

## AU Neighborhood Partnership Open House

6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Thursday, Feb. 17, 2022

Meeting Held Virtually on Zoom

### Draft Notes

*Disclaimer: This summary, based on notes taken by Justice & Sustainability Associates staff, is a draft only and not an official document of the AU Neighborhood Partnership.*

Link: <https://www.american.edu/communityrelations/neighborhood-partnership/neighborhood-partnership-documents.cfm>

### Partnership Attendees:

AU: Karen Frosolid Jones, Ed Fisher, Dan Nichols, Phillip Morse, Bronté Burleigh-Jones, Maria Barry, Tony Cortes, Jeff Brown, Seth Grossman, Sherry Rutherford, Fanta Aw, Marsha Harper

Neighborhood: Tony Ciccone, Chuck Elkins, Betsy White, Jeremy Del Moral, John Wheeler, Hunt La Cascia, Natalie Ambrose, Andrew Heimert, Doug Saunders, Diane Dragaud, Tim Talley, Teresa Guzman, William Clarkson, Matthew Cohen, Bruce Klein

### Invited Participants:

Christina Cristaldi, Judith Kopperud, David Hensler, Alma Gates, Igor Sobral, Lawrence Miller, Della Porta, Howard Fogt, Aileen Marshall, Mark Nadel, Beverley Nadel, Amanda Cate, Shelly Repp, Myra Barron, Bob Scholz, Josie Scholz, Penny Hansen, James, Ellen Malasky, Patricia Cervini, Leigh Catherine Miles, Jim Landau, Jerome Barron, Martha Cutts, Larry Seftor, Tony Long, Mary Buckles, Steve Weissman, Rita McWilliams, Dennis Paul

JSA Attendees (3): Don Edwards, Josh Babb, Jente McKnight

Highlights	
Key Discussion Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Welcome and Review Agenda</li><li>● Overview of the AU Neighborhood Partnership</li><li>● Working Group Presentations</li><li>● Question and Answer</li><li>● Adjourn</li></ul>
Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● N/A</li></ul>

### Discussion Recap

<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Don Edwards called the meeting to order, reviewed the agenda and asked for introductions to be done using the Zoom chat function.</li> </ul>
<b>Presentations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steering Committee Co-Chairs: Tony Ciccone and Ed Fisher.</li> <li>• Facilities Planning Co-Chairs: Natalie Ambrose and Tony Cortes.</li> <li>• Student Life Co-Chairs: Chuck Elkins and Phil Morse.</li> <li>• Transportation &amp; Parking Co-Chairs: Andrew Heimert and Dan Nichols.</li> <li>• Data &amp; Metrics Co-Chairs: Hunt La Cascia and Karen Frosolid Jones.</li> <li>• Engagement &amp; Communications Co-Chairs: Betsy White and Maria Barry.</li> </ul>
<b>Overview of the AU Partnership and Campus Plan</b>	<p>Tony Ciccone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• My name is Tony Ciccone and I'd like to give you a little bit of background about myself, my history in the neighborhood and my involvement with the partnership. My wife and I moved to AU Park from Dupont Circle in 1988. And we live in the Fort Gaines section by Turtle Park, if you know where that is.</li> <li>• I'm an attorney by trade having retired after 40 years practicing law, mostly as a litigator, and I spent the last 30 years with the Justice Department from which I retired in 2018. I currently serve as the vice president of the Fort Gaines Citizens Association, and I've been the community Co-chair of the neighborhood partnership since late last year working with Ed Fisher my counterpart.</li> <li>• Before becoming Steering Committee co-chair, I served on the partnership's Transportation and Parking Working Group, first, as a community member and then as co-chair after Jonathan McHugh moved on as our former ANC 3E commissioner. And I did it because we get a lot of traffic around Turtle Park, and I feel strongly about minimizing traffic and transportation issues around the neighborhood, so that we have safer streets for everyone, especially the kids.</li> <li>• Now, why did I join the partnership and why should you? Well, for me, it was three reasons. First, if you recall the 2011 campus plan, you may remember that it had a bit of adversity. And my goal was that the 2021 campus plan should go smoother because I'm retired now, and I live in the neighborhood, and I wanted to have a very consensus-based process. So, we worked together rather than fighting with the university. And I think the partnership really helped in that regard.</li> <li>• My second reason for getting involved with the partnership was to move us toward what I call "Partnership 2.0." One where neighbors will work together to monitor AU's compliance with all regulatory conditions associated with the 2021 campus plan, and more importantly, mitigate any adverse effects that arise during the process. In that regard, the partnership plans to preview and review the university's plans for its future Further Processing proceedings as each new building and element of the campus plan moves toward implementation. And on a related note, I'm pleased to report that the partnership's website now has a neighbor feedback link, which we hope will become a one stop shopping portal for all community concerns, complaints, issues, etc.</li> </ul>

