

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

June 8, 2006  
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

**Team Members in Attendance:**

Buddy Johnson – Del Ray  
Mariella Posey – NorthEast  
Stephen Rideout – Old Town Greens  
Patricia Schubert – Inner City

**Absent:**

Michael Babin – Slaters Lane Businesses  
David Fromm – Del Ray  
Miles Keogh – Lynhaven  
Pat Phibbs – NorthEast  
Kevin Reilly – Potomac West Business Association

**Also in Attendance:**

Duncan Blair - Land, Clark, Carroll, Mendelson & Blair P.C.  
Jason Edsall – Shirley Contracting, Inc.  
Kurt Fischer – Shirley Contracting, Inc.  
Emily Baker – City of Alexandria, Transportation & Environmental Services

**Approval of Minutes**

Mairella Posey made a motion to approve the May 11, 2006 minutes. Buddy Johnson 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. The team is finished with the first phase of pile driving. They continue with concrete work, which can be seen in the field. There is a great deal of form work to construct the piers and abutments.

Median removal on Route 1 near Slaters Lane continues and will be concluded within the next few weeks.

Phase one pile driving vibrations remained well below the threshold limit through out the entire phase. Once pile driving moves to the south side of the bridge, the monitoring device will be moved. It will be positioned in close proximity to the houses closest to the pile driving.

Siltation and erosion control is ongoing to ensure all dirt and dust remain on the Potomac Yard property. Because of the extensive earth work, trucks are cleaned before they leave the yard.

Upcoming work includes internal road work, concrete work and the demolition of part of the existing bridge. When this demolition begins, traffic will be detoured. The closure of access from Slaters Lane to Route 1 northbound and southbound Route 1 to Slaters Lane is expected to occur around the middle of June. 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 traffic signal has been installed at the intersection of First Street and Route 1 to aid in traffic flow and increase safety. The timing of this traffic light has been synchronized with all others lights along Route 1. In addition, improvements have been made to Fayette Street in anticipation of increased traffic due to the detour. Pedestrian and bicycle access will remain along Slaters Lane throughout construction.

The City of Alexandria is still awaiting approval on an easement for a left-turn lane on northbound Patrick Street.

Access to southbound Route 1 from Slaters Lane will remain open; the slip ramp will not be affected by this construction.

Two weeks before the Slaters Lane closure, the community will be notified via electronic signs announcing the detour, media alerts to local media outlets, an email notification to the Potomac Yard list serve and announcements on the Potomac Yard Web site, [www.potomacyardalexandria.com](http://www.potomacyardalexandria.com).

Presently, there are advertisements in both the Del Ray Sun and the Alexandria Gazette Packet notifying the community that the businesses along Slaters Lane remain open throughout the construction of the Monroe Avenue Bridge. In addition, both the City and Shirley Contracting have been in discussions with local businesses regarding the upcoming detours.

### **City Update**

WMATA will be eliminating the 9B bus route on June 24, 2006. Notices are posted at all bus stops. DASH will begin servicing a new route on June 25, 2006. Service of the 9A route will remain. Once the detours begin, the 9A will utilize the “jug handle” detour and all stops will be serviced throughout construction. Any questions about the bus services should be directed to the City of Alexandria’s Transit Services Department.

The No U-Turn sign on southbound Route 1 at Fayette and First has been replaced.

### **Community Issues**

There is concern about pedestrian crossings at the intersection of Monroe Avenue and Route 1. Timing of the traffic lights has not been changed and should allow for adequate crossing time. The city will look into placing a high visibility crosswalk with improved markings in this area.

A citizen was concerned that an increase in rodent sightings has been seen in the neighborhoods surrounding Potomac Yard. Traps have been checked and will be monitored as part of the rodent abatement plan.

A question was raised about the grade transition of Monroe Avenue to the new bridge. It will not have the bunker-like appearance it currently displays. Although it will not be flat, it will have a slight incline to the bridge, but it will be significantly reduced from its current elevation. This elevation is needed to take into account the current topography as well as provide for adequate drainage. A new parking lane and a 10-foot sidewalk area will be added to Monroe Avenue. The landscaping details for the Monroe Avenue sidewalk area are currently under review. There will be a 12 inch step down from the street to the businesses along Monroe Avenue.

### **Wrap Up and Adjourn**

The next meeting will be held Thursday, July 13, 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](http://www.potomacyardalexandria.com).