Meeting

EPC Members in Attendance

✓	Josh Sawislak (Chair)	✓	Samuel Gaugush	✓	Kurt Moser
✓	Chinling Chen	✓	Scott Barstow	X	Geoffrey Goode
✓	Steve Walz	✓	Ryan Sloan	✓	Rebecca Jablon
X	Ryan Wojtanowski	✓	Monica Starnes	✓	James Kapsis

[✓ = In attendance X= Absent]

City Staff

Bill Skrabak, Khoa Tran, Claudia Hamblin-Katnik

Begin 7:30 PM

Welcome and Introductions

- Josh called the meeting to order and welcomed Linda Egentowich and Michelle Bryce, local citizens, and Adrienne Fancher from AlexRenew.

Public Comments

- Linda Egentowich and Michelle Bryce, on behalf of the Concerned Residents of Landmark (CROL), a community organization representing neighborhoods in the Landmark area, raised concerns over the proposed High Occupancy Toll (HOT) ramp adjacent to their community.
 - o CROL hired consultants to complete localized studies on the environmental impacts of the proposed ramp. These studies found the neighborhood's air quality to be significantly impacted.
 - o Based on the anticipated impacts to public health, the Concerned Residents of Landmark are asking public officials to intercede and help stop the implementation of the project as proposed. CROL would propose the ramp be relocated to an industrial area.
 - o CROL's website: www.delaytheramp.com can provide more information on the community's concerns.
 - o The EPC thanked Linda and Michelle for bringing this issue to the EPC's attention and agreed that this is an issue that the EPC should look into. Josh requested that representatives from the City's Transportation & Environmental Services Department (T&ES) come to an upcoming EPC meeting and present on the matter.
 - o In addition, the EPC asked that CROL keep the EPC informed of upcoming meetings that they hold.

Paradigm Pond Background Information, Bill Skrabak, Deputy Director, T&ES

- Bill explained that developers are proposing to put in a regional stormwater facility (a small pond) near the Eisenhower Avenue Metro Station.
 - o The site is currently a Resource Protection Area (RPA).
 - o The pond would treat approximately 70 acres of watershed.
 - o The developer would pay for the pond as well as maintaining it in perpetuity, but all stormwater credits would go to the City.
 - o Bill is bringing it to EPC and the Parks & Recreation Commission's attention, as it would be a loss of hard surface open space.

Beauregard Small Area Plan Implementation, Jeffrey Farmer, Deputy Director, Planning & Zoning Department

- This past June, City Council approved the plan and established a resolution to establish the Beauregard Rezoning Advisory Group, which is to oversee the implementation of the plan and provide recommendations to City staff.
- The proposed block sizes would be similar to those in Del Ray; a focus is on walkability and open space, building reuse and community gardens.
- Sustainability plans will be completed for each neighborhood.
- Developers are required to abide by the City's green building policy and use LEED-ND.
- The Advisory Group has two meetings scheduled in February

Update on Union Street Corridor Study, Faye Dastgheib, Principal Parking Planner, T&ES

- Faye presented to the EPC on the completed corridor study.
 - o The study's goals are to evaluate existing conditions for all modes, identify specific strategies to ensure that Union Street fosters connections and enhance safety and balance along all modes.
 - o The study's boundaries were along Union Street from Pendleton Street to the north and Jones Point Park to the south.
 - o At certain intersections, pedestrian traffic is much greater than vehicular and bicycle traffic.
 - o Among the short-term improvements proposed is a new sidewalk between Pendleton and Oronoco Streets, pavement markings and media islands to improve bicycle connections between the Mt. Vernon Trail and Pendleton Street.
 - o Among the long-term improvements proposed is the conversion of Union Street from Cameron to Prince Streets to a shared street – where the roadway is designed to be shared among all modes.
 - o Some of the short-term recommendations have already been, or will be implemented.
 - o T&ES will be requesting funding in FY2014 to implement the remainder of the recommendations.

Approval of Minutes & Other Administrative Matters

- The minutes from the December 17th Meeting and the January 7th Work Session were approved.
- Monica will take Josh's place representing the EPC on the Potomac Yard Task Force.
- The Potomac River Generating Station Monitoring Group has not yet held a meeting.
- Kurt announced that there will be a tree planting event on April 14th at Four Mile Run Park.
- Monica has started going through the Draft Housing Master Plan to cross-reference it to the EAP and Eco-City Charter, she has sent her suggestions to Geoff.

Adjourn 9:30 PM