- The point is we'd like to know, so that we can fix, neighborhood problems as they arise in a timely fashion. In my view, metrics matter and the more we know about what the neighbors want and need, the more the partnership can help ensure we get there. And finally, the most important reason for this open house is engagement with all of you. And we just want to encourage you, your friends, your neighbors to join us in the partnership so we can enjoy the benefits that come with having a vibrant town gown relationship.
- The university can be a great neighbor if we all work together so, please listen to each of the following presentations and think about which working groups matter most to you and join them. We really invite a broad range of diversity and inclusivity as we move forward into the next decade of campus plan. Implementation and community relations. Thank you.

Ed Fisher:

- Thanks, Tony. I'll chime in here and Tony, I want to say thank you before this entire group for working with you over the past six months or so. We've had a good working relationship as we continue to move the Partnership for it. I also want to thank your predecessors Claire and Troy Kravitz. I'm not sure if they're on the call I can't see right now. But they've also graciously volunteered their time and talents over the last few years.
- Again, my name is Ed Fisher. I am the Assistant Vice President for Community and Government Relations here at a you and I have been helping to manage the campus plan process and all of our community engagement efforts along with Maria Barry, who's our director of community relations. So many of you know you've heard about the about the partnership, you might not know everything that you want to know. And our goal here today is to inform you and give you as much information as possible about the partnership and our processes that we've used over the last few years and how we're going to move forward. So, we envision this as a neighborhood partnership as a shared forum where we are collecting AU leadership with the leadership in our surrounding communities. The AU Partnership was modeled after the successful Georgetown University Partnership since its inception in 2018.
- Our mission has been has been to strengthen University and neighborhood relations through our facilitated discussions, information sharing and consensus based collaboration on issues involving campus planning and university activities that affect our adjacent neighborhoods and immediate neighbors over the last three years or so, we've held many meetings where we've discussed these various issues and ultimately, we have reached consensus on those issues and that is our goal moving forward to always work with a consensus based approach to problem solving on University and neighborhood issues.
- We have been centered around open communication, transparency between neighbors and university. And this vehicle only works when neighbors participate and are invested in collaborative outcomes and the same from the university side. As it's been previously stated by Tony , we hope that many of you will join the

	<p>partnership and one of the five working groups that will help shape the future of American University. It is our sincere desire to engage with our neighbors. So that the success and the measured growth of the university over the next decade is done in collaboration and is done in a way it limits the impacts on our neighbors. So, you know, we believe that this is a forum for our for dialogue, discussion for debate for information sharing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AU is awaiting the final order from the Zoning Commission, which we expect that we will get hopefully sometime next month, hopefully two or three weeks, but there's still a lot more work to do. Once we get that final order, it's going to be time to start to implement the various components of the campus plan over the next decade.</li> </ul>
<b>Facilities Planning</b>	<p>Don introduced Natalie Ambrose and Tony Cortes</p> <p>Natalie Ambrose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have been a member of the Facilities Planning working group since its formation when you first began drafting the new campus plan. Our first phase work was wrapped up, wrapped up in spring 2021 When the final plan was submitted to the Zoning Commission for review and approval. We're now entering our second phase when we start working with the University and constructing this new plan. I joined for two reasons. First, I live across the street and within 200 feet of the main campus on the side near Fletcher gate. As such I see some of the university's buildings and certainly observe University related comings and goings from my house.</li> <li>• Of course, we all benefit from having a major university in our midst. We can walk the campus partake in athletic facilities attend classes and lectures, enjoy art installations, and in normal non COVID times even ride the shuttle bus to and from Tenleytown. However, living next to such a large institution can also result in problematic issues such as disruptive off campus student behavior, traffic congestion and street parking, the impacts from new buildings in terms of their construction size and their ultimate use. So that's the other reason why I joined facilities planning group early on and why I think it's important for neighbors to take the time to participate in these different working groups in order to contribute to protect and help share our community's quality of life in the neighborhood field. For full disclosure here because of concerns I had early on with the location, scale, height, and potential uses of some of the different building sites. I joined some of my neighbors in formal parties in opposition to the new plan in order to voice our concerns to the Zoning Commission during the hearing.</li> <li>• Anyways, here we are now, a year later and I guess like the adage goes if you can't beat them, then you can join them and hopefully negotiate outcomes satisfactory, if not beneficial to all. So, the Facilities Planning working group gets involved with new building projects as they enter the pipeline, getting the detail needed for further processing that is the stage when final site-specific renovation, repurposing or new construction plans are presented to the Zoning Commission. And by DC law this further processing phase must address specific considerations such as building mass height and setbacks, neighborhood context in terms of edge conditions, transitions</li> </ul>

