

Virginia Hospital Center Expansion

Site Plan Amendment (SP #177)

SPRC Meeting #3

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March 8, 2018

Areas of Concern—Traffic and Vehicular Access



Areas of Concern

George Mason Drive:

- Number of vehicular access points to hospital is too great
- Access to homes on west side of George Mason Drive must be preserved and not worsened
- Concerns about the location of left-turn lanes on George Mason Drive, location and width of median
- Pedestrian access, safety, and comfort for those walking along George Mason Drive
- Bicycle access to hospital: use George Mason Drive?
- Transit: ensure sufficient lane width for buses, best locations for bus stops



Areas of Concern

19th Street North:

- Design of intersection with George Mason Drive
- Concerns re: pedestrians crossing George Mason Drive, especially student pedestrians
- Sight lines for westbound traffic on 19th approaching George Mason Drive
- 19th St as yield street, given expected traffic volume increases
- Sidewalk width and placement

Areas of Concern

N Edison Street:

- Number of vehicular access points to garage
- Sidewalk width and placement
- No sidewalks on east side of Edison St



Areas of Concern

Other:

- Provide pedestrian access through VHC campus from George Mason Drive to Edison St
- Pedestrian circulation (safety and wayfinding) among buildings on campus
- Truck access and loading
- Proposed number of parking spaces

Areas of Consensus

- Consolidate number of vehicular access points as much as possible
- Improve internal vehicular circulation on campus: contain vehicular circulation to hospital campus as much as possible
- Do not worsen access for those living on the west side of George Mason Drive
- Ensure pedestrian safety for those crossing George Mason Drive, especially at 19th St N
- Provide minimum 6' sidewalks around the entire site, with standard planting strip, conforming to Arlington County standards
- Provide a safe and visible pedestrian path through the site, connecting George Mason Drive to N Edison St



Further Discussion Needed

On-street parking

Transportation Demand Management

Develop and implement a TDM program that really works. Possibly performance based—actually reduce drive-alone automobile travel to and from the campus.

Replace the existing TDM site plan condition with one that is up-to-date, applicable to the entire campus, and reflects the County's current practice.

TDM Programs and Practices

- A full-time onsite TDM coordinator, whose role and purpose is to provide TDM services to the entire campus and oversight of fulfillment of the TDM development conditions.
- Make transportation benefits equal to employees: provide an equal cash or transit subsidy value to non-drive alone commuters (walk, bike, transit, carpool, vanpool, etc.) as the free parking in the new garage to those who drive.
- Make pre-tax commuter benefits program available to all employees on campus, whether employed by Virginia Hospital Center, a medical practice, or other organization.
- Preferential parking in the new garage for carpools and vanpools.
- Have all TDM programs in place well before construction.



Commuter Store, Crystal City, Arlington