



Four Mile Run Joint Task Force Meeting Summary 23-January-2008

In attendance:

Neal Sigmon	JTF Co-chair – Arlington County
Judy Guse-Noritake	JTF Co-chair – City of Alexandria
Carrie Johnson	JTF – Arlington County
Luis Baéz	JTF – Arlington County
Amy Flatten	JTF – Arlington County
Erik Long	JTF – Arlington County
Betty King	JTF – City of Alexandria
Joseph McCoy	JTF – City of Alexandria
Joe McCoy	JTF – City of Alexandria
Kevin Beekman	JTF – City of Alexandria
Aileen Winquist	Arlington County – DES
Scott McPartlin	Arlington County – PRCR
Bernadette Grullón	Arlington County – PRCR
Claudia Hamblin-Katnik	City of Alexandria – T&ES
Aimee Vosper	City of Alexandria – RPCA
Brandi Collins	City of Alexandria – Planning and Zoning
Debbie Spiliotopoulos	NVRC
Bill Hicks	NVRC
Marshall Popkin	NVRC

Meeting Background

Discussion topics for this JTF meeting included: project update, the JTF's involvement in the design guidelines process, the fencing, gate, and flood protection proposals for the Arlington Water Pollution Control Plant, the demonstration project, the Alexandria Cora Kelly green roof project, and other business.

Project Updates

Co-chairs Judy Guse-Noritake (City of Alexandria) and Neal Sigmon (Arlington County) summarized the restoration project's progress throughout the past year.

- The restoration project received numerous awards and other forms of recognition in 2007; in addition, local staff and project consultants have formally presented the restoration project at various conferences throughout the last several years. NVRC will maintain a list of the restoration project's awards and other forms of recognition on its website.



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- o Awards
 - 2007 Green Design Award (Presented by CH2M Hill)
 - 2007 Regional Conservation Priority (Presented by Washington Smart Growth Alliance)
 - 2007 Outstanding Plan Award (Presented by Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association)
 - 2007 Regional Partnership Award (Presented by NVRC)
 - 2006 Honor Award (Presented by Potomac and Maryland Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects)
- o Conferences and Presentations
 - 2008 World Environmental and Water Resources Congress, Honolulu, HI (Presenters: Jeremy Thomas and Claudia Hamblin-Katnik)
 - 2008 American Planning Association Conference, Las Vegas, NV (Presenters: Deana Rhodside, Eliot Rhodside, Judy Noritake, and Bill Hicks)
 - 2007 WEFTEC (Water Environment Federation's Annual Technical Exhibition and Conference), San Diego, CA (Presenter: Anthony Falzone)
 - 2007 Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association Conference, Wintergreen, VA (Presenters: Deana Rhodside, Eliot Rhodside, and Cheri Salas)
 - 2007 Greening the River, National Building Museum Lecture Series, Washington, DC (Presenters: Deana Rhodside, Eliot Rhodside, Judy Noritake, Paul Kelsch, and Bill Hicks)
 - 2007 Virginia Lakes and Watersheds Conference, Richmond, VA (Presenter: Cheri Salas)
 - 2006 Waterfront Conference at the National Museum of the American Indian, New York, NY (Poster Presentation: Deana Rhodside and Bill Hicks)
 - 2005 International Conference on Urban River Rehabilitation, Dresden, Germany (Presenter: Bill Hicks)
- Project partners are negotiating a contract with Rhodside and Harwell, Inc. that outlines a plan to develop a set of specific design guidelines for the restoration project. Arlington County and the City of Alexandria will contribute \$50,000 toward this effort. The JTF will participate in the process of developing design guidelines in a series of meetings that are scheduled to begin in early spring.
- VDOT has awarded the restoration project partners with a \$400,000 grant for designing the pedestrian-cyclist bridge portion of the demonstration project; when constructed, the bridge will connect Commonwealth Avenue in Alexandria to S. Eads Street in Arlington. Arlington County and the City of Alexandria will both match \$50,000 to this grant, which will pay for the design competition, drawings, and preparation for construction. Money for construction has not yet been procured.
- Groundbreaking on the I-395 underpass for the Four Mile Run Bike Trail occurred in October 2007; the trail is scheduled to be completed in March 2009.

JTF Role in the Design Guidelines Process

Debbie Spiliotopoulos (NVRC) distributed a sample of design guidelines (Shirlington Villages) (This has been posted to NVRC's restoration project webpage along with other pertinent examples.).

Debbie also discussed, in greater detail than Neal's introduction, the envisioned role for the JTF in the design guidelines process. The JTF will serve as a public forum for developing the design guidelines and will provide specific visions for the guidelines.

- Bill Hicks (NVRC) emphasized that the design guidelines will link the vision of the master plan to the actual implementation of specific projects in the field. The design guidelines need to be established prior to design completion.

WPCP Fencing Update

Scott McPartlin introduced the project describing the nearly 8,000 linear feet of fence that will encompass the two parcels of the Arlington County WPCP. The ACG & JTF have provided significant contributions regarding the fence project. Bernadette Grullón, Landscape Architect with Arlington County, has developed designs based on this input (attached). She presented the designs to the task force.

WPCP Flood Protection

NVRC has worked with WPCP & USACE staff to develop a plan to remove unprotected areas of the plant from the 100-year inundation area. The protection will likely consist of a berm upon which the fence will reside. USACE staff has begun to model the flood extents, which WPCP staff and their consultants, Malcolm Pirnie, will use this report to prepare construction bid documents.

WPCP Gate Proposal

The WPCP needs another egress from the facility for truck traffic. Construction traffic will use this access heavily through 2012. Then traffic through the access will lessen although the need for this access will continue to exist. Plant staff has proposed a gate located on Eads Street. The temporary and permanent accesses do not necessarily need to be the same. Neal suggested that a permanent gate located on South Glebe Road associated with a new traffic signal could serve both the plant's needs for egress as well as could serve the adjacent neighborhood's desire for an additional pedestrian crossing of South Glebe. The JTF is requested to participate in the final resolution of this issue.

Alexandria Cora Kelly Bioretention Cell /Green Roof project

Claudia explained the City's project at Cora Kelly Elementary School to install a bioretention cell and green roof. Construction for the project will begin in the summer of 2008.

Other Business

Aimee Vosper described the potential of the Potomac Yards Bridge removal by a private developer. The City will involve the JTF in the public process involved with this proposal.

