

City-BCPS Coordinating Committee Meeting on School Construction

January 15, 2014

Attendees: Planning- Tom Stosur, Laurie Feinberg, Theo Ngongang, Jessica Varsa, Sara Paraniham, Travis Pate, Jamie Williams and Melissa Oguamanam; Schools – Michael Sarbanes, Lynette Washington, Keith Scroggins, Larry Flynn, Laura Kiesler; Mayor’s Office Kym Nelson and Colin Tarbert; Stadium Authority – Eric Johnson and Joe Mayzck; Rec and Parks – Kate Brower and Tracy Estep; Baltimore Housing – Peter Engel; State Planning – Peter Conrad

1. Introductions
2. Coordinating Committee—Open Meetings Act Considerations – There was much discussion about whether these coordinating meetings would or should be open. Concern was expressed that if they are open to the public they would inhibit open discussion and would lead to issues being prematurely disclosed that really needed to be worked out among the MOU parties first. Two options were discussed: 1) not open as it is a work group and not a decision making body; or 2) open for public to listen/observe. Executive committee will review and make a decision.
3. Abell Foundation Design Competition Proposal – There is a standing offer from the Abell foundation to run and support design competitions for any number of the new schools to be built. MSA/BCPS would not be obligated to hire winning architect. The purpose from Abell’s perspective is to improve the overall architectural quality of new buildings in Baltimore. There are concerns about how it would impact costs and procurement processes. School system would like to find a way to respond positively to the offer. Larry, Eric and Laurie will review the schools list and suggest two-three schools that may work. The goal would be a letter back to Abell in the next month.
4. Update on Ten-Year Plan/Amendments (City Schools) Laura presented the update to the ten year plan as a result of December 17th Board meeting. There were a few questions from rec and parks regarding pool at Vivien Thomas- it will be available for at least three more years. Link Here to updated [plan](#)
 - a. Update on surplus buildings- The City received the January 14, 2014 study that recommended closure of FAST in the Canton building and surplussing the Paquin building at 2200 Sinclair Lane and the CORPS modular building at 5000 Gwynn Oak Ave. The City will have their response letter within 30 days per MOU.
5. Updates on Design/Construction Schedule & Process (City Schools)
 - b. Update on Feasibility Studies for Year 1 Schools- They are being prepared for final draft and Schools will review with Planning, Housing Parks etc. on Jan. 21 and 28th as scheduled. The eight schools finalized are;
 1. Fort Worthington -2701 E Oliver St
 2. Lyndhurst -621 Wildwood Pkwy, Baltimore, MD
 3. ACCE/Poole - 1300 E 36th St, Baltimore, MD 21211
 4. John Eager Howard - 2011 Linden Ave, Baltimore, MD 21217
 5. Frederick Elementary – 2501 Frederick Avenue
 6. Forest Park HS - 3701 Eldorado Ave, Baltimore, Maryland 21207
 7. Pimlico – 4849 Pimlico Road
 8. Arlington- 3705 W Rogers Ave, Baltimore, MD 21215

The remaining year one schools to have feasibility completed are Lake Clifton, Patterson HS and the three Cherry Hill Schools that will be combined to two.

- c. Design process for Year 2 schools (feasibility studies, etc.) – Ed Specs will be finished and then go right into feasibility. Orientation meetings are starting. Link [Here](#) to meeting schedules

In addition the Stadium Authority is completing an RFP for a pool of architects available for school design and future feasibility studies. This should be out next week and completed by March or April. Design will start in June for Year 1 buildings. [LINK TO RFP](#)

- d. Update on work with Family League and community schools- Michael explained that family League has brought on additional staff to prepare for the Year one schools that are not yet community schools. They will run the process, do needs assessments look at assets etc.
6. Update on Neighborhood Planning around School Sites (Planning) Tom presented that the Mayor has given tentative approval on a plan to move forward on limited neighborhood plans around first year schools. They will begin with the community partnership meetings and spin off from there. Planning will lead and initiate discussion with other agencies, mostly Housing, Rec and Parks and DOT to discuss available tools and budgets so we can develop practical, implementable plans. Housing also expressed concerns about managing expectations. Planning will also work with City Schools and the Family League to organize a large meeting of citywide non-profit and City agency service providers and key stakeholders to review the entire scope of the School Construction program for Years 1-3 and encourage providers to link up with various site and neighborhood-specific design and planning exercises.
 7. Update on Recreation Uses at New/Renovated Schools -BCRP expressed concern about timing on when rec centers in year 1 schools would go off-line – not summer 2014, more likely summer 2015. They also wanted as much notice as possible on schools closing with attached rec centers.
 8. Other Considerations
 - a. Program Wide LEED/Sustainability Consultant - MSA will be bringing someone on-board to oversee and make sure they have a good plan. MSA would like Planning to develop a List of project Goals/Considerations.
 - b. Public Art (Planning/MSA) – MSA will bring a consultant in to oversee this as well. Again MSA would like a project Goals/Considerations for what should be done. Planning will work with BOPA.
 - c. Other Issues/Updates (All)
 9. Wrap-up & Next Steps
 - a. Concern was expressed about improving communications with this group. To improve that;
 - i. All attendees should send planning additional people to be added to email list for this group Jaime.cramer@baltimorecity.gov
 - ii. All attendees should review today's minutes and add links for the detail info.
 - iii. Next meeting – when agenda goes out in draft, please add links to additional information that members would need for a productive meeting.
 - b. Executive Committee will review and decide on open meetings
 - c. Planning/MSA/BCPS will draft a response proposal to Abell
 - d. BOPA will follow-up on public Art goals/considerations

e. Planning will follow-up on sustainability goals/considerations