



4MRV Working Group Meeting  
June 6, 2017  
7 – 10 PM

## General Business

- A Working Group member offered to give the Working Group a tour of the WETA studio in September. The tour would begin at 6:00pm and take place on a Working Group meeting day.

## County Board Work Session Discussion

- County staff thought the work session was productive and provided useful guidance. Staff has not had the opportunity to debrief with senior leadership and cannot state a position or summation.
- Dog Park Work Session Questions
  1. *“Should the park master plan indicate a dog park that remains unchanged or is there openness to reducing the size of the dog park to meet environmental regulations resulting in a reconfiguration of the dog park?”*
  2. *“If it is reconfigured, is there openness to using adjacent County-owned parcels to achieve a dog park that is approximately the same size as it is today?”*
    - WG members stated that they did not think the County Board members are convinced of environmental mandates and were not certain that the vegetated buffer and reforestation is the final answer.
    - Other WG members were not satisfied with staff’s presentation to the County Board and thought the environmental regulations should have been better explained. Some Working Group members were also concerned about the Board’s philosophy to deal with the dog park later and not plan for future environmental requirements.
    - The Shirlington Civic Associations sent a letter to the Board. The letter stated that they do not think the dog park proposals that were presented offer the full range of design possibilities to meet the Chesapeake Bay policy requirements.
- Jennie Dean Park West of South Nelson Street Work Session Questions
  1. *“Should this area continue to be planned for park uses consistent with adopted policy OR should the area essentially remain as is with a mix of service commercial and light industrial uses on private property OR should this area be further studied for development as an extension of the proposed “arts hub” between Walter Reed Drive and S. Oakland Street?”*
  2. *“Should the County remove the existing County-owned buildings in this area to create open space?”*
  3. *“Should the County continue to explore acquisition from willing sellers?”*
    - It was stated that the County Board is opposed using the properties expand dog park. However, they are open to purchasing land to the west of the dog park where the trail is located and there is no easement. Encroachment into the dog park must also be addressed.

- Did not vote in favor of an arts districts. Just voted to explore. Need to look at what other jurisdictions have done and needs legislation to actually do an arts district.
- What is the difference between an “arts hub” versus “arts district”? Distinguish between one and the other. Need to research enabling legislation and better understand what is legally doable and the tax benefits. If we want an arts district then we need to define and if we want a hub, then need to define this. Need change in legislation to get the tax credits. District has a few core deliverables that we need to know about.
- What other towns have done and get range of options.
- WG member would like the group to consider drill down. Don’t want dog park to bog group down. Need discussion for area D and figure out areas we need to go deeper. Ask people to have open meetings and come back with more specifics on the arts, dog park, Shirlington road area, businesses. If we have short term contracts with subgroups to help discussion.
- Parking Work Session Question
  1. “Should staff continue to explore maximizing on-street parking prior to evaluating the need for construction of a public parking garage(s) to serve the area?”
    - All county board members said yes. Want to explore maximizing on-street parking before exploring a parking structure. Does not mean the option put on the table was not appropriate, it was extreme. Should relate to the current problems and future need.
    - Concern was expressed about the road diet and the volume of trucks using South Four Mile Run Drive.
    - This is an industrial area and the roads need to be able to accommodate trucks and cars.
    - Problem with park: there is no parking for enhanced park features. Road diet is usually associated with changes in traffic with increased foot traffic and need to add parking in area where you are not getting more off street parking. Basket of possible solutions applied to 4MR as conditions change. Need data driven decisions. Need the information. Need to understand term road diet.
    - 4MR is not a suburban boulevard and is economically important road for the valley and is a non-typical situation.

**Discussion Depot – what else do we need to discuss**

- Formal request was made to form committees. Community Facilities has subcommittees and chair did not have to attend all meetings. Yes, more work for people on the committee. Helped to distill information.
- WG member discussed the request for raw ballfield usage data for the past 3 years.
- Area D off of Shirlington Road. Need discussion on what level of density is acceptable.
- WG member suggested the need for a public presentation about the dog park. People think the size reduction is due to redevelopment. They cannot understand size reduction. There is a high level of confusion and misinformation. Need public education because there are a lot of questions.

## Public Comment

- The truck parking – hourly parking and after hours parking and set aside parking in area D for businesses. Any tools to establish this? Permit parking for businesses in that area and can park there – designated. Second the dog park discussion and educate businesses on the land use plan. Want a fact sheet. Recording presentations . . . have reading of presentations offline.
- What is the action plan for small businesses? Visit Alexandria area across from Quaker Lane . . . know how many businesses are interested in making improvements? Like stormwater? Time for Signature Theatre to build satellite location in Tysons. County has fixation on smart growth. Every small business is in danger being eliminated from CP, 4MRV, Lee Hwy, WB.
- We still have not gotten a viable solution for 4MR and Shirlington road. Parking, we need to integrate the Shirlington parking garages into this discussion. How a park and dog park can be an economic driver in the area. Please research how pedestrians to move through area and spend money.