

TEAM MEETING MINUTES

FCPS BUS FACILITY FEASIBILITY STUDY

AUGUST 18, 2016

Attendees:

Brad Ahalt
Ruth Biser
Holly Nelson
Tiana Haile
Heather Clabaugh
Mark Maggitti
Steve Boling

1. Recap bus driver outreach

Holly provided a display of the bus driver survey statistics for the drivers' information. She made the same presentation to the drivers as she made to the Board of Education. She did not receive much feedback from the drivers. Steve noted many of the drivers doubt funding will be available.

2. Recap tour of Public Safety Training Facility and meeting with County Department of Public Works

Holly reviewed the tour of the Public Safety Training Facility property made with Mark, Tom, Ruth and Fred. The location is on Reels Mill Road, and would be a partnership project with the county.

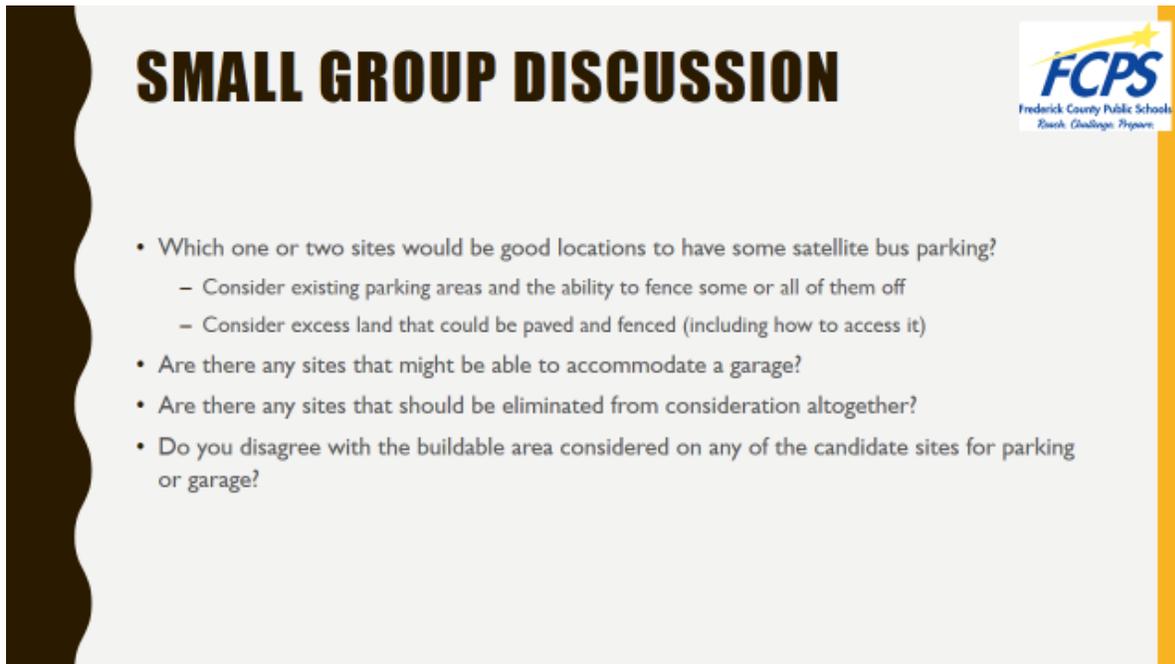
3. Feedback from the Steering Committee

Holly's presentation to the Steering Committee compared the costs with other LEAs. FCPS's expenses are below the state average and below many the expenses of its neighbors. Brad asked in the counties that have contracted bus service, are the contractors responsible for maintenance. Mark said they are. Holly also compared the cost per mile, and FCPS is below the state average and the neighbors. Also compared was the cost per bus which was below the state average and the neighbors.

Brad asked what percent of the operating budget goes to transportation. Holly will check. Would it be possible to take the funding of the project out of the operating budget instead of the capital budget. It was noted the central office is being leased from the building until 2028 at which time FCPS will own it. Would we have to wait until 2028 to be able to do the same for the bus facility. Heather is not sure, but that might be about the time it will take to get the bus facility constructed. It also may be possible to pay down the central office lease sooner. Maintenance of the facility is the responsibility of FCPS. Brad asked how do the costs compare. Heather said the costs would be higher, and we need to avoid competing with seats. Brad suggested mixing the makeup of the bus fleet between owned and contracted to offset the maintenance expenses as an interim fix. Heather asked Mark how many buses will be needed for Butterfly Ridge ES and Sugarloaf ES? He was not sure, it would depend on the configuration of the bus routes. Steve asked what about purchasing additional land for the Linganore HS site. Holly stated we need to look at sites that are already zoned industrial because it is hard to change zoning.

