

# Baltimore City Schools Coordinating Committee Meeting on School Construction: Agenda

January 18, 2023

Prepared by Jaffa Weiss and Eli Pousson, Department of Planning.

Chris Ryer, Deborah Brooks, Nichole Stewart, Chad Hayes, Eric James, Grisel Munoz, Marissa Berg-Smith, Marie Anderson, Cyndi Smith, Michael McBride, Maureen Gershberg, Kari Nye, Renee Stainrod,

## 1. Introductions.

## 2. Review and Approve October 2022 Minutes

- a. Chris Ryer moves to approve, Seconded, Ms. Brooks
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## 3. Planning, Design, and Construction Coordination

### a. Pedestrian Safety (DOT/DOP)

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- Medfield Heights sidewalk
  - DOP + footways team plan to include Medfield Heights in 2023 contract w/ DOP for sidewalk repairs
    - Eric James: Late spring/early summer for implementation; ADA compliance will be incorporated
- Pick up/drop off accessibility issues at Wildwood E/MS
  - Eli Pousson (DOP) reached out and received info from Sandra Matier (DOT):
    - After meetings with community residents and City Councilman Burnett, DOT installed a temporary median fence w/ emergency funding in 2022 to address the safety issues on Wildwood Parkway
    - DOT believes the fence been effective at reducing the previously reported hazard and recently repaired the fence following a collision in fall 2022
  - Additional context from Will Haynes (DOT) in 12/8/22 email:
    - DOT has already taken all feasible steps (and made “street circulation” recommendations) to help address the spillover impacts of site circulation challenges
    - DOT recommends school leadership explore a different circulation pattern, including the use of Gelston Drive for pick-up/drop-off (despite possible parking impacts)
  - Eli and Eric James (DOT) can contact school leadership to encourage continued attention to prior DOT recommendations and confirm DOT support for using Gelston Drive
  - Eric James: Will Haines suggested that school leadership look at possible alterations to the site itself to address concern (expensive, but an option)

- CR: Does this school have a Community School Coordinator?
  - Unclear, Eli to follow up on who our partner is at WEMS

## **b. Primary Walking Route Improvements (DOT/DOP)**

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- Crosswalks/sidewalks
  - Clea Baumhofer (DOT) is taking on role previously held by John Malinowski (DOT) in coordinating crosswalk improvements for Primary Walking Routes
  - DOP and DOT are finalizing new contract for sidewalk repairs in Feb. 2023 for work beginning late spring/early summer 2023
- ADA ramp installation/repairs
  - DOP INSPIRE staff completed initial survey of ramps and crossings around Commodore John Rodgers EMS and Cross Country on 11/16/2022
    - CR: How are we coordinating traffic calming around new busy entrance for CJR?
      - Eli: Primary entrances are on Fairmont and Washington
    - CR: do we have a scatter diagram of student travel data
      - EP: Yes, grid map of student travel available and shareable
      - MM: DOT is still studying divergent and convergent traffic; school is comfortable with identified entrances; site is challenging (E-W axis has substantial drop)
        - UDAAP presentation on 1/19 will include addressing traffic concerns
      - GM: Is there an opportunity for DOT to provide traffic interventions to calm traffic?
        - EP: Multiple outreach sessions with the community to refine the Primary Walking Routes; crossings at major intersections were flagged for concern; a more comprehensive examination might include traffic calming measures
      - CR: Is there a cycle track on Washington? Would that impact loading?
        - EP: Can follow up regarding this matter
    - Reviewing notes w/ DOT at 1/19/2023 INSPIRE-DOT coordination meeting
    - Expect to begin work on ramp upgrades later this year

## **c. Miscellaneous Issues (DOP)**

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- Water pipe leak at REACH + Harford Heights
  - Chris Ryer contacted DPW staff + DPW staff met w/ BCPSS staff on 12/13/2022
    - CSX line previously flagged as possible issue may not be source; source may be a new storm water pond on east side of the school grounds
    - DOP staff expected DPW to schedule a field visit w/ BCPSS staff for 12/2022 or 1/2023
      - DOP to follow up on results of field visit

#### d. Design issues (MSA/21st Century)

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- Cross Country ES
  - North of 50% completed; some supply chain issues (also across portfolio), but will likely not impact January 2024 completion date
  - Issues in regards to parking
    - RS: 21CS and MSA have worked to minimize contractor parking throughout the neighborhood; trying hard to share limited parking in the neighborhood; working with DOT to mitigate traffic calming measures
    - Constuction site tours are possible upon request
    - CR: Is this in the PCDA area (yes)
    - JW: PWR mapping in process, first step of INSPIRE plan
    - Community appreciates the design and location of structure; not much resistance lately
      - CR: Can be a PCDA project in the future