and landscaping, possible lighting and noise issues and their abatement, parking and loading, environmental impacts and streetscapes including signage.

- Well, it looks like my three minutes is running out. So now let me segue to the other co-chair and the man who will be tasked with getting these new facilities underway and built. Tony Cortes, American University's director of capital program management.

Tony Cortes:

- Thank you, Natalie. Good evening, everyone. I'm Tony Cortez, the Interim Assistant Vice President for Planning and Project Management. stepping in for David Dower, who left American University in 2021. I'm looking forward to working with the Facilities Planning working group for a collaborative and rewarding campus plan implementation, collaborating on issues related to physical campus facilities including existing and proposed development and renovation projects.
- I've been at AU for nearly eight years, most recently, completing the steam infrastructure upgrade on campus. I'm a former naval officer. So, I'm terrible politics and I try my best to give the same answer to exactly the same question every time I'm asked.
- Some updates on ongoing construction. We have the AU house at Nebraska Ave. We're about 80% framed, most of it focusing on the extension of the existing structure. And the roofing is about 75% done, mainly working again on the new portion of the structure after which the project will shift the focus to the interior, mechanical, electrical and plumbing. We're in the middle of roughing approximately 30% of the electrical boxes and ductwork and the like with masonry planned to start soon. We're expected to complete the project in about May of 2023 and we're excited to add that to our portfolio. Some upcoming construction we have the Marabar exhibit, a gift to American University from the National Geographic Society, that comes with some landscape construction that will be placed this summer between Kay spiritual center and Massachusetts Avenue. Briefly, it's a platform area with reflecting pool with a half dozen large granite boulders. The artist Ellen Zimmerman is reimagining her work situated in National Geographic Society to fit within the fabric of the space available at American University.
- AU also must complete the Jacobs Field Soundwall upon the issuance of the zoning order and alluded to expected in March you will begin the design and construction of the sound wall near Jacobs fields. The draft order states we have six months from issuance of the order for processing of the permit and another six months for the wall of construction. And alongside these projects, au will begin to design for its center for athletic performance. Right now, there's not much to update because we're currently in the planning and programming stage. Generally trying to figure out what goes where, but we anticipate designed to begin shortly. That design will take some time to ensure that it meets our programmatic needs with construction not anticipated to start till sometime in 2023. And with that, I'll turn it back over to Natalie for some closing remarks for the for the group.

	<p>Natalie Ambrose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks Tony covered everything I just want to say. So in wrapping up this working group the Facilities Planning is your opportunity to get involved on the ground floor in the planning of important projects to hopefully help shape the appearance and feel of the campus as well as our community over the coming years.</li> </ul>
<b>Student Life and Safety</b>	<p>Don introduced Chuck Elkins and Phil Morse</p> <p>Chuck Elkins:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I'm Chuck Elkins and I've lived in Wesley heights for about 35 years, and I serve as the Advisory Neighborhood Commission Commissioner for Wesley heights. As I got more interested in the neighborhood, I started attending the university's community liaison committee and which meets every quarter or so and discusses what's going on at the university and allows neighbors to speak up, it's a good institution, but I noticed that complaints were brought there but I didn't see the neighbors trying to work in-between meetings to see if some of these problems can be solved. So, I was really an enthusiastic supporter and still am the neighborhood partnership because this is as you've heard, where neighbors and university officials can sit down, roll up their sleeves, better define what the problem is. If there is one and what the problem possible solutions are and then see if they can reach a consensus on how to move forward and see if we can take care of the problem. I need to say these problems are not huge.</li> <li>• But our problems are big enough that they're worth solving. And it makes us all feel better about having such a great asset right here in the middle of our community this university. So, we created this partnership organized and work groups as you've heard and started meeting. The group that I ended up Co-chairing is the one that focuses on student life and safety for students off campus. And so, I had some experience with students having some loud parties at two o'clock in the morning when they invite 100 of their best friends over to have a great time and I felt maybe the university could do a little bit better in finding a way in which all of us could sleep during the night and also the students still have a great time. Here at the University. So, this this workgroup that focuses on Student Life behavior such as parties and having you know living off campus there are a lot of students that live off campus in our neighborhood. And the new campus plan that we worked on does put in place several solutions to try to prevent these problems from developing in the first place. And then if they do develop to have the university respond quickly and hopefully assure that it's a one-time aberration.</li> <li>• So here we are, having finished that campus plan and the core program is now more or less in place. And we're beginning to see how it is working and how we can improve it. And I believe there are probably several things that can be done to make it work</li> </ul>