4. Small group discussion – regional options for parking and bus garage locations at existing FCPS sites

The group discussed regional options for parking and bus garage locations currently owned by FCPS. Brad asked is the preference for 1 large facility or several satellite facilities. Holly said the steering committee would prefer one. The parking issue is something we can do now. Brad pointed out we need to stay within 5,000 sf paved surface in order to avoid stormwater regulations, and this includes gravel surfaces. This would be a 50 x 100 sf lot, and it would hold 8 buses.

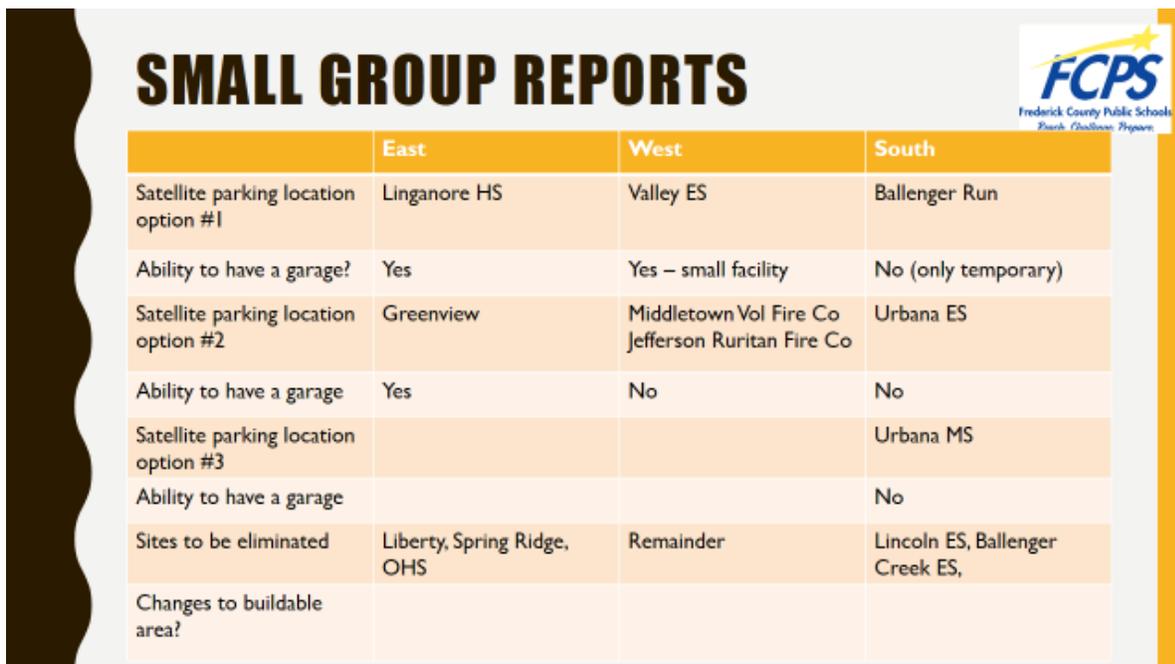


SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION



Frederick County Public Schools
Rise to the Challenge Program

- Which one or two sites would be good locations to have some satellite bus parking?
 - Consider existing parking areas and the ability to fence some or all of them off
 - Consider excess land that could be paved and fenced (including how to access it)
- Are there any sites that might be able to accommodate a garage?
- Are there any sites that should be eliminated from consideration altogether?
- Do you disagree with the buildable area considered on any of the candidate sites for parking or garage?



SMALL GROUP REPORTS



Frederick County Public Schools
Rise to the Challenge Program

	East	West	South
Satellite parking location option #1	Linganore HS	Valley ES	Ballenger Run
Ability to have a garage?	Yes	Yes – small facility	No (only temporary)
Satellite parking location option #2	Greenview	Middletown Vol Fire Co Jefferson Ruritan Fire Co	Urbana ES
Ability to have a garage	Yes	No	No
Satellite parking location option #3			Urbana MS
Ability to have a garage			No
Sites to be eliminated	Liberty, Spring Ridge, OHS	Remainder	Lincoln ES, Ballenger Creek ES,
Changes to buildable area?			

5. The next two meetings will be Thursday, September 1, 2016 and September 15, 2016.