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Elizabeth Rosborg
Chair, Citizens Advisory Committee

Plan2040
Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
Meeting Notes
June 5, 2019 - 5:00 PM
Chesapeake Conference Room, 2nd Floor
2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD

CAC members present: Elizabeth Rosborg (Chair), Cate Bower, Anthony Brent, John Clark, Thomas Fahs, Jamie Fraser, Joel Greenwell, Melanie Hartwig-Davis, Pat Huecker, Caren Karabani, Matt Korbelak, Elizabeth Leight, Patricia Lynch, Charles Mannion, Gary Mauler, Billy Moulden, Kristin Pauly, Will Shorter, Allan Straughan

Office of Planning and Zoning (OPZ) Staff present: Philip R. Hager, Planning and Zoning Officer; Cindy Carrier, Acting Deputy Planning and Zoning Officer; Mark Wildonger, Long Range Planner

Visitors: Jon Korin, Jerry Pesterfield

Library Facilities

Mr. Rudy Rodella, Chief of Support Services for Anne Arundel County Public Libraries

Mr. Rodella noted the Library has recently published several plans – the Annapolis Library Program Document in 2016, the Library Master Plan in 2017, and the Anne Arundel County Public Library Strategy 2022 in 2018.

The Annapolis Library Program details how the Annapolis Library will be programmed as a studio. Books are still a component of the library, but there are additional elements that will contribute to a user's experience. People come to libraries to learn, share, and create. The modern library is a supporting and welcoming space where individuals can discover their passion. 21st century libraries are places for people to explore ideas, practice talents, solve problems, take risks, discover passions, and create innovations. The design and operations for the library will reflect this new type of programming.

The library will have places so people can come together as a community, will be staffed by friendly individuals that will be able to help visitors, have programs for kids, and reliable Wi-Fi and internet. The concept is that the library acts as social infrastructure where people and the place create a platform. The library is a place where there is civic engagement, personal connections, learning, and

recreation. The library helps give a community identity, provides a safe gathering place, is in a trusted location, and can be a development anchor.

The planning document “Strategy 2022” outlines a purpose and vision that the library should be “a welcoming, resilient community where all can realize life to its fullest potential.” To accomplish this vision, the Library will focus on better collections; better access; thriving minds; tailored services that reflect the community needs; entrepreneurial staff who can solve issues as they arise; and effective partnerships where connections can be made.

There have been two million branch visits, 2.9 million internet visits, and 5.3 million items used. The Library currently has 5,816 programs, and there are 308,941 cardholders which equates to over 50% of County residents. These statistics help the Library measure their outcomes.

Library locations are fairly well-positioned in the County, though South County may require additional services which could come in the form of mobile services. Given growth in North County, specifically the Glen Burnie area, another library is needed. There are funds in this year’s budget for improvements. The Facilities Master Plan concluded the buildings are overall in good condition; however, technological capabilities are unsatisfactory.

Questions from the CAC:

- What percentage of space in the new libraries will be dedicated to community space? Mr. Rodela will follow up with this information.
- Will the CAC have access to the maps in the presentation?
 - o Yes.
- If the Library is tracking growth and knows there is a need for additional libraries, why does it take the Library so long to buy property?
 - o Capital projects are funded by bonds which must go through a debt affordability analysis. The Facilities Master Plan suggests a change in the mindset of library planning where the Library may not want to buy, build, and own libraries; but rather pursue opportunities to move into commercial space. For example, current libraries in existing shopping centers are doing well and can even serve as a catalyst for revitalization.
- How does Libraries justify two libraries in the Annapolis area when there is a need in North County? How will Brooklyn Park residents who do not own a car be served if a library opens in the Old Mill area? Why does the library not disperse funds to those facilities that need improvements?
 - o North County is a priority for a new library facility; however, funding is not in the budget until later years. The Discoveries location at the Annapolis Mall is unique in that it has a strong reach. The location is accessible by transit routes. The Library acknowledges the Brooklyn Park area is in need of resources. The Severn Library will be undergoing renovations funded by a Local Development Council (LDC) grant. The impact of these renovations will have a large impact and could be a model that could be applied to other libraries.
- How will the Library attract and retain quality staff?
 - o Wages for library staff is not great, but it is satisfactory. However; wages are not the sole part of retaining staff. Creating an enjoyable environment where people love their jobs and people feel motivated helps with retention. Given the new programming, some staff may need to be re-trained.