#### e. Design process (MSA/21st Century)

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- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools
  - Commodore John Rodgers
    - Presented to UDAAP 1/19/23; sight has been challenging; school will swing to the Southeast building, expected completion date of August 2025
    - Replacement building
  - Frederick Douglass-Briscoe
    - Major renovation plus additions
    - Swinging to Garrion during Summer of 2024; kickoff for design in February 1, School scheduled for delivery August 2026
    - Briscoe will stay in location until completion
    - Swinging to the Garrison building; engagement with the surrounding community has begun
    - CR: Routes to school will not be an INSPIRE project; how can we manage the walk to school discussion regarding Frederick Douglass? How can City support this process?
    - Can be reviewed in the design phase; also early involvement with the community; collaborating sooner rather than later will be helpful
    - EJ: Traffic team can review as well
- Feasibility Studies for High Schools
  - City College – Students will swing to Thurgood Marshall Summer of 2024; expect notice to proceed with A&E in March of 2023; expected completion in August of 2027; Major renovation, possibly small additions regarding ADA concerns; active alumni association

- RS: Community engagement – Foundation and alumni network, Principal are involved in order to start programmatically planning; continuing engagement of community surrounding the building; looking into conducting engagement with the local middle schoolers who are potentially attending these schools (feedback on swinging temporarily to these buildings)
  - Goal of swing space to accommodate the academic programming of the school
- CR: Alameda side of City, there are high speed turn lanes at 33<sup>rd</sup> and Kirk and Alameda; previously talked about closing them for traffic calming; school indicated a need for a storm water management pond at 33<sup>rd</sup> and Alameda, is this still a need?
  - Unaware of need at the moment, MSA will follow up
- CR: Future conversations about connecting Morgan Campuses and City
  - Marie Anderson: Regional Transit Plan by MDOT; might include connectivity issues in the area
- Poly-Western
  - IAC is processing the P-W submission for feasibility study; concurrently going to GAB variance process; IAC meeting for BTO approval and GAB variance approval, March 2023
  - Assuming everything goes well with IAC, expect an issue to proceed to A&E in May 2023
  - Project is scheduled for completion August of 2028; major renovation plus addition; Poly students will swing to the Northwestern Building, Western will swing to Chinquapin Building; school is interested in what the swing space will look like to be able to deliver academic program, efforts to ensure this can happen are underway
  - RS: Principal is to be scheduled for a swing space building tour at the end of the month; CHAI and Councilman Schleifer’s office coordinating to present a meeting on project status and swing spaces
  - DOP can assist with Poly-Western
  - With whom should the Poly foundation meet to discuss the A&E process to incorporate a future STEM lab space?
    - Primary contact person would be Renee Stainrod (community partnership development)
  - Both school facilities expected to swing in Summer of 2025
- Construction Schedule Update
  - None, except Cross Country (50 percent completion)
  - Highlandtown #237 and Montebello had successful openings, well attended dedication ceremonies

#### 4. Community Engagement Coordination

##### a. INSPIRE Program (DOP)

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- Plans moving to review and adoption
  - John Ruhrah EMS INSPIRE Plan briefing to Planning Commission in February 2023
  - REACH + Harford Heights INSPIRE Plan briefing to Planning Commission in April 2023
- Ongoing outreach for in progress plans
  - Govans ES
  - Cross Country EMS (PWR)
  - Northwood ES
  - Highlandtown EMS

##### b. 21st Century Schools (21st Century)

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- Cross Country – Community meeting to be scheduled for mid February
- Northwood – Discussion of Marqui Sign with parent; not in original design but there are partnerships and funding opportunities to present to the community
  - Monument signs would need review and acceptance by City Schools (example: sign at Govans ES)

#### 5. Review Follow-up Items

a. Jaffa to update the listserv for Quarterly Meeting

b. Eli to follow up with Renee on Northwood sign

c. DOP to discuss coordination of DOT discussions in the absence of an INSPIRE plan, both permanent and swing facilities

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- Eli/Jaffa to set up meeting, will follow up at DOT/INSPIRE meeting
- CJR (Swing space only)

d. Chris will have follow up information form DPW by next meeting

e. Eli/Jaffa to contact Will Haines about DOT meeting

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**\*\*Tours of school developments are available upon request\*\***

Next scheduled Coordinating Committee meeting: **Wednesday, April 19, 2023, 9:00 am**