

## Civic League Focus Group

### Meeting Objective:

The purpose of this meeting was to provide an overview of the RAMP process; review the draft active transportation and transit networks; discuss conceptual alternative for Atlantic Avenue; and show the proposed Summer 2021 pilot projects. The intent was to gather input on the draft plans to determine appropriate considerations based on neighborhood questions or concerns.

### RAMP Overview (Slides 3 – 4)

An introduction to the RAMP was provided which covered Data Assembly, Existing Conditions (Challenges and Opportunities), Plan Development, Reporting and Communication, and Community Engagement.

### Proposed Bicycle (Active Transportation) Network (Slides 5 – 14)

Kimley-Horn introduced the proposed active transportation network and discussed the recommended facility types. Generally, the intent of the network recommendation is to create a more connected system with improved north/south and east/west facility types that make the network more comfortable for all ages and abilities while also providing better connections to key destinations.

*Note: Additional slides have been inserted into the presentation from what was presented to help define each network type.*

### Proposed Transit Network (Slides 15 – 20)

Kimley-Horn introduced the proposed transit network. The proposed network: relocates the Transfer Center from Arctic Avenue to the Visitor Information Center at Parks Avenue; shifts all Trolley service to Atlantic Avenue with consolidated stop locations; and introduces a new Trolley route (30T) to provide service to the proposed Transfer Center with additional stops at the Convention Center, Sports Center, and ViBe District. The 30T would operate as a year-round service.

### *Discussion*

- The Civic League expressed concerns over the location of the proposed transfer center being further back into the neighborhood.
  - Several of the items of concern were relevant to the programming and redesign of the site and details that have not yet been identified or studied. For example, what is the transfer structure for tickets, what is the plan for security and site lighting, will it be staffed, what are the hours/timings of the route transfers were all questions asked.
- It was asked why a dedicated stop for the 30T was not considered at MOCA.
- It was asked how late at night the 30T would operate and if considerations could be made to end the route earlier than Route 30 considering potential neighborhood impacts.

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### Atlantic Avenue Concepts (Slides 21 – 24)

Kimley-Horn introduced the recommended alternative for Atlantic Avenue which defines a new curbside zone for activation, loading/unloading, streetscaping, etc. Dedicated active transportation lanes will be added in place of the existing trolley/bike lanes. The vehicle lanes along Atlantic Avenue would be transitioned from curb-to-curb create a chicane/serpentine effect to allow flexibility of where and how the curbside zone is used.

#### *Discussion*

- It was requested that a buffer for the active transportation lanes be considered to help prevent vehicles from trying to use or park in them.

### 2021 Pilot Projects (Slide 25)

Kimley-Horn introduced two pilot projects for the 2021 resort season to include a trolley (Route 30) pilot project and a three to four block curbside zone demonstration.

### General Discussion

- The Civic League indicated their concerns for safety along 17<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup> Streets and what considerations in the plan can be made. It was mentioned that speeding is a constant issue and that pedestrian access to/from Virginia Beach Middle School can hopefully be addressed.
- The Civic League indicated that a letter will be drafted regarding the proposed 4-lane section along Virginia Beach Boulevard through the ViBe District.
- The Civic League expressed concerns over vehicle speeds throughout the entire Resort Area and what can be done to help reduce those. A separate community member is taking lead on identifying those areas and setting up a task force/conversation around what can be done. Kimley-Horn (Kyle Williams) will be included once that meeting is set.
- The Civic Leagues expressed concerns over the Atlantic Park project, potential parking impacts, and how the RAMP was considering that new development.