- How is the Library providing outreach to civic organizations to let them know what they are getting?
 - o Ms. Catherine Hollerbach, Chief of Public Services and Branch Management can be contacted for additional information.
- Does the Library employ consultants to identify complementary uses within the library space or opportunities to develop public/private partnerships, for example with daycare companies or arts organizations?
 - o Yes, the Library looking at partnerships (Kinkos, for example) and is open to all possibilities.
- Suggestion to the Library to organize an advisory committee for future planning studies. Howard County policy is that libraries should be within a 15 minute drive. Suggestion to create more decentralized smaller facilities to serve more of the community.
 - o The Library acknowledges it cannot develop programs and facilities for all users, so it is changing its mindset to focus on doing what it does best. It is exploring opportunities to work with the County on technology issues. Howard County funding is almost double per capita than in Anne Arundel County.
- How does each library implement safety plans, especially for vulnerable persons?
 - o There are libraries that have distinct children-only (with a supervised adult) areas. The Library is working to create areas that provide wide open, clear sight lines for staff. Branch managers are responsible for their security plans. Some branches have security guards. The Library acknowledges the Brooklyn Park branch does not have good sight lines and may make certain individuals feel vulnerable. Contact Ms. Catherine Hollerbach for additional information.

Anne Arundel Community College (AACC) Facilities

Mr. Maury Chaput, Executive Director of Administrative Services, Anne Arundel Community College

Anne Arundel Community College (AACC) was established in 1961 and is the largest single-campus community college in Maryland. Over 50,000 students participate in a variety of courses and programs offered. The vision of AACC is to be a premier learning community that transforms lives to create an engaged and inclusive society. The mission is to respond to the needs of our diverse community by offering high quality, affordable, accessible and innovative lifelong learning opportunities. AACC contributes a net of over \$525 million to the County economy each year. Approximately \$117 million is from College operations, \$60 million in non-local student spending, and nearly \$48 million in higher alumni earnings. The main campus is located in Arnold, but AACC operates in approximately 90 locations throughout the County.

AACC completed a Facilities Master Plan in 2016. The Facilities Master Plan is required by the State every ten years. The Facilities Master Plan accounts for projected enrollment and needs to accommodate that enrollment. A Facilities Condition Audit was last conducted in 2015 and is conducted every five years. This audit will help inform priorities for the next Facilities Master Plan. AACC is currently constructing a new Health and Life Sciences Building, a 175,000 square foot, facility which will cost approximately \$116 million. The new building will combine the two departments and have modern facilities to compete with other colleges. Phase 1 demolition and Phase 2 Ring Road relocation and site work has been completed. Construction of the new building has begun and the building is anticipated to open in August 2021. The State and the County are funding the project. Other capital projects include roof replacements, HVAC system upgrades, and improving walkways, roads, and parking lots. Additional capital needs include the renovation and

expansion of the Dragun Science Building, renovation of the Florestano Building for the Schools of Business & Law and Continuing Education & Workforce Development, and the Skilled Trades Center which will be located on an eastern overflow parking lot and is anticipated to be complete in spring 2021.

Questions from CAC:

- Is AACC considering additional outreach centers?
 - o AACC is always open to suggestions and acknowledges there are no facilities in South County. AACC receives funding from three sources – the County, State, and student tuition.
- Is there an opportunity to partner with the County Library?
 - o Yes, there are synergies; however the missions are different. The County Library serves a wider spectrum of the public; whereas AACC is mostly research. There are opportunities to hold classes in a County Library if it has a community room.
- Does AACC offer transportation to school locations?
 - o AACC has explored this idea a few times, but it was found to be cost-prohibitive. A shuttle between the Arnold campus, the Glen Burnie campus, and the Arundel Mills campus was studied however, travel time would be too great and AACC does not anticipate adequate ridership. AACC has had conversations with Annapolis Transit and the Maryland Transit Administration as well as discussions about a transportation hub at Arundel Mills.
- Does AACC have the capabilities of educating people in STEM fields knowing current and future demands of the program?
 - o The new Health and Life Sciences building is anticipated to accommodate students in those programs. Arundel Mills is home to a higher education consortium that includes Frostburg State University, UMUC, Stevenson University, and McDaniel College. AACC offers the Land.Air.Sea.Robotics (LASR) curriculum.
- Is there anything the community can do to support the growth and development of AACC?
 - o Funding is always a critical component of their ability to provide programming and facilities.
- Are certain courses offered at certain locations?
 - o Yes, for a majority of the programs. Though, there are enrichment courses that are offered at various Senior Center locations throughout the County.

