

Parking Task Force Minutes for October 1, 2020

Present: Jacqueline Davison, Paul Huebner, Tim Judson, Emanuel Wagner, Allen Getter, Rosalind Grigsby

One-Way Streets Proposal

Emanuel reviewed the proposal for converting to one-way streets, as submitted on Sept. 28 at the Task Force's request

Questions:

How large of a scale would a pilot project need to be? (1 streets? 2 streets? More?)

- Emanuel suggested basing it on evaluating requests for sidewalk and traffic accommodations that have been submitted to the city. Emanuel noted that it would be important for the city staff to study this and evaluate how to conduct an effective pilot.

What are some examples of where you could try this out?

- Tim pointed out that Tulip and Willow have a lot of cut-through traffic, and a lot of congestion as narrow streets with two-side parking and no protected bike lanes.

Jackie requested that Emanuel develop a summary of the proposal based on today's discussion.

Paul suggested that 2-ft.-wide concrete planters could be installed as traffic barriers cost-effectively.

Community Participation

Jackie reviewed the rationale for her proposal.

- We are going to need to take different approaches.
- It is important to address racial equity issues and engage populations equitably.
- We are going to have to rely on digital meetings, but may be able to have a few in-person meetings under the conditions specified by the county (limited to 50 people, with 6-foot distancing).
- People may not be motivated to come to in-person meetings for this issue.
- Jackie raised a question of whether we would get as much participation in digital meetings vs. in-person meetings.

Roz noted that because people can multi-task while on zoom, it does seem to have enabled a broader range of people to participate in city council meetings.

Allen suggested doing some street-level outreach to get feedback in certain neighborhoods.

Jackie noted that she has perceived a digital divide with online events, with a much higher level of participation among white people than Black people and people of color.

An option is also to consider working with City Councilmembers to identify community leaders who could provide input from their constituents.

Emanuel suggested that we need to be clear about what we are presenting and why residents in each neighborhood should care.

Consider circulating materials in advance, and how best to do that.

It was suggested that we see if the outreach work done for the Takoma Vision study would be a good model. Emanuel will reach out to the person who organized that.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.