New Elementary School at TJ PFRC/BLPC Meeting Notes April 20, 2016

The Public Facilities Review Committee (PFRC) and Building Level Planning Committee (BLPC) convened their first joint meeting on Wednesday, April 20th. The meeting took place at the Thomas Jefferson Middle School cafeteria (with an optional site tour provided by APS' design team prior to the meeting), with County Board and School Board representatives present. The meeting focused on providing background information for the proposed school project by detailing: the roles of BLPC/PFRC, summarizing the Thomas Jefferson Working Group (TJWG) and South Arlington Working Group (SAWG) processes, reviewing common goals for the Thomas Jefferson site, clarifying details related to the scheduling and timeline for the process, as well as providing ample opportunity for PFRC/BLPC discussion. The PFRC/BLPC discussion centered on various common themes including:

- Parking, traffic impacts, and accessibility throughout the site and neighboring properties (school bus service was also mentioned).
- Construction staging and implementation.
- School safety (including parking garage safety).
- Providing adequate facilities both outside and inside the new school space.
- Discussion on how this project affects broader APS expansion projects (How will this affect the budgets for future projects?).
- Relationship to adjacent community facilities (theater, community center, parks and open space, special events).

The next joint PFRC/BLPC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 18th at the Thomas Jefferson Middle School library.