Recreation and Parks Facilities

Mr. Kenneth Alban, Chief, Capital Projects Division, Department of Recreation and Parks

The Department of Recreation and Park's (DRP) mission is to provide quality active and passive recreation opportunities, provide accessible youth and adult programs, and preserve and enhance natural, cultural and historic resources. The DRP has over 12,000 acres of parkland and natural resource areas, including, but not limited to parks of varying sizes, swim centers, golf courses, boat launches as well as over 13,500 acres of agricultural land easements. DRP also has 23 synthetic turf fields which are in high demand and help add capacity. The DRP also coordinates recreation and athletic programs that include summer camps, child care centers, and programs within the schools.

The County recently adopted the 2017 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). This is a 15-year long range plan for park acquisition and development and is mandated by State law in order for the County to receive Program Open Space grants. It is updated every five years and

recommendations from the GDP are incorporated into the plan for implementation. The three components of the plan are parks, recreation and open space; agricultural land preservation; and natural resource land conservation. Other components include a detailed inventory of land and facilities, a status of Small Area Plan recommendations, a supply and demand analysis based on citizen surveys, public comments, demographic data and participation data, and a record of all public comments.

The DRP provided several opportunities for the public to participate in the development of the LPPRP. There were over 2,400 respondents for an online survey, work sessions were held with stakeholders including the Water Access Commission, land trusts, and the City of Annapolis, and an online form to submit comments on the draft LPPRP. Based on a comparison to the 2013 LPPRP, the online survey and plan review process delivered far greater public input than the 2013 public meetings. For future plans and public input, DRP will continue to use both online and in-person methods.

The survey indicated that the most heavily used facilities are paved trails, regional parks, beach parks, and swim centers. The DRP recognizes swim centers are at capacity and are looking at expanding swimming programs and centers. Survey respondents indicated they would like to see more trails for hiking and bicycling, water access and facilities, nature centers, dog parks/beaches, and tennis facilities. Other responses included a desire for ice rinks, track and field facilities, and recreation centers.

In developing the LPPRP, the DRP conducted a proximity analysis to map parks to identify gaps in coverage of public parks. The analysis indicated that most residents, north of US 50 can access a park within a half mile. The analysis identified gaps north of Fort Meade and in the Hanover / Harmans area. There are fewer facilities in South County due to lower residential densities. The DRP also conducted an equity analysis to ensure the highest populations and low income areas had the same opportunity as other areas in the County. Notable gaps include Annapolis/Parole, Ferndale/Brooklyn Park, north of Fort Meade, Glen Burnie and south, Laurel/Maryland City, and Waugh Chapel. In regards to water access, the County has 16 parks along the Chesapeake Bay and three parks along the Patuxent River that have a cartop launch site.

The DRP has identified several policies moving forward. They include an emphasis on the maintenance and rehabilitation of current facilities rather than new development; to continue to acquire land and easements for parks, open space, natural resource protection and agricultural preservation; increase water access and indoor sports facilities; continue to work on providing facilities and programs that accessible to the public and in equitable manner; implementing green building and environmental site design technologies, pursuing public-private partnerships; and completing the planned regional trail network. The DRP has a policy that any buildings over 10,000 square-feet must have a LEED Silver rating or higher. The DRP has partnered with the Cal Ripkin, Sr. Foundation on a project near the Brooklyn Park Middle School. The DRP expects to complete the Broadneck Trail in the next few years, continue progress on the South Shore Trail and complete the bridge over the Patuxent River for the WB&A Trail. The DRP's Capital Improvement Program includes \$426 million over 15 years. This plan is realistic and consistent with all public recommendations. The DRP's programming budget is funded through the County budget, whereas only capital projects depend on grant funding.

The GDP recommendations will be incorporated into the 2022 update of the Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan.