	<p>better around the edges. And of course, COVID brings some special problems that we need to deal with in the committee because we have so many students living in our community, including in the apartment buildings and condo buildings nearby. So just to give you an idea of the kind of issues I think we'll be working on in the coming year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We're going to be focusing on finding effective ways to evaluate how well the program is working so we can improve it. Addressing whether the neighbors are well enough informed about the opportunities they must contact the University for some help before whatever their problem is, becomes a serious problem. We're thinking maybe we could find a way to work with landlords and building managers to have them be a more effective partner in all of this. And I'm sure there are other aspects of life that we haven't even thought about that may come up as we need, we need about every two months. or so or whenever is needed.</li></ul> <p>Phil Morse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thanks, Chuck. I've also enjoyed working with you. I'm really looking forward to continuing our collaboration with this team. We've made some tremendous and positive steps to improve the reporting process these providing information to our neighbors as well as improving the education for life safety for our students. But it's important that we continue to grow the participation so that we have a diverse and a wider view of the issues that our team the life safety partnership is responsible for. COVID really slowed our engagements, our face-to-face engagements.</li><li>• So, I'm really looking forward to the new year as we hope that those restrictions lighten up that we can get together again, open our university safety and security services building. Have the neighbors in really grow this partnership and learn about what the university police do and how we do it. So, I really appreciate everyone joining us tonight.</li></ul>
<b>Transportation and Parking</b>	<p>Don introduced Andrew Heimert and Dan Nichols</p> <p>Andrew Heimert:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• My name is Andrew and I live in in Wesley heights. I've been involved with the Transportation and Parking working group for the last three years during the development of the most recent campus plan. I also serve on ANC 3D's transportation committee which looks at some of the same issues but there's not a whole lot of overlap at least as far as it concerns folks on this call.</li><li>• The goal of the partnership as you can see is to work with AU to try to address some of those irritants and minimize those impacts if not eliminate them altogether as AU starts to plan its expansions and new buildings. Things like ensuring the design of whatever traffic measures come along with those buildings. Avoiding increasing any burdens on neighbors, whether it's parking or increased traffic or congestion of whatever type. Dan when I get done will describe a little bit more, I think, aspects of the campus plan like the transportation demand management report which AU issues annually. That sets forth some of the steps</li></ul>

that AU is taking and will take to comply both with this campus plan and address concerns. I think it's a useful document to have a look at if this is an area that interests you.

- Just by way of a couple of examples AU has been undertaking efforts to reduce automobile trips to campus through a combination of incentives for alternatives to get to campus and disincentives for driving to help all which would help neighborhood traffic. Obviously COVID has altered that balance a lot, but these efforts were ongoing before COVID and we can expect them to continue. Another prominent example that's not solely a neighborhood partnership thing, but certainly is part of it, is the Good Neighbor parking policy. There are some number of neighbors who observe AU faculty, staff, students, other visitors parking on residential streets, which reduces the supply of parking. that's of concern and it's contrary to AU's policy.
- One of the things that AU is in the process of working on, and Tony is leading this effort, is developing a better portal for reporting violations, kind of like I think like DC 311 where you can report the trash wasn't picked up.
- Other things that we've been looking at includes AU's shuttle bus stops where they idle near residents. And things like bike and scooter racks to help alleviate concerns about scooters just being left around carelessly on nearby sidewalks.
- Hopefully we'll get folks from all the adjacent neighborhoods interested and join the group. It's great to get input from people on every side of the campus. I'm on one piece of it but others observe different things. So, thanks, and then Dan will maybe take it from here for a couple minutes.

