

EFTF Meeting 7-17-25

Attendees:

Amy Parker

Dan Broder

Kat Schooley

Joanne Waszczak

Hal Metzger

Pam Boozer-Strothers

HES Update:

- PGCPs Construction update potentially coming for August meeting
- Pam Boozer-Strothers said City Administrator was in contact with building team about road closures – any closures will have lots of advanced notice before they happen
- Site is closed off and abatement has begun (asbestos/hazardous materials being removed)
- Swing space update:
 - o PTA instructed to work with school administration to help with transition
 - o Swing space is being setup and underway
 - o Survey supposed to be released soon about bussing needs – lots of anxiety about that in school community since HES is not typically a bus served school
- Not as much turnover communicated to school community thus far (2 teachers relocated)
- Street safety
 - o Jo Waz: Crossing guards are recruited through PG County Police, though they're a different category (not dispatch, not officer)
 - o Dan B: Suggested strategy to help shortage of crossing guards is to advocate to County Council to change that policy and open that employment to people outside of PG law enforcement
 - o Hal M: In the past, City has tried to get additional crossing guards at other schools across the city and much of it comes down to Union contract – union contract doesn't allow for opening position up to non-police employees. Usually the issue that comes up is that they're not close to full staffing for all available positions.
 - o Dan will reach out to County Council to find out what the status is for this agreement and whether it's up for discussion at some point.
- At recent townhall, there were questions about school transportation but the responses were broad and high level, not specific
- Concern: Are there any traffic plans in place on how bus or car traffic will be funneled through the site during drop-off times?

- Lots of concern from local residents near swing space about how traffic was handled with Purple Line construction – worried about traffic going through their neighborhood roads
 - Dan to pursue answers from PGCPs before August meeting
- School community also very curious about the flow of traffic – if that info can be released sooner rather than later – lots of anxiety stemming from the unknowns about the whole situation. Community would benefit from additional outreach from PGCPs about what that looks like.
- Stakeholder group has not had any meetings – originally promised early July. Kat to follow up with Dr. McKee for updates.
- Pam update:
 - Raising the concern that we need to see the same kind of community engagement for these projects that existed for HMS
 - Having the building start demo without these updates is a big miss – we need to see this from the new developer for this project. Thanks to the EFTF for front lining this effort.
- Game plan:
 - Continued engagement with PGCPs team
 - Continued communication with community
 - Continue pursuing more info re: swing space and transportation
- More communication is necessary for immediate community around site – if we can push any updates to primary Hyattsville communication lines would be beneficial
 - Engage with Emily Strab to get in touch with St. Jerome's community
 - Connect with Kit Slack (editor of Hyattsville Life and Times)
 - Construction themed series? Canvas Apt, HES, St. Jerome's, etc.
 - Door knob cards were used for HMS to connect people with how to get more info
 - Is the communication coming from PGCPs? Developer? Need clarity – during HMS, it was the developer funding and implementing these strategies
- Hyattsville Elementary School Groundbreaking Ceremony on Monday, August 5 at 9:30am