

Town of Chevy Chase  
Long-Range Planning Committee

Minutes of January 16, 2008  
6:30 p.m. Town Hall  
Mary Anne Hoffman, notetaker

*Attending:* Pat Burda (Chair); Kathy Strom; Tina Coplan; Mary Anne Hoffman; David Lublin; John Navratil; Marty Saggese; Charles Duffy

*Absent:* Tammy Harris, Bruce Douglas

In light of the volume of work this committee has undertaken, the group agreed that the Chair will ask Mayor Barnes to assign another member to the Long-Range Planning Committee. Discussion then proceeded on:

Bethesda Development

*Woodmont East:* David Lublin reported that JBG and Federal Realty's revised plans are much better than the original. The major negative change is that the alley has been narrowed from 75 to 50 feet, a concern to the committee. The committee will recommend to the Council that the Town submit comments and testify on the revised Woodmont East Plan.

Testimony talking points:

1. Revised plan is a significant improvement
2. Reduced width of alley is of concern
3. Public green space should not be used for commercial purposes
4. Trail must be kept open and safe during construction
5. Tail track issues related to the site must be addressed

PAMR (Policy Area Mobility Review Standard):

Kathy Strom reported that what the Town pushed for in last year's growth policy discussions is being undermined by a new proposed method of calculating trip mitigation for Metro station areas. This change would exacerbate the steadily worsening traffic situation near the Bethesda Metro and the Town. The committee will write a letter for the Town to send expressing its objection.

BRAC

The committee went over the review by our consultants, SSC, of the transportation section of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC). Pat Burda will draft for the Town's submission by the Mayor an executive summary of the review and submit the review with a cover letter containing the executive summary to BRAC officials, as well as to Chris Van Hollen, Ike Leggett, Rich Madaleno and Al Carr.

### Purple Line

The chair circulated a summary of SSC's visit to Chevy Chase in December and reported that the list of documents the consultants have requested from Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) has been sent to elected officials. Several of the documents have not yet been received. Pat Burda will suggest that SSC set dates certain for receipt of the requested materials. The Purple Line County Advisory Group will meet Jan. 22. It is anticipated that consultants SSC will come to the Town Council in the next few months to report on their findings and to make a recommendation as to the Town's position moving forward.

Mary Anne Hoffman and Tina Coplan agreed to work with SSC on the "Trains on the Trail" art visualization project. The committee felt that this should not be combined with a more personal tribute to Jane Lawton planned for the Trail. They plan to approach Pam Browning's group (Save the Trail), East Bethesda Citizens Association and other appropriate allies to see if they are interested in working on the project with us.

### Conservation Easements/National Register

Tamara Harris is exploring the process for securing conservation easements, and Mary Anne Hoffman and Tina Coplan will continue their research on designation on the National Register of Historic Places. Pat Burda will look into Columbia Country Club's presumed eligibility for the National Register.

### Governance Study

With all else that the LRP committee has had to do, addressing issues in the Town code that staff wants clarified has not yet been possible, Pat Burda explained. She and Marty Saggese will begin work on this in near future.

### Future Meetings

The committee agreed that it will continue to meet on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

*Meeting adjourned 9:30.*