



# County of Fairfax, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** August 18, 2016

**TO:** File

**FROM:** Deepak Bhinge, Project Manager  
Building Design Branch

**SUBJECT:** Springfield Multi-Use Parking Garage  
Fund 400-C40011, Project ST-000033-001  
Minutes – Public Information Meeting

Meeting Date and Time: August 17, 2016. 7 pm  
Location: Richard Byrd Library,  
7250 Commerce Street, Springfield, VA 22150

### Attendees

Joan Clark, Staff Assistant, Lee District  
Marlae Schnare, Senior Legislative Aide, Springfield District  
Tom Biesiadny, Director, Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT)  
Michael Guarino, Project Coordinator, Capital Projects Section, FCDOT  
Karen Payne, Transit Services Division, FCDOT  
Stuart Boggs, Transit Services Division, FCDOT  
Elizabeth Hagg, Office of Community Revitalization  
Pat Rosend, FCPA  
Toni Ogurcak, Section Manager, Building Design Branch (BDB)  
Deepak Bhinge, Project Manager, BDB  
Steven Schwartzman, WDG  
Susan Garcia, WDG

Public: See attached Sign-In Sheet for attendees

The following questions/comments were raised at the meeting. County responses provided at the meeting are in italics below.

1. Are there restrooms available for use at the garage?  
*There are restroom at the ground level for staff use only. Restrooms on the roof top will be available for use only during community events.*
2. Will the Pedestrian Bridge impact any of the crosswalks on Old Keene Mill?  
*Existing crosswalks across Old Keene Mill Road are planned to remain in place.*
3. Users from parking garage going east on Old Keene Mill may use neighborhood roads causing congestion and safety issues, the roads are already very narrow, particularly when vehicles are parked.  
*This travel pattern is not the primary planned means of exiting. Further review and analysis of the traffic study will take this into consideration.*



4. Will electric car charging outlets be available?  
*Infrastructure will be provided for future installation. They most will likely be on the second and/or third level.*
5. Will there be onsite security?  
*Currently, the need and funding for onsite security is being determined. There will be cameras provided on all levels. There is an area adjacent to the connector office which can support onsite security.*
6. What is the cell phone range in the parking lot, particularly on the top floor? Any interferences from the proposed vertical fins?  
*Cell phone range is expected to be available without any interference. The vertical fins planned for the exterior walls of the garage are expected to help with the signals.*
7. Church Representative – Are there any noise issues/acoustic measures to be implemented between the church and the garage? Also, will there be maintenance provided between the two property boundaries? Currently not being maintained properly.  
*Noise study will determine impact and recommend any measures required. Property between church and garage will be maintained.*
8. Will parking be provided during construction and where?  
*Plan is to provide off-site parking during construction. Evaluation of locations and agreements will be pursued. It is too early in the process to start lease negotiations. Sufficient prior notifications will be provided to commuters about the alternate arrangements.*
9. Will there be shuttle service to the Metro Station?  
*Service is a possibility and will be considered. Service will be provided to Huntington Metro and Franconia-Springfield Metro via Fairfax Connector 310. The planned Fairfax Connector Route 313 will provide service to Franconia-Springfield Metro Station.*
10. Who are the current users? Do you have data on usage – vehicular, pedestrian, etc., where they come from and where do they go?  
*The vast majority of the users are within 5 mile radius of similar facilities, but the county has not done a study at this location.*
11. What destinations will be served by the Metro buses?  
*Destinations served by Metrobus include the Pentagon, the Rolling Valley Mall Park & Ride, and the Keene Mill Heights neighborhood.*
12. Will the County continue leasing the current parking spaces?  
*The intent is to consolidate all the different parking spaces being leased by the County into this garage. No final determination has been made yet on how many, if any, leased spaces would remain.*
13. Parking system proposed by garage, will that provide the number of open spaces and location, like Tysons?  
*Still being determined. Likely not as advanced as Tysons.*
14. Who will maintain the restrooms?  
*For top floor restrooms, open during events only, maintenance may be provided by the vendors. County to consider if the bottom floor restrooms (for staff use only) be opened*

*during community events. The County will have overall maintenance responsibility for the garage, including the restrooms.*

15. What hours will the garage be open?

*Garage and pedestrian bridge are planned to be open for 24 hours. Closing the roof top level at night time may be considered.*

16. Will there be a fee to park in the garage?

*Parking will be free when the garage opens up per current County policy. The garage is designed for a pay system that can be opened up later if required.*

17. American Legion Representative – Will the buffer wall between the American Legion and the parking garage remain, and can it be extended further?

*Current design includes a wall on part of the boundary. County will evaluate.*

18. How many cars can be accommodated in the slug lanes inside garage if there is a back-up going right (east) on Old Keene Mill?

*Current design will allow a queue of at least 15 cars.*

19. Is there an elevator on the Pedestrian Bridge landing?

*Yes.*

20. Access to parking garage upper levels (long term parking) for bus commuters?

*Yes. There are elevator and stairs close to the bus lanes.*

21. How can passengers be dropped off?

*Short term parking spaces available for kiss and ride. Or the slug lanes can be used to drop off passengers also.*

22. Has there been any data collected on the traffic counts after the garage is built, particularly for the long term parking users?

*Yes, a traffic study has been conducted to evaluate all the traffic counts on Old Keene Mill and Springfield Boulevard.*

23. Some accidents have been reported on distracted driving on Old Keene Mill turning right into church. Do you think this will increase?

*There will be exit only onto Old Keene Mill. As a result, cars entering the garage will have to turn onto Springfield Boulevard.*

24. With number of spaces increasing from current 285 spaces to more than 1000 spaces, would that impact traffic significantly?

*Traffic counts for Springfield Blvd and Amherst (going south) are available, for AM and PM, and have shown minimal impact.*

25. Is the County looking at leasing some space in Springfield Plaza for commuters to drop off and pick up passengers/sluggers?

*County will evaluate continued leasing.*

26. Will the construction be phased?

*No. All levels are planned to be built in one phase, due to safety considerations.*

27. Is the County planning on acquiring some of the vacant car lots for parking during construction?

*Too early in the process, but the County will evaluate.*

28. Traffic flow in the afternoon will be a challenge. Already residents are facing congestion problems.  
*The transit center is intended to reduce cars on the road, and may help alleviate the congestion. Further review and analysis of the traffic study will take this into consideration.*
29. Is County considering any ramps to come into the garage from Old Keene Mill?  
*None planned. County traffic consultants evaluated several traffic patterns, and with the tight footprint, have proposed the best available option.*
30. How will the issue of vehicles making U-turns at Springfield Boulevard be addressed?  
*Noted and will be evaluated further.*
31. Is any of this presentation available online?  
*County will post the presentation online.*
32. How will the illumination on the roof top and inside the garage addressed?  
*Top level will have event space lighting. All levels and ramps will provide adequate lighting.*
33. Have the neighborhoods been notified about the additional light in the parking garage?  
*This public meeting is intended to inform the neighborhoods about the project. Fins will reduce light spillage. Design will minimize spillage from the garage into the neighboring properties.*
34. One lane making right turn on Old Keene Mill from the garage is a challenge, can we have multiple lanes as at the Springfield Metro?  
*Only one lane planned, and available footprint will allow only one lane. Multiple lanes will require traffic light which is not supported by VDOT.*