

## Advisory Committee on Transportation Choices (ACTC)

June 19, 2019  
Approved minutes

### In Attendance:

Monique O'Grady, School Board

#### **APS Appointees**

John Armstrong, Chair  
CC Clark, Parent  
Josh Folb- Sp.Ed. Parent  
Paine Gronemeyer, Student  
John Mickevics, APS  
Commuter

#### **County Appointees**

Gillian Burgess (BAC)  
John Carten (TAC)

#### **Staff**

John Chadwick, APS – F&O  
Kristin Haldeman, APS-MMTP  
Lauren Hassel, APS - SRTS  
Dennis Leach, DOT- Director  
Elizabeth Denton, ACCS -ATP  
  
Hui Wang, DOT-TE&O

Public: George Talton, Carrie Mitchell

May minutes were approved at the end of the meeting when a quorum was established.

### **1. Public Comment**

- Mr. George Talton, Dominion Hills neighborhood resident and Chairman of the Dominion Hills civic association's Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Committee and Ms. Carrie Mitchell, association Secretary, and parent of two school-aged children spoke about concerns their neighborhood has with the intersection of Patrick Henry Drive and 10th Road North for pedestrians and cyclists, especially students accessing Swanson Middle School and McKinley Elementary School. Mr. Talton noted that the Northbound roadway plunges steeply as it approaches the blind curve before the 10th Road intersection. 10th Road, and its extension to the east on N. Larrimore St., is a major cutthrough route between Patrick Henry and Wilson Blvd.

The Southbound roadway consists of a massive concrete overpass that looks and feels like an interstate highway as it also descends sharply into another blind curve. The overpass roadway has no median strip and narrow sidewalks with no planted buffer strip. Speeding is a regular occurrence. There have been a number of crashes at the intersection and an 85-yr old neighbor recently was hit while in the crosswalk. This despite several County projects aimed at traffic calming. They came to bring the matter to the Committee's attention with the hope that a more comprehensive solution to these safety concerns can be found.

Ms. Wang, TE&O Bureau Chief, responded that the association should begin the process by contacting the DES TE&O team via their customer contact portal: DES-TEO [DES-TEO@arlingtonva.us](mailto:DES-TEO@arlingtonva.us) it is through this mechanism that staff can address and track such concerns and determine the course of action.

- Josh Folb – Mr. Folb apprised the Committee of his family's experience with APS' Special Education office in trying to ensure that his son would be placed in the specialized program closest to his residence so he could bike there, rather than one far enough away that he would require a specialized transportation bus. It took him a while to convince APS staff that this made more sense from a financial and transportation logistics perspective, but ultimately he prevailed. He noted that geography should come into play with such placements.

Ms. Haldeman told the Committee that she has been working on a similar issue with the early childhood team to place pre-schoolers closer to home so they are not on long bus rides and will reach out to the special education office to do the same.

## 2. Updates

- Carlin Springs improvements (TE&O, Christine Sherman)
  - See update ([Slides](#))
  - APS is assisting with overgrowth; Similar issues with property maintenance near Dorothy Hamm – no clear owner to deal with things like snow.
  - Report a Problem app could help; but does not really cover all issues.
- a) Safe Routes to School (APS/SRTS, Lauren Hassel)
  - Received grant; almost fully funded
  - Doing community walks with Dorothy Hamm MS families over summer
  - Setting up for WBTS – to make more educational to be more sustainable
- b) Transportation Changes for SY19-20 (APS, Kristin Haldeman)
  - Jefferson/Kenmore – APS Talk when maps are ready at schools; plan to have maps and lists ready/available by June 30
- c) New School Openings
  - i) Staff TDM (ATP, Elizabeth Denton)

Elizabeth Denton led staff 'neighborhood walk-about' for two new schools:

- (1) The Heights – about 10 staff attended; very appreciative
- (2) Dorothy Hamm MS– about 30 staff attended; walked south route

Elizabeth also working with Rosslyn BID to alert community that there is a school coming

- ii) Student Transportation (APS, Kristin Haldeman, Lauren Hassel)
  - (1) HB- implementing hub stops & transit pilot
  - (2) Montessori – implementing hubs stops; stop development in-progress
  - (3) Dorothy Hamm – requested two crossing guards for high volume roads students are crossing (Military & Nellie Custis; 5-points – Lee Hwy & Quincy)
  - (4) Fleet – guard move from 7th and Highland location, due to Henry location changing from neighborhood school to option school with fewer walkers.

## 3. SY 19-20 Art Bus Pilot Status; Student Participation Questionnaire (APS, Kristin

Haldeman) – The Committee reviewed pilot information for the schools that will be part of the transit pilot, and questions students will be asked to fill in as part of the evaluation process. ([see slides.](#))

Ms. Clark noted that APS should try and capture instructional impact/social impact of students having this mode of transportation available to them.

## 4. ACTC Annual Report Discussion (All)

Chair Armstrong led a conversation about the development of the Committee's annual report to the Board and asked for volunteers to help write it. The report will be delivered via memo/email in September.

## 5. Administrative/Announcements

- SY19-20 Proposed Meeting Dates
  - September 4, 2019
  - November 6, 2019
  - January 8, 2020
  - March 4, 2020
  - May 6, 2020
  - June 17, 2020
- Recruiting – One MS vacancy, One HS school vacancy, One APS teacher/principal vacancy
  - Have a recommendation? Please reach out to Kristin Haldeman and John Armstrong.
  - 2019/20 ES, MS, HS numbers from committee
  - Annual Report - Volunteers to Assist

. **Next Meeting Sept. 4, 2019 – Syphax, rooms 454/456**