



**Meeting Minutes for Mount Vernon Campus Plan Working Group
GW Facilities Planning & Transportation and Parking**

Wednesday July 14th, 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Attendees:

Brian Snyder, GW, Facilities Planning, Construction and Management
Gabriela Sosa, GW, Government Relations
Matthew Bell, Perkins Eastman
Stephen Penhoet, Perkins Eastman
Ana Nicolich, Perkins Eastman
Maureen Moran, MCLA
Will Lattanzio, Wiles Mensch
Marcelo Lopez, Wiles Mensch
Andrew Lundt, GW Athletics
Destiny Jackson, GW, Transportation & Logistics
Natalie Addison, GW, Facilities Planning, Construction and Management
Maxine Weinstein, community member Berkeley Terrace
David Roberts, community member
Derrick Oracki, community member

AGENDA

- Introduction
- Lighting Concepts Presentation
- Discussion/Q&A

MEETING ITEMS:

Welcome and Introduction

- Brian Snyder welcomed meeting participants and introduced the meeting's focus on exterior lighting concepts

Lighting Presentation

Lighting for Pedestrian Pathways

- Maureen reviewed small pathways around campus that would be lit with light bollards
- Brian added that the bollards would have a discreet presence on campus

Lighting for Vehicular Pathways

- Maureen reviewed vehicular pathways for higher activity vehicles
- She emphasized that only drop-off zones would receive additional lighting
- Brian reminded the community that the access road would not be open to the public

Soccer Field Lighting Concepts

- Maureen presented a site diagram that showed the locations for six light poles that would cast light down onto the field in a directional manner
- Two options for pole heights were shown: 80 feet high and 100 feet high
- It was clarified that only one height for all six poles would be needed
- Maureen presented a cross-section through the soccer fields which showed light poles, light distribution on the field, light spillage from the field, existing trees, topography, campus property/property line, and the Berkeley Terrace property/property line
- She stated that the taller poles would allow the fixtures to be aimed down onto the field vs. across the field which would result in more light spread
- Brian highlighted that light spillage would be 10 feet from the poles and 145 feet from the property line
- Maxine inquired about the address of the residence shown in the section drawing since it is the closest one to the field
- Ana Nicolich reported later in the meeting that the residence is 4733 Berkeley Terrace; Maxine stated that it is Liz and Dave Roberts' house
- Maureen presented a longitudinal section in the opposite direction through the field that showed three poles
- Maureen highlighted that the buffer of trees and topography would shield light from W Street residences
- The longitudinal site section shows 170 feet from the edge of the field to the campus property line and from there another 45 feet to the closest residence on W Street

Athletic Field Fixtures

- Maureen presented examples of different light fixture types that would be mounted to the poles - the fixtures would be LED, adjustable so that they could be aimed down towards the field, and have glare shields at the top
- Maxine commented that there appears to be a lot of light from one pole
- Maureen responded that each pole could have 4 or 6 fixtures
- Maureen also showed a photo of a sports field lit at night where the contrast between a brightly lit field and darkness past the field perimeter/turf was evident
- Brian clarified that perhaps 10 feet or so of light spillage is occurring in the photo
- Brian suggested that the group have a field visit to see a live example

Path Lighting

- Maureen presented the typical path light bollard which would be a 45" tall, 19W, LED fixture that is GW's standard
- She explained that the bollards are not full cutoff fixtures but that light would allow facial recognition and would provide a safer path for people moving between buildings

Discussion/Q&A

- David Roberts commented that the community does not have the capability to assess the lighting impact that was presented; he suggested that they may need to hire a third-party advisor
- David questioned why the additional lighting is needed
- Brian explained that GW Athletics (Tanya Vogel, Andrew Lundt) have a vision for night games and expanded use of the fields to meet GW needs along with requests from the local community
- Tanya Vogel has explained GW Athletics' intent in the Safety and Community Life meetings
- Brian added that the intent of this meeting is to focus on the facilities impact to support the enhanced athletics program
- Maxine commented that Tanya had committed to providing information on the maximum number of night games, the anticipated noise and light levels for this meeting
- Brian clarified that the information will be provided in the next Safety and Community Life Meeting on 7/28
- Maxine sought an explanation for the arrangements for leasing out the field to other users at night – what will be the number of games and how late will the games run
- Andrew Lundt stated that they are working on assembling the requested information; he confirmed that the fields will be used for varsity athletics, evening games and community use
- Andrew also stated that there is also a desire to accommodate GW intramural club sports who struggle to find fields to use and that there are many local user groups looking for fields including The Lab School, OLV, St. Pat's, and Bethesda Lacrosse
- Brian stated that Tanya will provide this information in the 7/28 meeting
- Maxine commented that the two working groups do not seem to be adequately integrated with each other
- Brian responded that moving forward we will combine the two working groups into one
- Maxine inquired about the plan for lighting the path that leads to Hand Chapel
- Maxine stated that there was a path constructed 2 weeks ago from Hand Chapel to the waste weir west of 46th Street that a significant number of trees were removed to build the pathway
- Brian stated he was not aware that trees were removed and that he would be on site the following day to investigate the condition
- Maxine reiterated that she would like to know the total number of events the fields would host - varsity games, leased field games, student use games
- Maxine requested the maximum decibel levels the events will generate
- Brian responded that Andrew is working on assembling the information and that we want to be sure we comply with DC regulations before sharing
- GW hopes to have the noise level information for the 7/28 meeting
- David Roberts asked again why the additional athletics programming is needed other than to generate revenue
- Andrew acknowledged a revenue component but noted that local schools will benefit from having access to fields in the evening in addition to GW club sports such as

cricket and field hockey, non-varsity sports, Division 1 sports, AT10 sports, NCAA events and games that can be broadcast.

- Andrew added that the expanded access/use of the fields will allow for GW Athletics to gain national exposure
- David noted his observation that the fields do not get a lot of daytime use and there is availability
- Andrew explained that GW students are in classes during the day
- Andrew stated that GW does not generate revenue from club sports and added that clubs are going elsewhere because they cannot find space on GW campuses
- David requested to see the details on how late games would run, what times, the number of events, the parking plan and where parents/spectators would stand in order to get closer to having consensus
- David requested to see statistics on how many schools in the A10 conference have the ability to host night games
- David stated that larger events are a negative to the adjacent neighbors and that he feels that revenue generation from third party leases is driving the changes
- Derrick requested a holistic approach to the presentation that includes facilities and athletic field operations
- Brian responded that moving forward we will combine the two working groups into one for a holistic approach

Next Steps

- Brian stated there would be a slide added to future presentations showing the top reasons for the enhanced athletics programming
- Brian stated that a matrix will be provided that compares special event occurrences with related lighting and sound/noise impact
- Brian reviewed the milestones including that GW intends a fall submission but has until December to submit the plan
- Brian thanked everyone for their participation and expressed intent to hold a combined working group meeting on 7/28