

**City of Annapolis Public Works Facility Task Force
Meeting Minutes
Pip Moyer Rec Center
September 3, 2019 7:00 to 9:10 PM**

Overview: Task force Subcommittees chairs gave a brief overview to public. Statements and questions were made by the public.

- Jared Littman, Chair, opening remarks and agenda for the evening.
- Gavin Buckley, Mayor City of Annapolis, spoke on overall goal and vision for Public Works Facility and Forest Drive corridor, bridge on Spa Road and Forest Drive, redevelopment of Weems-Whalen Field.
- David Jarrell, Public Works Director, briefing on current and proposed facility site. Site evaluations, operational needs, Spa Road site and Forest Drive site information.
- Business Subcommittee, Darrell Hale:
 - Created a survey, sent via email to business owners, went over questions and results of the survey.
 - Question 1: Taking into the consideration everything you know about the land swap proposal would you choose to move the Department of Public Works facility to Forest Drive or leave it on Spa Road?
 - Question 2: What do you see the greatest benefit to your business by moving the Department of Public Works to Forest Drive?
 - Question 3: What do you see as the greatest detriments to your business by moving the Department of Public Works Facility to Forest Drive?
 - Question 4: As a business owner do the benefits moving the Facility out way the detriments for you?
 - Question 5: Overall do you recommend that the City proceed with moving the Department of Public Works to Forest Drive?
- City Employees Subcommittee, Don Hankins:
 - Employees needs a facility desperately, currently working out of trailers.
 - New facility will improve safety and moral.
 - 100 % of the employees don't believe a new building will be built.
 - Overall employees are for Spa Road location, better suited for operational needs.
- Traffic/Connectivity/Recreation Subcommittee, Joel Campbell:

- Who are the stakeholders? Drivers, pedestrians, and transit users
 - Anne Arundel County controls Forest Drive
 - Users designated for the sports facility
 - Impact on traffic
 - Feasibility plans for DPW growth
 - See the website for more detail on the report
 - Connections between the bridges and trails
- Community Subcommittee, Kathy Ebner:
 - The purpose to assess the quality of life impacts of both locations
 - Benefits Forest Drive:
 - New housing community on Spa Road that could enhance the property's value in surrounding area
 - Detriments Forest Drive:
 - Negatively impact the values on the homes and quality life of the homeowners in proximity
 - Homes at the Glen is a first-time home buyer community will have a negative impact on home value
 - Tall industrial building architectural inconsistency with the area
 - Construction will take more time, extends the time with employees working out of trailers
 - Preliminary Benefits Spa Road:
 - Facility will be completed quickly
 - Preliminary Detriments Spa Rd:
 - Continues as a commercial industrial facility
- Environmental Subcommittee, Jessie Illif:
 - 4 primary areas of environmental concerns with the proposed swap
 - Storm water management during and after constructions
 - Contamination of soils at Weems-Whalen
 - Environmental justice concerns
 - Wetlands or other environmental mitigation
 - Storm water management will be challenging at new development
 - Environmental mitigation will need to happen for either site
 - Refer to the city's website for more information
 - Spa Road can legally do less storm water management
 - Redevelopment would be a disturbance at Weems-Whalen
 - Low or wet areas would require remediation
 - More information needs to be gathered
- David Jarrell, Public Works Director, shows maps and designs of both locations on projector.
- City Finances Subcommittee, Scott Gibson:
 - Gives a common knowledge definition of a land swap
 - Based off three central questions:

- Is there a net positive fiscal result for the City?
 - If we do receive a lot in return, are we going to be able to leverage that to get even more with grants?
 - Do the one-time net fiscal proceeds get eaten up over time because the cost difference to run DPW at a different site?
 - 2 million-dollar one time gain to the City of Annapolis
 - Developer will take on \$500,000 of the remediation cost at Spa Road
 - Next report will go into detail about grants
 - Property value be higher new homes developed on Spa Road
 - Operational the cost will be the same at either site
 - There will be a cost for removal or replace fuel tanks and salt barn no matter what
- Jared Littmann, Chair, hands out questions from audience to subcommittee chairs, shares schedule of task force. (See attached spreadsheet for questions for the Mayor and each subcommittee.)
- Alderwoman Finlayson: how and why the task force was created. Task force was created after the budget was amended; a resolution was created so the task force to be formed. The people on the task force were chosen based upon professional knowledge and experts in the different fields, to determine the benefits and detriments, to help the City Council decide.
- Open public forum

Name	Public Feedback
Susan Reimer	Lives in Homewood along the Poplar Park Trail. Speak on how the trail in her community provides connection for her neighborhood. Asked the audience to keep an open mind, speaks on sales and how funding helps the thriving towns. The land swap will be a positive for the City for connections to so many places.
Loretta Jones	Member of the American Legion. What if the American Legion decided to build a road back there, would it be an issue or problem then? To have easy access to S Cherry Grove. That is their land.
Shay Brooks	Lives in Homes of the Glen. How will the Homes of the Glen be affected, worried about the environment, wants to know the health concerns that it could bring to their community.
Walter Vasquez	Business Owner in the City and advocate for Latino Community. Embrace the change, gives the city a better look, and the idea is great.
Brian Hoxie	Vice President of the Heritage Community Board. Have some concerns with school districts, pedestrian traffic and bridges, and traffic with Hilltop and S. Cherry Grove.
Chris Stelzig	Lives in Murray Hill. In favor of moving forward with the project. Supports the plan because of smart growth for the city, upgrading sports complex, and building local resources using federal dollars.
John Graham	Business Owner of 1750 Forest Drive. Allows the community to control their own destiny on land pieces with this proposal. Didn't receive a survey. Speaks on his expertise dealing with businesses

	and environmental remediation.
Deonte Ward	Lives in Newtowne. Speaks on job growth with the proposal, kids being able to use bridge to get around the City safely.
Mary Lynn Wilhere	Lives on Carrollton Ave. Her neighborhood was not really informed about the proposal. Concerns getting in and out of their development, loss of green space and unfair impact on low income communities.
Tatiana Klein	Watershed steward and educator. Vision to create a community without the use of automotive for the City. Would like Annapolis to be safe biking community. Supporting the development in a critical area. Some benefits would be walking and biking path for residents.
Scott Shelton	Pastor of Heritage Baptist Church. See this as a tremendous opportunity. Likes the idea of connectivity for pedestrians and biking with the bridge.
Jennifer Balducci	President of SoFo. She was disappointed in the low response rate to the business survey. The survey is important because it gives the community a voice in what type of development is completed on Forest Drive. She would not like to see on Forest Drive a new housing development, which would increase traffic more than a public works facility. She wants less traffic, more trees, more connectivity (sidewalks Forest Drive to Spa Rd) and secondary access roads; right now, it is still one way in and one way out of the peninsula. Overall to improve the Forest Drive corridor, make it more appealing.

- Subcommittee Chairs made closing comments.
- Announcements: Next meeting/Public Hearing will be held Tuesday, October 24, 2019 at Pip Moyer 7:00 to 9:00 P.M.