

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Joint School Board/County Board Work Session on the FY 2022-2024 Capital Improvement Plan
June 9, 2021

The Arlington School Board convened in a joint work session on Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 4:02 PM. This meeting was held by electronic communications due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, using Microsoft Teams.¹

Present were:

School Board

Monique O’Grady, Chair
Barbara Kanninen, Vice Chair
Reid Goldstein, Member
Cristina Diaz-Torres, Member
David Priddy, Member
Dr. Francisco Durán, Superintendent
Melanie Elliott, Clerk

County Board

Matt de Ferranti, Chair
Katie Cristol, Vice Chair
Libby Garvey, Member
Christian Dorsey, Member
Takis Karantonis, Member
Mark Schwartz, County Manager
Kendra Jacobs, Clerk

Also present were:

Dr. Francisco Durán, Superintendent
Catherine Ashby, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Marcus Gregory, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations
Leslie Peterson, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Management
Lisa Stengle, Executive Director, Planning and Evaluation
Brian Stockton, Chief of Staff
Cathy Lin, Director, Facilities and Operations
Jeff Chambers, Director, Design and Construction
Ben Burgin, Assistant Director, Design and Construction

Mr. de Ferranti called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM, introduced the members of the County Board, and welcomed attendees. Ms. O’Grady thanked the County for hosting the meeting and introduced School Board members. Ms. O’Grady also gave an overview of the Arlington Public Schools presentation.

Dr. Durán presented a summary of the School Board proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), noting that the plan manages resources that honor the community’s investment in APS and instruction and resumes work that was put on hold during the pandemic. Ms. Peterson then presented the School Board’s Proposed FY 2022-2024 CIP, describing the projects and funding sources for each project. She reviewed the enrollment capacity projects in the CIP, as well as other projects that APS has planned to maintain the current facilities. She then reviewed the bond funding and the debt service ratio for the proposed CIP. She also highlighted the timelines for the projects in the CIP.

Ms. Lin provided details of the major infrastructure projects in the CIP that will maintain the schools and operations. These include HVAC, electrical, and building envelope projects, as well

as planned synthetic turf field replacements. Mr. Burgin described the kitchen renovations and upgrades that are included in the proposed CIP, noting that this work will bring the kitchens up to current standards and will accommodate the division's move from a central kitchen to on-site food preparation. He also described planned work to improve access at The Heights for Shriver program students and families, as well as other amenities for students at the facility.

Mr. Chambers presented the Career Center Campus proposal, which includes relocating Arlington Community High School (ACHS), constructing a new Career Center building at the current Montessori School site, and building a new facility for a PreK to Grade 8 Montessori program. He outlined the project phases, described community benefits, and highlighted community engagement to be conducted as this work takes place. In closing the presentation, Ms. Stengle spoke to future collaboration with the County on plans and projects that will support long-term growth, and Ms. O'Grady reviewed the master chart of projects and funding in the proposed CIP.

Ms. Maria Meredith presented the County Manager's Draft FY 2022-2024 Capital Improvement Plan, outlining guiding principles in the development of the CIP and referencing aspects of the CIP development that reflect the impact of the pandemic on the normal process and funding. She spoke to funding sources, highlighted ongoing projects, and summarized the components of the CIP. Mr. Greg Emanuel then presented a Trade Center optimization plan update, speaking to the challenges at that location. In closing, Ms. Meredith reviewed the County's CIP timeline.

The Boards discussed how County plans for field replacement are managed, and the group appreciated this opportunity to collaborate. Ms. O'Grady provided more detail on opportunities for collaboration incorporated in the CIP in terms of the use of joint funds, bonding capacity, a long-term location for ACHS, collaboration on Transportation for CC and ACHS, and updates on the plan for the Columbia Pike Library.

The group discussed various aspects of the two CIPs, including how economic recovery informed development of the CIPs, more information on School Board plans and timelines for the Career Center project, and the projected APS debt capacity in the out years of the CIP. Also discussed were creative approaches to future planning for schools such as using buildings differently and expanding virtual learning as part of the instructional model. In addition, possible expansion around Carlin Springs, changes to simplify the use permit process, and the impact of development throughout the County on future planning and school capacity w. The group also discussed in more depth the Career Center site. Mr. de Ferranti also spoke to highlights of the County CIP that will continue to be refined. Both Chairs thanked the staff and Board members for their participation in the discussion.

The meeting adjourned 5:59 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Monique O'Grady, Chair
Arlington School Board