Dan Nichols:

- Thanks, Andrew I appreciate it. Andrew hit on a lot of the points that we look at in our working group. Our group is interesting because there's a lot of synergy between the goals of the university and our neighbors. Primarily, we want to reduce the single occupant vehicles coming to campus that meets our desires not to have to build additional parking facilities that also meets our commitment to relieving congestion in the area that are and reduce our carbon footprint. So, there are several mechanisms we use through the transportation main management strategy to meet those goals.
- When you look at how transportation has changed over the years, 10 years ago, we didn't have Uber and Lyft and these Scooters and bicycles, that's been a development that has propelled the university to look at impacts and work with our neighbors to understand how we can mitigate those impacts and still have those alternative transportation options in place for our community. Not only the AU community, but the community at large. We work closely with DDOT to look at what the goals of the city are, especially in our area. We have corridors that are rather narrow and are going to be expanded to handle additional traffic. So, it's



	<p>incumbent upon all of us to look at ways to reduce congestion reduce that traffic load and reduce the parking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This committees worked very diligently to do that. So, we're looking for not only defining the problem, but identifying solutions and anticipating where transportation is going to take us in the next 10 years during this campus plan. So, the creative solutions and the collaboration are important to us so that we can continue to serve the community. Well. Andrew alluded to the report that we do we do an annual report to DDOT if anyone wants to take a look at the report, look at some of the alternatives that we have you can go to our website at American University parking you just Google that, go to the website and you'll see resources at one of the tabs you will be able to read that report.</li> <li>• The other thing is that we also know that post pandemic is going to change trend transportation and community patterns. And it's also changed how we operate the university. Just as an example, teleworking telecommuting prior to the pandemic, we only had 300 people enrolled in that program where they work from home. Today we have almost 1200 that means those are additional employees are not coming to campus who are not impacting the transportation network, and you're not combined congestion roads around your neighborhoods. So, looking forward to this I think it's a good opportunity for creative solutions and collaboration.</li> </ul>
<b>Data and Metrics</b>	<p>Don introduced Hunt La Cascia and Karen Frosleid-Jones</p> <p>Hunt La Cascia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank you so much to the event organizers for putting this open house together. It's a great opportunity for community members to get to better understand the partnership and how we work together with the community on important issues via the working groups. My name is Hunt La Cascia. I am a member of the Fort Gaines Citizens Association. We border AU on two sides: Massachusetts Avenue and Nebraska Avenue.</li> <li>• I am interested in a healthy community relationship with AU as it is my backyard – literally. Additionally, my son went to the Child Development Center at AU. Furthermore, my wife just graduated with a master's in finance from the business school.</li> <li>• Historically, the Fort Gaines Citizens Association (FGCA) have dealt with many AU initiatives over the years. From the extension of Nebraska Hall to the Katzen center. Historically, those initiatives were quite contentious between (FGCA) and American University. The community was ready to better the relationship with AU from the past campus planning processes. I think we were successful in doing so through the AU partnership. I know that for myself it was one of the reasons I got involved. I was concerned about the development of an AU property around our house and around our neighborhood. We wanted to understand, be more informed and have a say at the negotiation table. It really provided us a mechanism for voicing our opinion on our concerns. We also wanted to get more</li> </ul>

