

## NCSC MEETING MINUTES

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### MEETING MINUTES OF THE JUNE 28, 2023 MEETING AND FUNDING HEARING OF THE ARLINGTON COUNTY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLETE STREETS COMMISSION

*Draft: 7/4/23*

The **NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLETE STREETS COMMISSION** convened its Meeting and Funding Hearing at **7:46PM** on **JUNE 26, 2023** as a hybrid **IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL** meeting.

<b>LOCATION</b>	Azalea Room -- 2100 Clarendon Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201 CR-BGC-101 Azalea (MED)(relocated from Cherry Room due to technical difficulties) Virtual (Microsoft Teams)
<b>PRESENT (IN-PERSON)</b>	NCSC Member Elisa Ortiz (Chair)(At-Large) NCSC Member Bill Braswell (ArNAC) NCSC Member Margarita Brose (At-Large) NCSC Member Catherine Lewis (At-Large) NCSC Member Kevin Sweeney (At-Large) NCSC Member Steve Wardell (At-Large)
<b>PRESENT (VIRTUAL)</b>	NCSC Member David Ansell due to medical reasons (At-Large) NCSC Member Ed Hilz due to medical reasons (ArNAC)
<b>ABSENT</b>	NCSC Member Giles Crimi (At-Large) NCSC Member Elizabeth Gallagher (Pedestrian Advisory Committee)
<b>STAFF</b>	Michelle Stafford Jiang Lin Brian Shelton Gino Squaraciafico

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- [Link to Teams Recording](#) (if available; this is not required)
  - [Link to Teams Transcript](#) (if available; this is not required)
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### SUMMARY OF PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS

#### *NCSC Chair's Report*

Chair Ortiz discussed possible action to be considered at the September NCSC meeting to express concern to the County Board regarding inadequate DES Staffing for the NCS and other programs. Chair Ortiz will engage in outreach to other relevant commission chairs to see if there is interest in pursuing this matter jointly.

Chair Ortiz also stated that the Board had recently increased the project funding floor level requiring Board approval to \$1 million. At that level, some individual NCS Projects would likely not require Board approval. However, Chair Ortiz recommended that the NCSC continue its historical practice of recommending NCS projects to the Board for approval.

Chair Ortiz additionally advised that there still has been no decision regarding the new Board liaison to NCSC following the effectiveness of County Board Member Katie Cristol's resignation effective July 4, 2023. It is unclear when a new liaison will be appointed.

Chair Ortiz acknowledged the longtime service of three NCSC Members, Bill Braswell, Ed Hilz and Kevin Sweeney. Their third and final three-year terms will expire in July 2023, making this their last meeting. Chair Ortiz noted that several At-Large and commission representative positions were already vacant. Chair Ortiz urged the Commission members to continue recruiting new members, including both At-Large and Advisory Group representatives. (Both ArNAC positions will now be vacant with the departures of Members Braswell and Hilz; the Transportation Commission and Bicycle Advisory Commission slots have been vacant for extended periods.)

#### *Funding Hearing for Current Neighborhood Complete Streets Projects*

County Staff presented the three capital street improvement projects, and an NCSC vote was held for each of the individual projects following the Staff's presentation of all three, questions from NCSC members, and discussion. The NCSC members were provided with a funding booklet describing each of the Project streets and its Evaluation Criteria score, describing the public engagement and community feedback for each Project, and providing aerial photographs with each Project's design features overlaid.

- 14<sup>th</sup> Street North from N. McKinley to North Ohio (Highland Park/Overlee Knolls): This Project was presented by Michelle Stafford and Jiang Lin of County Staff. Design plans call for installation of chicanes, among other things. The outreach has elicited a generally positive response, and the Civic Association President has indicated support. Some on-street parking would be removed, but the effect appears minimal. The approximate estimated Project Cost is \$587,000.
- Eighth Road S., S. Dinwiddie to S. Frederick (Arlington Mill): This Project was also presented by Michelle Stafford and Jiang Line. The design would replace the pedestrian crossings on the north side of 8<sup>th</sup> Road South at South Emerson with a single relocated crossing, curb extensions and ADA-compliant curb ramps. The estimated cost is \$487,000.
- S. Irving Street from 2<sup>nd</sup> Street South to 6<sup>th</sup> Street South (Arlington Heights): This Project was presented by Michelle Stafford and Gino Squaraciafico. Consistent with community feedback, the proposed design would remove the existing Carlyle lights currently obstructing the sidewalk on the west side of the street. Those would be replaced with new Carlyle lights (at the community's request) placed in the spaces created by curb extensions located at intersections and mid-block. These curb extensions allow the placement of the lights outside of the sidewalk, thereby addressing the previous obstructions. The mid-block extensions, which are essentially traffic calming chicanes, should also address speeding concerns expressed by residents. The estimated cost is \$522,000.

Staff advised that the NCS Program has approximately \$1.79 MM in available FY23-24 CIP Funds, which is adequate to fund all the projects presented.

#### **MOTIONS & ACTIONS/VOTES**

Commissioner Brose moved that the Commission approve the minutes of the May 23, 2023 NCSC Meeting, with several minor corrections.

- Commissioner Wardell seconded the motion.
- The Commission unanimously supported the motion 9-0.

Chair Ortiz moved that the NCS Program Guidebook be revised to incorporate a separate Equity Emphasis Area score under the NCS Project Evaluation Criteria.

- Commissioner Brose seconded the motion.
- The Commission unanimously supported the motion

Chair Ortiz moved that the NCSC recommend that the County Board approve and fund the 14 Street South Project as presented, at an estimated project cost of \$587,000.

- Commissioner Braswell seconded the Motion.
- The Commission unanimously supported the Motion.

Chair Ortiz moved that the NCSC recommend that the County Board approve and fund the 8<sup>th</sup> Road South Project as presented, at an estimated project cost of \$478,000.

- Commissioner Braswell seconded the Motion
- The Commission unanimously supported the Motion.

Chair Ortiz moved that the NCSC recommend that the County Board approve and fund the South Irving Street Project as presented, at an estimated project cost of \$522,000.

- Commissioner Sweeney seconded the Motion.
- The Commission unanimously supported the Motion.

Meeting adjourned at **9:41 PM**.

Upcoming Meetings:

NCSC Meeting, Monday, September 18, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin Sweeney 7/4/23