

**ADEQUATE PUBLIC FACILITIES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

ACTION MINUTES

MEETING OF MARCH 3, 2011

The meeting was convened at 7:02 p.m. All members of the committee were present.

The chair moved, seconded by Eric Siegel, to approve the agenda.

Eric Siegel moved, seconded by Tom Gibney, to approve the minutes for the February 24, meeting. The motion passed by a vote of 8-0-1, with Soo Lee-Cho abstaining.

The meeting began with a presentation and discussion of the background development of the APFO by former Mayor Larry Giammo and former Councilmember John Hall. Mr. Giammo noted that the process began with his first term in 2001, with discussion into 2003. A consultant study was done that formed the basis for the final version of the APFO ordinance and standards that were adopted in November 2005. It was not the intent of the APFO to put the City into a permanent moratorium.

Mr. Giammo felt that the APF test done by the County for schools was too lax, and that is the reason that the City adopted a tighter standard. He felt that the 120% overcapacity number, coupled with the "borrowing" within clusters, just led to overcrowding because the district boundaries never change. They did have at least two meetings with MCPS personnel to discuss the operational and forecasting parameters.

The reason for choosing a two-year window vs. the County's 6-year window was to insure that the needed project would actually be there. Under the County's CIP process, projects can be included, but then deferred.

The philosophical difference in the City's APFO revolves around whether you decide where the growth is going to occur and make sure the infrastructure is there for it; or whether you allow the growth to occur and hope that you can keep up or catch up.

Mr. Hall commented that the fire and emergency services standard is worth a second look. The response time standard was the focus, but there might be good reasons to consider the staffing and equipment availability as well. You also ought to consider the character of the development being served. High-density high-rise requires different resources than single-family residential. He noted that there has never been a direct fire-related fatality in the U.S. in a building with working sprinklers.

The traffic and transportation standard is also worthy of a second look. The CTR provides a more realistic measure than the old Standard Traffic Methodology because it

looks at more intersections. There does need to be further consideration of how transit can affect traffic levels. In that regard, the proposed new Rockville Pike plan is going to have to consider external forces.

It was noted that during this process the City had explored the concept of creating a Tax Increment Financing district in the City, but was rebuffed by the County. In the same vein, a bill to allow municipalities to impose an excise tax, but that too was opposed by the County.

The committee then opened the discussion on the demographics aspects, based on the staff memos supplied in the agenda packet. This discussion will continue at the next meeting.

The chair noted that at the next meeting the agenda should include the continued discussion on demographics, process for public input, and future agenda schedules and topics.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m. on motion by the chair, seconded by Tom Gibney and supported unanimously.