Questions from the CAC:

- Is the LPPRP online? What is the status of the Water Access Commission? Are there partnerships with private boat ramps and marinas?
 - o Yes, the LPPRP is on County's website under the DRP webpage under the "Forms and Publications" link. Mr. Alban will get back to the CAC regarding the status of the Water Access Commission and its relationship to the Water Access Committee. The Water Access Committee has been reformed and is still advising. To increase public water/boat access, the DRP recently sent letters to existing private marinas and HOA marinas to see if there was an interest in public/private partnerships. The results are due soon.
- Are you contacting HOAs regarding pickleball where tennis courts are underutilized? For example, the Russett community tennis courts are underutilized. Will the DRP establish community gardens?
 - o The DRP is interested in forming a committee to provide recommendations on pickleball facilities. The goal is provide pickleball facilities that do not adversely impact the tennis community. The only public community garden is located at Kinder Park. The Dairy Farm was intended to have a large community garden site, but the future is uncertain. There has not been a strong public demand for community gardens.
- Is there a formal process for evaluating the transportation system to reach the DRP facilities and does infrastructure determine where facilities are located? Suggestion to explore multi-modal options to the DRP facilities.
 - o The DRP responsibility is to design and construct parks. Traffic studies will be conducted for potentially high traffic facilities. Traffic volumes at facilities are usually at times when the facilities are not causing any further degradation to the roads. The DRP acknowledges there may be a need for better traffic analyses; however, the DRP works with the community when there are concerns, traffic models are updated to reflect current trends, and DRP works with the Department of Public Works to ensure modeling is reflective of current and future conditions. Mr. Alban will provide additional information regarding how DRP incorporates existing transportation conditions into the park planning process and evaluates impacts of future park development.
- What are some of the projects that were not implemented from the Small Area Plans and 2009 General Development Plan that the DRP would still like to see completed?
 - o There are certain trail projects in Lake Shore area the DRP continues to look at and try to accommodate pedestrian use. The DRP will provide additional priorities to the CAC.
- Is there an opportunity to use vacant commercial space for indoor facilities?
 - o The DRP has explored utilizing vacant commercial buildings, but has found that many of the buildings don't have the proper space. Each building is reviewed on a case by case basis.

Solid Waste Facilities

Rhody Holthaus, Deputy Director, Bureau of Waste Management Services, Department of Public Works
Richard Bowen, Waste Recycling and Reduction Manager, Department of Public Works

The Bureau of Waste Management Services (Bureau) operates waste collection, management, disposal, and recycling. Solid waste facilities must conform to Federal and State laws and regulations; local zoning; and local site development requirements. The Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works (DPW) is the primary provider of solid waste services to County residents, though there are private sector service providers that manage solid waste for other sectors. In 2016, County government managed approximately 28% of all solid waste and the private sector and others managed 72%.

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976 is the nation's primary law governing the disposal of solid and hazardous waste. Maryland's laws pertaining to waste management appear in the Environment Article of the Maryland Code. The Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) is the official compilation of all administrative regulations issued by agencies of the State of Maryland. The Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) regulations are under Title 26. DPW is regulated the same as the private sector.

Waste management in the County is governed by the County Code, specifically Zoning (Article 18) and Subdivision and Development (Article 17), which specify requirements for certain solid waste uses and locations and the standards for site development, respectively. The Public Works section (Article 13) details how the County delivers waste management services. It addresses fundamental functions such as when and how to conduct curbside collection and associated fees. The County has maintained a stable and predictable fee structure for residential customers and businesses. Residential charges and landfill tipping fees remain unchanged since 2013 and 2010, respectively. Curbside collection of single stream recycling, yard waste and trash collection operates once a week. The service is outsourced through fourteen competitively bid contracts. Since 2013, the customer base has grown by almost 9,000 households. Solid waste management is an enterprise fund. Revenues from services, charges, and refunds, such as selling electricity back to providers, fund the operation.

The County operates four full-service collection facilities - Northern Recycling Center in Glen Burnie, Central Recycling Center in Severn, Southern Recycling Center in Deale, and the Millersville Landfill and Resource Recovery Facility (LRRF). Curbside recycling is sent to a facility in Elkridge. Residents also have the opportunity to drop off recyclables at any of the County-operated facilities. DPW is continually expanding their list of recyclable materials, like oyster shells, tires, and pallets. The County also runs a cardboard recycling operation that bales cardboard for sale. Collection of yard waste is now collected in paper bags or cans in an effort to keep the program sustainable. Some yard waste is recycled into mulch and is free to residents. Waste oil, antifreeze, cooking oil, and other chemicals or hazardous waste cannot be collected curbside and must be disposed of at a waste management facility. The County also offers hazardous waste disposal days at each facility twice a year.

