



Notetaker Name: Jason Northrop

Date & Time: 4-22-24 / 6:00 pm

of Participants @ Table: 6 participants

1a. The maps on the table show some of the existing community facilities located around the site. Are there other community-serving uses, functions, or spaces that should be considered for this site as an alternative to housing?

Facilitator Prompt: a) How do you use the current Rec Center, Government center, and other community facilities?

Facilitator Prompt: b) What community amenities are missing and how would you use them?

Introductions:

At our table Tim, Cheri, Kevin, Darrell and Cathy, and Daniel

Kevin – Resident, neighborhood

Cathy – Resident, concerned about the capacity at the schools, Do we have the same things in each community

Darrell [REDACTED] Resident, since 93' Like the friendly atmosphere of our neighborhood. We still have backroads.

Daniel - Franconia Vol. Fire Department, Secretary of the volunteer fire department, Resident, long time resident, min. amount of public funding for equipment, but primarily funded through other means.

Tim – Vol. fire department chief, provide our own apparatus and equipment. Need more space for training and apparatus. My neighborhood is a mature complete neighborhood. We are fully developed.

Cheri – Long term residence, opposed to any residence across the street.

General: We as a group were not happy that the 2 topics were regarding housing, and it is clear that a decision has already been made, the 2 meeting are presented that what are alternative .

Tim - I propose that we knock down the Franconia Government center site, be knocked down and make way for a new vol. Fire department. We want to receive the PowerPoint to this meeting and previous meeting.

Kevin - I do not want resident housing on this site, people are running across Franconia Road. There will be a pedestrian death. I have personally witnessed 5 accidents in this area. Housing is at capacity. VFD Franconia Fire department, park, something to accommodate my child with special needs. We don't have the physical space to accommodate any type of housing. Affording housing is great, we want it, but in an area that can support.

General: Beulah street is also a concern for pedestrian crossing. 7-11 is across the street on Franconia and it's going to drive children and others across the dangerous road. Fire department is option walking to the intersection of Franconia Rd and Beulah st. to assist with a car accident. Accidents frequently happen and so many dear death accidents. We already are at capacity, and we already have trailers at Franconia elementary. 4-6pm there is a parking lot of traffic. Every day, there 4-6 calls that require fire trucks to have to drive over curbs and into traffic to respond to emergencies quickly. Recent shooting at McDonalds. Coming from Franconia and Beulah st from Came down to Van Dorn and there were 14 cycles of the 19 traffic light sections, it takes forever. FFX Planning commissions at Franconia school they had to bring in a police escort to be able to cross the road safely and that was a meeting of 150 citizens people that needed to safety cross the street. This was to help decide the future of the Rose hill shopping center, Darrel saw that 2 people almost got hit. There is no viable parking for any housing development. Intersection crossing is always abided by lawfully, people will jaywalk when the cross walks are 50 yards away from them.



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3 things to share: Alternative location for the Fire Department and eventual expansion of the fire department, secondary is a park, Trade Skill and training center; supporting people of all ages, a space for non-profits.



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2a. If this site was redeveloped for multi-family homes to serve a range of incomes, what design elements, amenities, and improvements (pedestrian or transportation) could be incorporated into the development plan to make it fit best into the neighborhood and create a quality living environment?

Facilitator Prompt: a) Think about elements like open space, mobility issues, community facilities. What else do we need on this site and/or immediately adjacent to the site?

General: We are not advocating for housing; we abstain from answering. Housing is what is being asked to be discussed, but we are not being asked to see how the land will be used, but how housing will be made possible. Why would we choose amenities for the people who would live there, and it wouldn't even be for the community only the renters.

If I had a wish, we would want to have an independent vote to see what each of us want.

I would like to see a 8 bay fire house unit, with proper amenities along with offices for fire officers and temp offices for county workers that interact with the VFD, and fire fighter housing.

The premise is, they want housing here, but that is not what we want, it sounds pre-decided and it is an offense to our intelligence. These meetings divide people into smaller groups, they take feedback, and they get it, and we leave. We do not trust the process; they have already made up their mind.

We do not recommend multi-family homes. There is not the traffic, car parking, and road ways to support it.

We could use a trolley, tram or other public transportation to move people.

We have the feeling that we can say what we don't want for this community, but Mr. Lusk will do what he wants too anyways. At the last meeting, he said we will have another meeting, he said we will have the housing people there and we feel that shows he is not interested in listening. This format of this meeting takes away from the engagement. We are being broken down into smaller groups just takes us from directly discussing things and redirects the heat to the facilitators but further from the ones who needs to hear it.

This format limits our voice, by only taking 1 speaker at a time from a table, and then ask tables not to repeat, it limits how many people will see. With basis, with facilitators, it will influence our decisions in a public forum. If they stick to what they said, then the supervisor said he would review the data and only see a remark mentioned once, not speaking to the true number of people of felt a need.



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1b. Mobility: How would you like to see mobility improved in the surrounding community?

- *How do you get around this area? What are some of the issues you have encountered?*
- *What does an ideal streetscape look like to you?*

Facilitator Prompt: a) Types of Mobility:

- *Do you walk around the neighborhood? If so, what is your experience walking?*
- *Do you have concerns about pedestrian safety, if so, what has made your experience unsafe?*
- *Do you bike in the area? If so, what is your experience biking?*
- *Do you use mass transit? If so, how often?*

To make a left onto Francona rd. going south, it would take forever. The traffic is bad. We have no space to widen the road. You can smell the gas fumes from your house. The church has a retaining wall as well restricting the road widening.

Bike lanes, no spaces, and they already have some bike lands on Beulah. Bike lanes are control in by VDOT. There is concerns about using the bike lane. There are intersections that have 19 lights and crossing them is dangerous and some have limited ability to cross.

Watching the teachers crossing the Beulah from the church to Franconia is very dangerous for teachers because there is no accessible crosswalks at certain parts. Crosswalks from the Franconia government site has no good crosswalks to the shopping center. The crosswalk is too far away. The VFD has block the road when the children come visit from Franconia Elementary to keep them safe.

The concerns are that if we build it and make it bigger, the traffic is said to get reduced, but it only every increases.



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2b. Recreation: What recreational activities or spaces would this neighborhood benefit from?

Facilitator Prompt: Types of Recreation: Do you use the parks in the area? How?

- *Gathering/meeting spaces – what groups are getting together to meet? For what types of activities?*
- *Dog Park – where do you currently take your dog, what are the limitations?*
- *Playgrounds – what play facilities are missing for children?*

Recreational options for teens would be nice, or a green space behind the Franconia government center. If we have a teen center it will need parking. Kids could bike, or have a skate park, but there is a concern for parking. Tennis is accessible through the high school and a near by park.

If it's a park, what about people with disability, how could they get in there.

Kids have no where to go.

The land that forms a triangle from Grovedale drive, Franconia rd. and Beulah St. could be redeveloped into a major community site with food banks, parking, Reston town center like minded development, community center. There was a planned housing development on the south side but it has been paused.

We should know how all the surrounding spaces are going to be redeveloped. We need that to make informed decisions and better understand the impact to our area.