

## **NAC 7 Meeting Minutes | Sept. 6, 2022, 7PM**

Officer Henneberry: The city is modifying the ordinance that regulates how large commercial vehicles pass through quiet, residential neighborhoods.

Bradley: Questioned which vehicles have been grandfathered into the exemptions for the ordinances.

Other neighbors: express concern about YMCA buses barreling through their neighborhood, particularly in the summer.

Bradley: Claims that large buses were specifically permitted by the mayor in years past.

Allen: Will check to get clarity from the Mayor's office on what kinds of vehicles have been signed off.

Henneberry: Most children in the neighborhood walk to the local elementary, middle, and high schools.

Bradley etc.: Haven't observed too many FCPS buses on 12<sup>th</sup> st.

Allen: We expect the Alderman to hold a meeting later this month to discuss the ordinance

Mike: Spoke with Lt. Carr about the speed box by the elementary school. It's ~100ft about the permitted speed camera. And it sounds like a second camera is being installed Northbound.

Neighbors: appreciated the help of officers all summer.

Bradley: Please check with city legal on releasing coordinator contact info. And we would like flyers with a map of the NAC and a mission/purpose statement.

### **Next item: NAC 2.0**

Allen: In March, Shackelford approach the communications office to start a conversation about what a reformation or revamp of the program would look like. The three major items for reform identified are:

structure, boundary, and purpose. The NAC program I guided by a resolution so that would be adapted to the reformed model, and we did a peer review of cities in the country to see how those government engaged neighborhoods. There is no recommendation as of yet, we are in the collecting feedback stage.

We found that neighborhood engagement falls in the realm of five purposes.

Bradley: People don't really care about planning or zoning outside their neighborhood. So one of the top ten issues brought forward when the NACs were first created. It hasn't been fixed, and it's been diluted. And there is no representation outside the police. In virtual meetings no one can see those tiny maps... people can't tell what's being planned. By doing it online, people can't see it. The point is moot. Why can't planning come back out to the NACs?

Allen: That's valuable feedback we will be taking to our board. This is going to be multiple conversations with the board to modify the resolution.

Bradley: Can we have an all NAC coordinator meeting? I have a sneaking suspicion that at least 5 of the issues that come from NAC will be the same as five years ago. After the departure of Michelle, we the NACs as a whole, really lost contact with the Mayor's office. It's very disheartening when you find traffic, crime, overdevelopment, code enforcement... as the top four issues.

Mike Bradley: His personal viewpoint is that before COVID, when he would go to certain meetings, it seemed like planning was just pumping things out and crossing items off the block. He remembers one time a presentation was given at the annex. We expected it was about major stuff and there were 3 citizens and several staff giving presentations and just checking things off.

Gail Bradley: If planning works for the builders and have them on their payroll without public attending en masse to the hearings seems skewed. We can't talk about "that" outside an official meeting but they are damn working with the builders outside an official meeting. We try to stand with our neighbors when they have an issue. It's important that planning come to these meetings.

Chris: It's hard to find out what is going on. Next thing you know bulldozers pull up and that's not what I moved here for. There's always changing but I want to have some sense of control over our community.

Pat: They're talking about making E street pedestrian and bicycle friendly, so where is the heavy traffic going to go? Right up market street. That doesn't make any sense. They're building all these houses on 144 but are they doing anything to improve 144. They are overloading, but they need to put the infrastructure in first.

Gail: We have zoning but then what's the point of zoning if planning checks off every project that doesn't fit the zoning with an exemption?

Chris: There's something about protecting a field and area. I came from an overdeveloped area in Baltimore County where basements started to flood because we didn't have enough permeable surfaces.

Gail: With this administrations infill policy we are losing the quality that makes us unique. We are no longer on Washington Post's list of places to visit and that should concern us.

Chris: I understand the need to go about this in a structured fashion but I also grow impatient. How long is this expected to take?

Allen: We are expecting to go to the Board of Alderman by the end of this month for the first workshop. We'll take the feedback we've gotten from the options and translate what that means for the city, and how structure boundaries, and purpose change the way that the program looks. Alderman Shackelford has taken this on and his initial inclination is to build a program with formal representation, whether that's something that can appeal to the residents. My role, and Lauren's role are to make this program as robust as it can be to make sure that those who are involved stay involved and how we can connect with those who don't engage or choose not to engage in this fashion.

Chris: At the same time as we you are meeting with the board, you're getting feedback but it's not the best feedback.

Mike: How can we become robust and do a monthly meeting like NAC 11 & 5, if we want to? We've visited several NACs over the year.

Gail: But they get support from the administration. We don't have police officers stationed here all summer when there's crime in our parks. Even when we call we get lucky if they actually do more than drive through and stop.

Mike: We used to have 3 aldermen at our meetings.

Gail: But things were different, the agendas were planned in advance. Michelle spoke with coordinators to

Allen: We need to ensure equitable attention. And get the right people and services out here. We're working on improving the marketing and communication for all of the NACs. We're ramping up those efforts. There are five core purposes and structural models that correspond with them. Our goal is to find the best thing that works for Frederick.

Gail: Anything that's a concern of a NAC next to us, should be an issue that affects us. Issues transcend boundaries, so we should be supporting us in the problems they have.

Mike: The people upset about the trucks behind the wren quarter were coming to our NAC meetings.

Gail: This was the forum where they to access to police officer, city officials, a group of people who share concerns. You only get representation when there's an issue.

Allen: We want to understand those who aren't involved, if you don't, why don't you? I spent a lot of time talking to residents at the Elk parade in that most people who engage with their neighborhoods engage in their HOA, not their NAC. If you go to your HOA how can the city support your HOA or your Elks organization?

Gail: I find that people come to their NAC coordinator and don't directly contact their city officials. I've never testified as NAC 7, always testified as a private citizen.

Chris: It would be good to explore the hybrid meeting option.

Gail: Please take a concern to Bob Smith, we need a dutch drain for the alley to mitigate flooding at the south end of kosman alley. Also we'd like a presentation from Lisa from HBC, a they update records under the national historic trust.

**Adjourned: 8:33PM**

Outstanding Needs:

- Send Gail email list for NAC 7
- Remove COVID warning

