

Community Liaison Committee Meeting on Transportation Demand Management
Tuesday, July 30, 2013
American University – School of International Service – Founders Room
7 p.m.

Introductions & Opening Remarks

The meeting of the Community Liaison Committee (CLC) was opened by AU Vice President of Campus Life, Gail Hanson, who convenes and leads the meetings for American University. She began the meeting at 7 p.m. by welcoming neighbors and representatives of neighborhood organizations and local Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs).

Gail Hanson advised that the meeting would give the group an overview and understanding of what Transportation Demand Management (TDM) is and that Karina Ricks from Nelson\Nygaard would lead a detailed discussion on related community concerns.

Attendees then introduced themselves and their affiliations.

Dan Nichols, AU Executive Director of University Safety Programs, thanked everyone for attending. He explained that the TDM study was being undertaken for several reasons, including 1) to meet the requirements of the Zoning Commission order to implement policies in an effort to reduce the number of single occupancy vehicles traveling to campus; and 2) to collaborate with area partners who also have an impact on traffic around campus including WMATA, DDOT, and Homeland Security to accomplish the same goal.

He explained that Nelson\Nygaard was hired as the consultant for the project because of their extensive experience working with universities. He continued that neighbors have daily observations that are important to take into consideration as the TDM study moves forward.

He concluded by stating that this meeting would not be the only opportunity to provide feedback to AU and Nelson\Nygaard. With the consultant's report expected by the end of November, there is ample time for feedback and input. He explained that further input should be emailed to AUTDM@american.edu and encouraged attendees to share this information with their neighbors and constituents.

What is Transportation Demand Management?

Karina Ricks, of Nelson\Nygaard, presented an overview of TDM and the tools available when creating a TDM program. This presentation is available to view on AU's Community Relations website at <http://www.american.edu/communityrelations/clc/Documents.cfm>.

Discussion Regarding AU TDM Efforts

Following are ideas presented by community members for AU and Nelson\Nygaard to consider as the TDM process moves forward:

- As you attempt to get people to walk and bike, take a look at AU's class schedule. Having more daylight classes would be a plus, as having to walk or bike at night might present safety issues, especially for women.
- For nearby residents, parking and congestion are the top issues, specifically students parking in the neighborhood. In terms of congestion, look beyond single vehicles to AU shuttles and the necessity of routes like the Red route.
- Consider including a cap for vehicles traveling to campus as included in the Nelson\Nygaard study during the campus plan process. If this cap is exceeded, additional TDM requirements would kick in.
- It would be good to collect data related to students parking in the neighborhoods, as well as to track specifically where students, faculty, staff, and visitors to campus are coming from and headed.
- Collect data related to the capability of visitors to campus to travel in a multimodal way. What might be preventing them to do so?
- If changes are being recommended to the WMATA bus schedule or other transportation options that affect the neighborhood, residents must be a part of the discussion and consulted before any changes are implemented.
- With more people walking and biking, there will be an increase in jaywalking and lawless cycling, both of which create additional problems for the neighborhood. Education and enforcement must be a big part of promoting people's use of these modes of transportation.
- AU should look at the price of parking on campus and find a price point that encourages those who do drive to use on-campus facilities as required. Too high a price will push vehicles into the neighborhood, but too low a price will encourage more people to bring their cars to campus and add to congestion.
- Take a look at the shuttle route along Nebraska that turns around on Rockwood. Re-routing options should be considered because it causes traffic to back up on Nebraska.
- Keep in mind that the law school attracts more than students, but also visitors for events, continuing education, law clinics, etc. This has an impact on the Tenley neighborhood.
- Find ways to reduce foot traffic along with vehicular traffic.
- Consider making AU shuttles accessible to all to help reduce traffic congestion. Many non-AU affiliated people already ride it, so why not formalize it?
- Consider newer technologies like the Hawk signal recently installed in Cleveland Park.

- More bike infrastructure is needed on and around campus if you are going to be encouraging people to bike more. Additional bike lanes and path, bike racks, and Capital Bikeshare stations are needed.
- Provide outreach and education to neighbors about automobile safety, as well as the TDM plan, and how it benefits the neighborhood.
- Extend the radius used to examine the issue of students parking in the neighborhood to eight blocks around the campus.
- Get accurate and up-to-date data related to student parking in the neighborhood, to see if it corroborates the original DDOT study submitted to the Zoning Commission that stated that students make up less than 10 percent of parkers.
- Add a shuttle route to Glover Park, as more students, faculty, and staff live here now and need connectivity to the neighborhood and campus.
- The study should also examine the impact of various events on campus, as well as other users like OLLI.

Gail Hanson adjourned the meeting at 9 p.m. and asked attendees to complete a comment form asking for the issues most important to them. She also reminded everyone to use the AUTDM@american.edu email address for any additional comments or input.

Attendees

Community:

Judy Chesser, Tenleytown Neighborhood Association
 Ellen Myer, Tenley Campus Neighborhood Association
 David Fehrmann, Westover Place Homeowners Association
 Mary Ellen Fehrmann, Westover Place Homeowners Association
 Gregory Ferenbach, Tenley Campus Neighborhood Association
 Larry Joseph, Westover Place Homeowners Association
 Jeffrey Kraskin, Spring Valley/Wesley Heights Citizens Association
 Beth Marcus, Sutton Place Condominium Association
 Dennis Paul, Neighbors for a Livable Community; Spring Valley/Wesley Heights Citizens Association
 Tom Quinn, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3E
 Charles Reusch, Sutton Place Condominium Association
 Steve Selig, Ward 3 Vision
 Juliet Six, Tenleytown Neighborhood Association
 Kent Slowinski, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3D
 Tom Smith, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3D; Spring Valley/Wesley Heights Citizens Association
 Jane Waldmann, Tenleytown Historical Society

Nan Wells, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3D
John Wheeler, Ward 3 Vision
Abigail Zenner, Ward 3 Vision

American University Staff:

David Dower, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Development & Real Estate
Gail Hanson, Vice President of Campus Life
Andrew Huff, Director of Community Relations
Patricia Kelshian, AVP of Risk Management and Safety Services
Hisham Khalid, Office of the General Counsel
Phil Morse, Senior Director of Public Safety and Emergency Management
Dan Nichols, Executive Director of University Safety Programs
David Taylor, Chief of Staff to the President

American University Students:

Pat Kelly, AU Student Government President
Rory Slatko, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3D
Joe Wisniewski, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3D

Nelson/Nygaard:

Tom Brown
Karina Ricks