



City of Alexandria and PYCA Meeting Summary
Tuesday, May 29, 2018

In attendance:

City of Alexandria: Mark Jinks, Emily Baker
PYCA: Brian Verwee, Susan Richards, Mila Yochum

1. Introductions

Yochum provided a status update on PYCA forming, mission and membership and incorporation status within Alexandria, Commonwealth of VA and IRS. Jinks advised sending an official announcement of PYCA so he can forward to all departments about working with PYCA. This ensures all departments that may have news or business in Potomac Yard will have received notice of the PYCA formation and boundaries.

2. City Committees and Working Groups

Yochum made a request to ensure PYCA had representation on any working group, committee or task force that may affect Potomac Yard. Specific committees cited were the Potomac Yard Design Advisory Committee (PYDAC) and Potomac Yard Metrorail Implementation Group (PYMIG). Baker will look into the various committee and task force to see if changes from Potomac West to Potomac Yard is appropriate and determine next steps.

3. Planning Projects and Concerns

a. Metrorail Station

PYCA discussed the development of the station and the need to build a southern access point concurrently with the rest of the metro station construction. The City agreed with the need and expressed their strong desire and firm intent to construct a southern access point, via a bridge to the Northern entrance. Following the contract execution in approximately six weeks, the City will seek a contract modification with the awarded bidder (who is conducting the design build process) to include the southern access point during the metro construction. The City will then work with the community on the design and seek approval from a number of entities such as the National Park Service, Board of Architecture Review, Planning Commission, City Council, etc.

Other notable items:

- There is no estimate on the cost to build the bridge/south access to the North Entrance, however, the City feels that the southern access point is achievable with the known information.
- The cost to build the bridge will likely come from contingency dollars.
- It is imperative to have public input to ensure the southern access is part of the design in the next few months and the City is committed to that process.



b. Dominion 250 kV line

PYCA thanked City for supporting the sunset of the special services tax district. The financial construct to allow for the sunset provision came from a Potomac Yard resident. The City concurred with the construct and had also been also looking for an appropriate opportunity to begin the sunset process. The selection of the Potomac Avenue route as the least objectionable, allowed for the City to implement the sunset provision.

PYCA made a request to ensure all remaining funds are used in Potomac Yard. As an example, a community room that is large enough to host community meetings with enough chairs. Jinks advised that tangible benefits and amenities should be shared with City staff as development continues in the community. Jinks also inquired about who manages the community room to look into the ability to support additional and/or replacement chairs.

c. The Square Park ~ 2400 Main Line Avenue

PYCA asked about permitting Potomac Yard HOA the ability to have an administrative change to the ground cover in the park at no cost. Per Potomac Yard Design guidelines, the ground cover approved should have grown to cover 90% within two years. That is not the case with the existing ground cover. Baker will review if an administrative change is permissible and what may be needed for changing the ground cover.

d. 2551 Main Line development

PYCA had previously requested the revised site plan, via FOIA per City request, to ensure awareness of the development and its associated progress. City staff stated the obtaining the site plan is generally a FOIA request and process, but also stated their intent is to provide easily available information to the public, when appropriate. Jinks stated that typically city staff are advised to share information if it is publicly available and easily emailed. PYCA asked for an easier way to obtain information and to create a stronger partnership with the City. PYCA suggested perhaps a liaison for ease of information and partnership. Baker will discuss the idea with Planning and see what is possible, but seemed amenable.

4. City Update

Jinks provided two very high level new updates that will affect Potomac Yard residents.

- a. Water Pressure – the water company will be making capital improvement to install an 8-inch main line to increase water pressure in the area. If possible, Transportation and Environmental Services will provide more information to PYCA before the membership meeting on June 6, 2018.
- b. The renaming of Jefferson Davis Highway to Richmond Highway starting January 1, 2019. Postcards will be mailed to all affected residents and a public meeting will be held on June 23, 2018.



5. Summary of Action Steps

- Yochum to email Mr. Jinks with details about PYCA.
- PYCA will work with members on benefits and amenities in the community.
- Jinks will explore the possibility of additional/replacement chairs and space at the Fire Station for public use.
- Baker will review the details of the different committee, work groups and task force that may affect Potomac Yard and consider PYCA representation. PYCA commits to ensuring representatives that are committed and bring the information back to the resident group.
- Baker will look into waiving the administrative fee, if any associated with the change in ground cover needed for the park ~2400 Main Line Blvd.
- Baker will review with Planning & Zoning staff about the potential for a PY liaison for requesting information and to strengthen partnership.
- T&ES will provide information about the water line project, ideally prior to June 6, 2018.