

**MONROE AVENUE BRIDGE
COMMUNITY LIAISON TEAM MEETING MINUTES**

July 13, 2006
7:00pm – 8:15pm

Team Members in Attendance:

Mariella Posey – Northeast
Stephen Rideout – Old Town Greens
Patricia Schubert – Inner City
David Fromm – Del Ray
Pat Phibbs – Inner City

Absent:

Buddy Johnson – Del Ray
Michael Babin – Slaters Lane Businesses
Miles Keogh – Lynhaven
Kevin Reilly – Potomac West Business Association
Emily Baker – City of Alexandria, Engineer

Also in Attendance:

Jason Edsall – Shirley Contracting, Inc.
Kurt Fischer – Shirley Contracting, Inc.
Cathy Puskar – Walsh, Colucci, Lubeley, Emrich & Terpak, PC
Rich Baier – City of Alexandria, Transportation & Environmental Services
David Wall – Potomac Yard Development
Kevin Hall – Potomac Yard Development

Approval of Minutes:

Patricia Schubert made a motion to approve the June 8, 2006 minutes. David Fromm seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

PYD Update Regarding Upcoming Construction Activities and Associated Detours:

Jason Edsall of Shirley Contracting gave an update on the latest construction developments.

Minimal pile driving was done during the last month. The vibration monitoring device has been relocated to the south side in preparation for drilling in August. Drilling on the south side will last approximately 2 months.

The lane shift and closure of Slaters Lane was reviewed and the current construction of the piers and abutment wall.

Demolition of small portions of the existing bridge will be completed to allow for construction of the new bridge.

The closure of access from Slaters Lane to Route 1 northbound and southbound Route 1 to Slaters Lane is now in place. Access from Slaters Lane to northbound Route 1 will remain closed for 12 months. Access from Route 1 southbound to Slaters Lane will remain closed for 30 months. During this closure, a “jug handle” detour utilizing Fayette and First Street will be implemented.

A citizen asked a question why the Slaters Lane Northbound ramp closure timeframe changed from 3 months to 6 months. After reviewing the plans, Jason Edsall corrected the time frame to 4 months. This ramp access closure will likely begin in Spring 2007.

Route 1 will remain open throughout the entire construction.

David Fromm mentioned his concern regarding double parking on Slaters Lane and suggested signs be placed alerting drivers.

Patricia Schubert stated there were no stop signs on North Alfred Street causing roll throughs and excessive speeding. She expressed concern over children crossing at the intersection. Rich Baier said he would take a look at the situation.

Patricia Schubert asked a question if police officers would be directing traffic during the detours. Rich Baier stated police officers will be deployed if there becomes a need.

Cathy Puskar addressed some citizen concern regarding trucks driving through the surrounding neighborhoods. Jason Edsall stated they will be re-educating the truck drivers on the appropriate haul route. Kevin Hall and Cathy Puskar encouraged citizens to write down tag numbers for any truck infractions and immediately call Kevin at (703) 548-5020.

Patricia Schubert asked if the project has been cited during construction to date. No citations were issued.

One citizen asked a question about the ADA requirements dealing with the pedestrian ramp from the Monroe Avenue Bridge. Rich Baier stated the design of the ramp was based on citizens concern from Northeast and Del Ray communities. The pedestrian ramp is being designed to meet ADA requirements.

Another question was raised about the future grade level of Monroe Avenue. David Wall, project engineer for Potomac Yard Development, showed illustrations on the current and future grade level of Monroe Avenue. He stated

the proposed grade level would be approximately 7 feet lower than the current grade at the N.E. corner of the bakery building and approximately 3 feet lower on N.W. corner of the building. In addition, they are proposing that the existing wall running parallel with Monroe Avenue would be replaced with a shorter railing. One citizen suggested pedestrian steps be built leading down into the bakery building on the northeast corner.

David Fromm questioned why the Monroe Avenue construction would fall under the duties of the committee. Rich Baier stated the construction work for Monroe Avenue has been approved. Construction on Simpson Field Road and open space issues are still scheduled to come before the city council.

One citizen encouraged utilizing the redesign of Monroe Avenue as a great opportunity to add trees, a pedestrian median, and improve lane crossings into the shopping center.

A question was asked about staying updated on detours and other issues dealing with the project. Rich Baier and Cathy Puskar suggested citizens to sign-up for the city's e-news to receive updates on all city projects and other related information.

Wrap Up and Adjourn

The next meeting will be held Thursday, August 10, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Avenue. An e-mail reminder will be distributed to the community and it will be posted on the PYD Web site at www.potomacyardalexandria.com.