

Public Forum and Local Planning Committee Zoom Meeting Minutes Monday, September 21, 2020 5:30 pm

Members present: Brad Daniel, Kevin Disney, Tabitha Dotson, Catherine Fine, Lisa Mudd, Matt Olsen, Michael Preacely, Sarah Robinson, Stephanie Spires, Alan Stein, Clay Sutherland, Myron Thompson, Killian Timoney, Joshua Williams, Chris Woodall.

Staff and Visitor: Michelle Coker, Marilyn Cunningham, Melinda Joseph-Dezarn, Sherry Price, Chip Sutherland, Ann Samson-Grimes, James Springate, John White.

Melinda began the Public Forum at 5:30 pm. Marilyn Cunningham was the only public member to join the meeting. Marilyn asked *will the new Local Planning Committee (LPC) start with the old District Facility Plan (DFP) or begin from scratch with a new one?* The new committee will review the old DFP and keep what is still relevant. There were no other questions.

Josh Williams called the Local Planning Committee meeting to order 5:34 pm and Sherry took attendance.

Chip Sutherland, Baird Public Finance Bonding Agent

Chip presented on FCPS bonding capacity. He said FCPS is different than most districts because Fayette County is able to provide more funds from our own tax base. How much we can borrow is dependent upon the amount of restricted funds we have. Baird's focus is on restricted funds.

Restricted funds 1) Building fund – capital projects and debt service only

2) State pays \$100 per each child which goes to capital outlay

FCPS has approximately \$40,832,175M in revenue that can be borrowed against. FCPS debt service owed is \$450M. When interest rates are low like they are now, we refund (refinance) existing bond payments. Chip explained a facility plan is about a district's need. A district may have unmet need which is normal. *What is unmet need?* To the extent you have more needs on the facility plan than you have money to pay for it. Melinda displayed the "unmet needs" area on the DFP. Every 2 years School Facility Construction Commission (SFCC) funds are set aside. If FCPS qualifies, they may receive some of those funds. SFCC funds are distributed over a 20 year period and are driven by unmet need.

Michelle Coker, FCPS Director of Child Nutrition

Michelle explained that Child Nutrition (CN) is a \$25M operation. Child Nutrition is self-supporting and pays the district to operate. Michelle told the group Child Nutrition is the largest food chain in Lexington with 65 feeding sites. Child Nutrition receives federal funds for free and reduced students.

How is the organization selected? Is there a bid process? No, not bid. Child Nutrition has about 450 FCPS employees.

Killian Timoney, FCPS Director of Operations

Killian presented FCPS Playground Plan. Of course, safety is the first priority of any playground. He explained we are now looking at and building outside learning space for academics. FCPS already has some vegetable beds, amphitheaters and science trails. Some of these outside spaces are maintained by individual teachers on their own time. Melinda mentioned that outdoor learning environment spaces might be listed under discretionary items on the DFP.

Can these playgrounds be PTA initiatives? Sometimes. It depends upon how long it's been since the playground has been renovated or new playground built.

Do all the outside spaces have to be on DFP? No.

Do Title 1 schools (Breckinridge) have less structures due to lack of fundraising money? No, the template that is used applies to all schools. The standard is for 150 students no matter where the school is located.

Will this template be applied to future projects? Yes.

Does that include the preschool programs? Yes, we do monitor those.

Brad Daniel, Transportation Routing Supervisor

Brad presented information about Liberty Road and Miles Point bus garages. Transportation has a \$24M budget, 250 buses that run 1,500 routes every day. The Liberty Road bus garage is an old facility built in the 1960's. The number of employees and buses have outgrown the Liberty Road space. Besides inadequate parking for the employees, some of the buses are parked on a hill paved with gravel. Some employees have to park in the neighborhood which presents safety issues. Neighbors have called to complain about employee's parking in front of their homes.

Brad explained that Liberty Road bus garage has twice the employees in half the space as the Miles Point garage. Liberty Road has only 2 bus lifts. Miles Point has 4 bus lifts and often buses are taken to Miles Point for service. There is a proposal for Liberty Road to expand to 5 lanes at which time Kentucky Department of Transportation will place a stop light at the entrance of the bus garage. The widening of Liberty Road will also take 40 employee parking spaces.

Is there a schedule that KDE uses for updates at bus garages? KDE emphasis goes mostly to the classrooms.

After reviewing calendars it was decided Thursday, October 8th and Monday, October 19th will be our next meeting dates.

Melinda thanked everyone for joining the meeting.

Josh thanked all the presenters. Josh then made a motion to adjourn and Alan seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm.