

Downtown Construction Roundtable
Monday, June 29, 2009 4:00 p.m.

Attendees: Bob Batchner, Cathy Coleman, Paul Fillion, Lauren Harris, Jack Kavanaugh, Mary Miller, John Sires, Heather Stein, Tiffany Swindell, Ken Turner, Fred Schneider, Rod McLeod, Sarah Parker, Pamela Marino, Steve McCurdy, James Toscano, Jim Hughes, Jennifer Macgregor, Joe Branning, Tamara Poulson, Baxter Simmons, Tom Ewings, Susan Roenker, Bob Epstein

Bob Batchner, City of Norfolk gave welcome and opening remarks:

Ken Turner, Department of Utilities provided update:

- Construction continues south of Freemason Mews towards College Place
- Dunmore Street water and sewer installed from York Street to Bute Street
- Freemason Street sewer installation continues to progress, 2 months for completion
- Final phase will be to re-install cobblestones

James Toscano, Hampton Roads Transit provided update:

- Curb and gutter work will begin next week on West York Street
- Duke/Bute intersection work will last one extra week due to fibers found from Cavalier Land to Wainwright Building
- The planned change to Monticello Avenue traffic to north bound only did not occur
 - Cathy Coleman stated that we must keep information on closures accurate or people will not even pay attention to them and also requested that Monticello stay open through July 4th holiday north and south bound.
 - James Toscano and Fred Schneider will give direction to keep Monticello open to north and south bound traffic.
 - Monticello Avenue will become one-way northbound beginning Tuesday July 7, 2009
- Kirn Demolition is on schedule and will begin on July 6, 2009, Demo equipment will arrive tomorrow.
 - Joe Branning asked if any traffic lanes will be closed during demolition
 - Tiffany Swindell responded that contractor does not anticipate any lane closures beyond parking lanes, but city of Norfolk inspectors will be on site during demo to ensure safety and determine whether the fence should come back or not.
 - Freda Burns will meet with contractors this week to make sure the turn radius is sufficient at Atlantic and Plume
- Plume Street will become one-way west bound tomorrow morning, police will be there to facilitate traffic, pedestrian access is on north side of street
- Intersection of St. Paul's Blvd/Plume is open.

Open Discussion:

- John Sires made comments about Residence Inn customers/employees parking in Duke Street lot.
 - James Toscano will call and talk to manager but do not want to enforce parking in this lot
 - Sarah Parker is having signs made
 - John Sires has some signs that can be used
 - Fred Schneider stated that parking will be 2 hour but cannot enforce it because it is private property

- Freda Burns stated that she spoke with the manager of Residence Inn and informed that the Duke St lot is for Freemason businesses only
- Baxter Simmons asked why meters were bagged in front of Baxter's
 - Freda Burns stated that they need to be removed and she will have done.
- Baxter Simmons wants to compliment CCS for a job well done, they took a break from working when they seen some of Baxter's customers dining outside.
- Baxter Simmons stated that there was another power outage at his restaurant this week, when claim was denied last time he was told that this was a catastrophic one time event.
 - Freda Burns stated that a circuit failed so they switched it over to another circuit
- Bob Batchner stated that Harborfest is this weekend, fireworks on both nights, and 2 games at Harbor Park

Next Meeting: July 6, 2009

Meeting adjourned at 5:06pm