



## **1st Precinct MPACT Meeting Minutes**

November 19, 2014 - 6:00PM

East District Center

### **Call To Order**

Hope Cousin, MPACT Coordinator

### **Presentation(s)**

- Representing the Department of Public Works was Vassar Sumpter, Trade Supervisor I. He gave a presentation on this year's Leaf Collection Program. Mr. Sumpter explained that the Leaf Collection Program is an extension of Street Cleaning. They pick up leaves twice, with a one to two week break in between pickups and that the Church Hill/Fulton area is scheduled for December 8<sup>th</sup> – December 19<sup>th</sup>. 99% is curb and gutter and the City Ordinance requires that it's removed within a 48 hour period.
- There is no leaf collection when it rains. The same equipment that removes the leaves, is the same equipment that removes the snow and the rain would cause catastrophic equipment issues.
- Mr. Sumpter recommended that residents rake their leaves to the curb line and they are able to put out up to 25 bags.
- 17,000 tons of leaves were collected within the City of Richmond last year, with the majority of them coming from the south side of the city. Church Hill/Fulton had 500 tons last year. He went on to share that even though leaf collection is the goal, street cleaning becomes a necessity.
- The schedule for the second round of leaf collection will come out in January and it will be posted on the City website.
- Representing GRTC was Garland Williams, Director of Planning and Scheduling. Mr. Williams gave a brief overview of his career, including his time overseeing MPACT.

- He went into some brief history of GRTC, including its being 150 years old. He discussed the Bus Rapid Transit in great length and handed out a copy of the projected timeline, project summary (i.e. number of stations, cost), etc.

## Discussion Items

### CAPS Update

- Representing Code Enforcement/CAPS was Mark Bridgman, who gave a brief synopsis of the many changes that continue to happen within Code Enforcement/CAPS. (i.e. instead of four Inspectors and Police officers, there will be two).
- Per the request of Hope Cousin, on behalf of residents from previous inquiries, Mr. Bridgman gave an update on 2200 Burton and 3111 and 3113 E. Broad St. The dirt curb cut is the responsibility of DPW and they have been made aware of this. It is an encroachment issue and DPW can issue a Notice of Violation. DPW must consider vehicular access and whether or not to put the owner on notice. 3111 and 3113 is currently two pages long in the system. The owner has gotten a contractor but nothing has really come of it since January. Mr. Bridgman said that he would bring John Whealton, 1<sup>st</sup> Precinct CAPS Supervisor, into this and see what they can do to expedite correction, notices, and if necessary, going to court.

**Police Update** – Environmental Officer Ford didn't have any updates.

### Public Comment Period

- The residents asked questions, such as:
  - **There is a trash can issue between Pink St. and Venable, as well as, 2407 Harding St. Is there an ordinance that the City can enforce?** Yes, we will contact Bobby Vincent, Deputy Director in DPW.
  - **Is it legal for a homeowner to have blue tarps over their homes for more than six months?** Blue tarps are generally placed for leaks. John Walsh, Operations Manager in Planning and Development Review, will be contacted to get a definitive answer to your question.
  - **Does your more aggressive approach include cracking down on landlords or homeowners who have multiple properties?** Yes.
  - **If the property has been abandoned for four – five years, can they still receive a Notice of Violation?** Yes, the property in question was 2619 E. Grace St.
  - **Who do we contact for a trash can to be placed at the bus stop at 1<sup>st</sup> & Marshall?** DPW and GRTC have been back and forth with this for years. We will let you know when we get a definitive answer.
  - **Do you coordinate the leaf collection schedule with sewer cleaner?** No.

- **Has the 900 block of Williamsburg Rd. sewers ever been cleaned?** We will reach out to Howard Glenn to get a cleaning schedule update in the area.
- **If you ride from one end to the other, how much time is saved?** 15 minutes
- **Will any of the stations intersect with the local buses?** 19 routes travel the route of the proposed BRT map. This will have to change in order for the BRT to be effective.
- **Can anything be done about the frequent traffic jam of three buses trying to get on Leigh St. at the same time?** GRTC can look into that.
- **Can we get an update on the Transfer Station?** The temporary station has added eight shelters and ten trash cans since its initial installation back in April. GRTC is currently working on funding for the permanent Transfer Station.
- **Whatever happened to the plans for Main Street?** Residents, business owners, etc. were concerned about how the Transfer Station would affect the already stagnant flow of traffic on Main Street. They didn't like it and GRTC is currently looking for the best location where most can agree upon.

## **Adjournment**

Hope Cousin informed residents that there would be no meeting in December and thanked residents for their support in 2014. Wishing everyone a happy holiday season and there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:32PM.

**NOTE: All persons scheduled to present is required to bring a minimum of fifteen (15) copies of all handouts to the meeting.**

**Next Meeting: TBD, 6:00PM, East District Center**

**Staff Contact: Hope Cousin, 646-3108 or [Hope.Cousin@richmondgov.com](mailto:Hope.Cousin@richmondgov.com)**

