



**POPS Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary**

August 03, 2016

7:00pm-9:00pm

Langston-Brown Community Center

In attendance:

POPS Advisory Committee

- Caroline Haynes, Park and Recreation Commission
- Jane Rudolph, Department of Parks and Recreation
- Jim Feaster, NCAC
- Dean Amel, Urban Forestry Commission
- Claire O'Dea, E2C2
- Lisa Grandle, Department of Parks and Recreation
- William Gillen, APS
- Elizabeth Gearin, Park and Recreation Commission
- Leo Sarli, Arlington Commission for the Arts- Alternate

Absent:

- Janet Kopenhaver, Arlington Commission for the Arts
- Jane Siegel, Planning Commission
- Toby Smith, At Large
- Carrie Johnson, At Large
- Sports Commission (vacancy)

Department of Parks and Recreation Staff:

- Erik Beach
- Irena Lazic
- Bethany Heim

Public:

- Richard Epstein
- William Ross



Summary

On August 3, 2016 WRT facilitated a meeting with the POPS Advisory Committee to get feedback on the actions and action steps to support Strategic Direction 2: Trails and Strategic Direction 3: Resource Stewardship.

WRT began the meeting with an introductory presentation that included a recap of the community needs assessment tasks completed to date, an overview of the final plan's intended organization, and a process timeline including how future Advisory Committee and public meetings fit into the planning process.

Following the introductory presentation, WRT presented the Advisory Committee with the proposed actions and action steps to support the two strategic directions for feedback. Some action steps were supported by maps or images of best practices from other places. WRT also presented a draft of how level of service will be analyzed spatially, using trails as a test amenity.

Specific feedback from the Committee follows.

Strategic Direction 2: Trails

- Ensure it is clear that the Master Transportation Plan, not POPS, addresses bike transportation issues.
- Incorporate the idea of temporary street closures.
- Grade trails according to ease of use for each mode, potentially at different times of day.
- Emphasize the importance of safety on all trails.
- Fill gaps in the trail system.
- High quality signage would elevate the trail system, instill confidence, and promote safety.

Strategic Direction 3: Resource Stewardship

Multiple Committee members questioned the term "cultural resources" and its combination with natural resources. Some interpreted it as including arts, while others felt it was more about historic properties and landmarks. DPR explained that they interpret cultural resources to mean historic resources—immovable resources that cannot be replicated. There seemed to be consensus that changing the title from "Natural and Cultural Resources" to "Resource Stewardship" would alleviate many concerns.

Level of Service Test Case

The Advisory Committee reacted favorably to the level of service example and asked whether other jurisdictions use a similar method of analysis. WRT explained that they had not performed a spatial level of service analysis in this way before because most of their clients do not have the wealth of spatial data that Arlington does.