

Neighborhood Liaison Committee Meeting 10/6/21

In attendance: Crystal Land (HRS), Jason Langkammerer (HRS), Jerry Mullaney (HRS), Mary Fahey (HRS), Sarah Holliman (HRS, Matt Napoli (Councilmember Thao's office), Rodney Thompson (NSC), Karen Caronna (NSC), Joann Tracht-Lawson (DIA)

Introductions (Crystal Land, Head of School):

Introduction of new Comms Director, Sarah Holliman, and announcement of new Head of School, Rachel Skiffer

Vegetation Management and Facilities (Jerry Mullaney, CFO/COO)

Fire inspections:

Oakland Fire Department completed inspections over the summer and both campuses were found to be in compliance.

- HRS is continuing to maintain campus on both sides
- The School is making every effort to stay compliant throughout the year; not just a crash course before inspections

Question from Joann: Is there an evacuation plan? Is it posted on the website?

- Mary: Yes but it is not posted on the site. Plan is in the School's compliance matrix that goes to the city of Oakland; complete plan has kids names, so for safety reasons we do not share it publicly
- Jerry: HRS will work on getting a copy of the evacuation plan to share with the NLC

Field work:

- Athletic field turf project is underway
- Under the code, work is starting at 7:30 am and is usually done by 3:30 pm. (Code allows work to start at 7:00 am)
- Working on the grading of the field right now, which is one of the noisier and dustiest parts of the project. The work crew is doing a good job of keeping noise and dust down (constant watering, etc.)
- Project scheduled through the end of January, but most of "dirty part" with turf to be done in November/December
- Creating dugouts, etc. is the final part in December/January

Question from Joann: Were there delays?

- Jerry: Yes on getting it started during COVID; permits were hard to get; things that used to take 1-2 months are now taking up to 6 months; pushed the start from Memorial Day to Labor Day
- Parking lot is being used by construction company so we cannot use it for HRS parking
- Students and some teachers are parking at Greek Orthodox parking lot

Question from Rodney: There appear to be many more cars parked on Upper Lincoln than neighbors generally see; mostly belong to students, which has an adverse impact on emergency vehicle access. Why is there not more insight on that?

- Main congestion area up to Greek Orthodox church and big hillside next to the athletic field and down to gatehouse--that is where it is centered
- Mary to circle back to athletic director on parking on the street
 - School is not immune to issues in the Oakland hills (catalytic converter thefts, break-ins, etc.); we have had them in Lots 1, 2 and 3 and in the Greek Orthodox parking lot
 - Joann: When you send out updated instructions, can you share with NLC?
 - Rodney: Helpful include Matt when there are web updates

Transportation Update (Mary Fahey, Director of Neighbor Relations):

- Still a closed campus, no visitors on campus
- Not granting campus access for neighbors just yet; awaiting life to return more to normal
- First few weeks the School was trying to get families acclimated to new procedures
 - At the beginning of the year there was some hesitancy among families to use buses; we have been encouraging students to ride the bus
 - HRS put a few things in place to ease traffic and pick-up
 - LS students get out at 3:05, so those families come and go before US and MS families get out; we want that process complete by 3:30
 - Parents go to Mormon temple staging area not before 3:15
 - MS and US out at 3:20
- Rodney: Not seeing the 5-7 monitors during pick-ups and drop-offs
 - Mary will go out and count them to make sure they all have the vests on
- Rodney: All too frequently the queue extends way up Lincoln even when there are no extenuating circumstances (like a traffic accident); It is a requirement, not an option
 - One observation; there are a lot of buses showing up in the heart of the vehicles that are queued. All within the same 40 minute timeframe. But there should be more attention to implementing more bus ridership. Try to get car pick-ups and bus pick-ups at different times
 - Would like to see more done to have less impact on neighborhood during pickups and dropoffs
 - Rodney: HRS parents still parking below the Gatehouse. Mary: She is trying to get down there herself; sending comms out to parents weekly through weekly parent newsletter; continuing through 4-step process of reporting, mailing letters, making phone calls, etc. School is aware of it and working hard to fix it
 - Parents making U-turns and other bad behaviors
 - Additional monitors at gatehouse during pickups and dropoffs
 - In the past, individuals who are reporting on it and engaging with parents seems to have worked in the past. Mary: working with a new company; one of new monitors will be down further on Lincoln and surrounding streets
- Karen: Regarding Big 10 rules, are they still in use with regards to Potomac corridor?

- Avoid use of that corridor if possible
- In our Family Field Guide
- Karen Caronna traffic questions:
 - How are we doing on the 27% mandate? Pre-Covid numbers were pretty good; we are at the 27% threshold but not as good as pre-Covid
 - Was queue monitored for a 2 week period?
 - Mary: Yes and it has all been sent off to the city of Oakland
 - Karen: Why are reports not posted?
 - Mary: The requirement is to send it to the city of Oakland; people can request to see it
 - Karen: Would like to see timely posting of scheduling and activities; website needs to be updated on a timely basis
 - Mary: special events have been updated
 - We've been trying to foresee future event needs (grad weekend, school plays, alum weekend, etc.)
 - What about a bell schedule? How do they move from class to class? When are kids on campus? What is the schedule?
 - All students on campus from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm
 - We have 903 students
 - Mary: 350 kids on buses (more than a third of kids)

Master Plan Process (Jason Langkammerer, HRS Board member):

- Currently awaiting DEIR to be released from the City; believe it will come out this month
 - Once publicized, 45-day comment period
 - Two hearings will be published with DEIR
 - Any comments or questions to be directed to the City; it's their doc, not HRS's
 - We will be reading it the same time neighbors do
 - Will update the website once we understand what the City is saying
 - There will be plenty of opportunity for public comment
 - Official process is for the City to get comments on the report, not on the merits of the project