



**CITY OF FREDERICKSBURG  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
TRAIN STATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
December 6, 2019  
5:00 p.m.**

**715 Princess Anne Street  
Room 214**

**MEMBERS**

Dave Durham  
Chris Hornung  
Jim Pates

**STAFF**

None Present

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

**2. PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE**

The Members summarized the purpose of the Committee as follows:

- a. to study the current condition and operations of the Fredericksburg train station and its impact on the quality of life for Fredericksburg residents, tourism, and economic development of the City;
- b. to research the ownership and control of the discrete elements of the station and its property;
- c. to review previous studies, ordinances and initiatives related to future improvements to the train station and surrounding land uses;
- d. to understand the governmental and non-governmental authorities having jurisdiction over future improvements on or adjacent to train station property;
- e. to understand the legislative and non-legislative processes required to realize future improvements on, or adjacent to, the train station property;
- f. to develop an expanded discussion of the train station and the topics listed above for inclusion in the proposed Small Area Seven plain the City's Comprehensive Plan; and
- g. to forward recommendations to the Planning Commission for the advancement of future improvements to the train station and its surrounding properties.

### 3. DISCUSSION

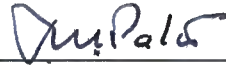
- a. The Members reviewed Staff's draft changes to the Area 7 Small Area Plan (Page 11, Paragraphs 7-9) relevant to the train station and determined that the changes provided a positive foundation for future train station improvement initiatives. The Members will provide Staff with minor grammatical corrections identified in its review. Mr. Pates suggested working with Staff to develop a chart identifying past and projected future ridership growth and freight traffic to provide a basis for determining future station improvements.
- b. The Members discussed the ***DC to Richmond Southeast High Speed Rail Record of Decision***, dated September 5, 2019, and its recommendation for improvements to the Fredericksburg train station as part of the high speed rail project. The Members discussed reviewing this document more thoroughly prior to the Committee's next meeting.
- c. The Members discussed potential future improvements to the train station to enhance its functionality, ridership, and appearance as a primary gateway into the City, including:
  - i. the addition of bathrooms, waiting areas, and additional elevators;
  - ii. improved communications system and ticketing kiosks;
  - iii. City wayfinding signage for tourists and business visitors;
  - iv. regular bus circular to reduce the demand on surface parking lots surrounding the station;
  - v. considerations for replacing existing surface lots with structured parking to reduce the distance users are required to walk to the station and to make available additional land for economic development/redevelopment opportunities surrounding the station.

### 3. ACTION ITEMS

- a. The Members agreed upon the following action items:
  - i. to invite Erik Nelson, City Transportation Planner, to attend the next Committee meeting to discuss the status of any governmental (City, CSX, FAMPO, VRE, DRPT, FRED, PRTC, etc.) initiatives related to train station improvements currently in the planning or implementation stage;
  - ii. to review the Railroad Station Overlay District in the Unified Development Ordinance and discuss its applicability to the Comprehensive Plan recommendations and the advancement of future improvements to the train station and the surrounding properties;
  - iii. to review the property exchange/acquisition concept discussed by the Janney-Marshall Building property owner at the August 2019 Planning Commission meeting for property that may enable improvements to the entrance to the "Kiss and Ride" lot adjacent to the station; and
  - iv. to review the Economic Development Authority's Strategic Acquisition initiative and its potential applicability to future improvements of properties in the vicinity of the train station property.

#### 4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items to be discussed, the Committee adjourned at 6:00 pm.



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**James M. Pates, Chair**