The Landfill Gas to Energy (LFGE) plant at the Millersville LRRF is an Environmental Protection Agency award winning project that converts collected landfill gas to electricity.

The Bureau has three critical planning objectives: ensure adequate recycling and disposal capacity through expansion of facilities to support planned growth in accordance with the 10-Year Solid Waste Management Plan; meet federal, state and local regulatory requirements as mandated by RCRA; and operate, maintain and preserve reliable infrastructure to ensure continuity of service to support waste recycling, processing and disposal activities.

The Bureau continues to monitor and project landfill area needs. The Millersville LRRF is currently managing the ninth cell. Projects that prepare, open and cap cells are funded through the County's Capital Budget. Other items include the ongoing infrastructure and facility maintenance.

There are several private solid waste facilities within the County that operate under MDE permits and comply with County zoning. County facilities only accept County waste; whereas private facilities may accept waste from outside the County. For example, the Curtis Creek Processing Facility and Transfer Station and Annapolis Junction Processing Facility and Transfer Station accept waste from outside of the state. The Tolson & Associates Rubble Landfill operates as a landfill and recycling facility. Biomedical Waste Services, Inc. accepts biomedical waste and exports it for disposal.

Questions from the CAC:

- Has a cost/benefit analysis been performed for the LFGE?
 - o Yes, and it is performing better than expected. It provides them electricity for a few facilities and it pays for operating and debt service. It also allows Solid Waste to participate in an energy loan fund where energy conservation projects are funded.
- How is Fort Meade solid waste managed?
 - o They use private service providers and have a management company for housing. On the Fort side they have their own staff to collect or sort, but also have various contracts. Fort Meade does not direct solid waste to the landfill.
- Are there any plans to install solar panels on closed portions of the landfill?
 - o Yes, the County has tried three times, though have been unable to attract a solar developer. Mr. Fraser added a City of Annapolis facility has installed solar panels on a portion of the landfill located on MD 450.
- How is the methane gas being managed at the southern solid waste facility? Why is the County not managing recycling?
 - o At the southern facility, there is a passive collection system, whereas the methane leaves, it is collected, and flared. In regards to the County managing recycling, there is not enough generation. It is more cost-efficient to buy a service rather than try to go to a marketplace and get a good price which has high risk, especially given the current global trends. In addition, Elkridge is in close proximity. However; the County does manage other non-single stream recycling items, such as textiles.
- Is it true that solar development would fall under forest conservation laws where the developer would have to do plantings if they were to cap the landfill with solar panels? Did the three attempts not come through due to permitting?
 - o Unsure of issues. Mr. Moulden added that infrastructure, such as a sub-station, in close proximity is needed for projects to be cost-effective. Mr. Fraser noted that projects require fees from selling power, selling renewable energy credits (RECs), and federal subsidies. Due to the inconsistency of federal subsidies, such projects tend to be risky.

Approval of Meeting Notes – May 15, 2019

Mr. Shorter made a motion to approve the meeting notes as presented; Ms. Karabani seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Additional announcements:

Ms. Carrier gave an overview of the ten Small Area Visioning Meetings that have occurred so far. Attendance has ranged from approximately 10 to 47 people with Crownsville and Jessup having the highest attendance. Key themes of the comments include an appreciation to protect natural features; development and traffic; desire for improved roadways and traffic conditions, as well as multimodal facilities such as bicycle and pedestrian connections; prioritization for redevelopment and infill; preservation of forests, farmlands, and parks; and prioritization of infrastructure in regards to new development. Summaries from all the meetings are posted to the Plan2040 website.

Questions from the CAC:

- Is the Move: Anne Arundel transportation plan published?
 - o It is in draft form on the County's Office of Transportation website. It is available for public comment until June 30th. County departments, including OPZ, are also providing comments.
- Will there be a presentation on noise?
 - o No.

There was a motion to adjourn and seconded. Meeting officially adjourned at 7:19pm. The next meeting is June 19, 2019.