	<p>involved in issues, such as parking and traffic. I'm also concerned about Uber and lift drop offs in Massachusetts and Nebraska.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over the last five years we have participated in the various groups that AU, including the CLC and the partnership. These provide us with an informed mechanism in a collaborative method.</li> <li>• I'll talk a little bit about the data metrics group that I'm a community co-chair of along with Karen, the AU co-chair. Working with all working groups to monitor and mitigate neighborhood impacts and AU compliance with Campus Plan conditions. Data from Partnership website's new "Questions/Comments" link will facilitate ability to track neighbor concerns/complaints and how timely they are resolved.</li> <li>• Karen and I have met virtually during the pandemic, but unfortunately, we haven't seen each other in-person for two years. Look forward to getting back to us on campus in-person meetings. Over to you Karen.</li> </ul> <p>Karen Frosolid-Jones</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks so much Hunt, you're right it's been a while since we've seen each other in person we've had plenty of opportunities like we have tonight to see each other virtually but not enough to see each other in person. So, thank you for that. A little bit about the data metrics working group. If you like to think about what success looks like and how we can best track how well the AU Partnership is doing on the goals that each of the committees set for themselves and I think this committee is for you.</li> <li>• You can probably serve on two committees so if you're really interested in traffic and would like to know and track things about metrics related to traffic, you can serve on the metrics committee and the end the traffic committee, for example. The committee is really working towards identifying and really describing what success looks like what the metrics would be for us to identify what successful looks like, and then ways to track our progress as well as the place where we have challenges and to be able to document those things and then to be able to celebrate successes and recognize places where we need to do better and track our progress for that. So we really welcome you to join our committee, and we are a small but mighty committee, and I'm really looking forward to working with you.</li> </ul>
<b>Engagement and Communications</b>	<p>Don introduced Betsy White and Maria Barry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• My name is Betsy White. I live in Wesley heights and have lived here for about 35 years which is hard to believe. I've always considered being close to the university an added benefit of where our house is located.</li> <li>• Having the Campus center is nice for us. And so, in general, it's a good place to live and the university makes it even that much better. As co-chair of the Engagement and Communications Working Group I like to think of ways where you can engage with the university as opposed to maybe just enjoying it, but they kind of go together. There are classes that you can join, as well as join the AU gym and the pool although we all know COVID has paused some of these things.</li> </ul>

- There are lectures you can attend. The university even sponsors a family movie night in the summer. I think that's a lot of fun. So those are some of the ways that you can be engaged with the university. One of the purposes of the working group is to find additional ways to enhance communications with the university. Right now, the University does a pretty good job. They have their AU in the neighborhood newsletter. And there's even a place on the web where you can check and see what the communications committee is doing with the partnership and what the individual committees are doing. So, I think we have pretty good basis of communicating and just want to make sure that we do. We welcome other people from the neighborhood to join our committee and hope we can see each other sometime soon in real life! And now for my co chair, Maria.

Maria Barry:

- Good evening, everyone, I'm Maria Barry. I'm the Director of Community Relations here at American University working with Ed Fisher. And it's nice to see so many people come out even virtually I know it's going to be great when we can get together in person. I started at the University back in June of 2019 and jumped right in working specifically with the AU neighborhood partnership around issues around the campus plan, but also I wear the hat and community relations of every day I'm championing ways that we can work together, resolving any neighbors concerns that are happening, being a liaison, often for neighbors who call in who are not quite sure you know who to talk to or where to go to get help. And so, I do a lot of that work on the partnership. Working with Betsy. I'm just going to augment and amplify most of what she said.
- We're here to help support all the working groups and their efforts to implement the campus plan. So, for instance, if and when there's a building project that's going to be happening on whichever site is chosen first we would this commit this working group to help wrap around ideas and our expertise around being able to help make sure that any affected neighbors are in the know and are aware and have touch points that they can get involved. We do have tools at our disposal for communication. Betsy mentioned the AU in the neighborhood newsletter, it is not just a newsletter but it's also a listserv, although I'm not quite sure if that's the right technical term because it's really a way that AU can push out information to neighbors. So, for instance, when Dan Nichols and his team on transportation work through graduation weekend and know there's going to be some backups around Ward circle, we write to inform people about extra traffic.
- We use the AU Listserv which we send the newsletter to as our way of communicating with our neighbors. So, we're continuously looking for ways that more neighbors and maybe even some of you tonight, can get involved. I'll drop the link in chat, a place that you can subscribe to for future updates. But we very much want to grow that list and the partnership and this working group is a great way that we can grow that list. We have also worked with Community Relations to send out a postcard that is at the beginning of the school year and this goes to every single resident household in the zip codes of 20016 and 20008. So, it's actually quite a large number of residents who receive this and this is just a reminder of how to get in touch with us and shares our email, my email contact as

	<p>well as a phone number if you have any concerns. The newsletter also comes out usually in the first week of the month and it's a way to know the comings of some of the events that are happening in and around campus. So, for instance, if there is a lecture or things to join. So, we welcome your participation. We're always open to ideas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Again, I'll drop my contact in the chat. We'd love to speak further. I think our working group is exciting because I think the work is just beginning now in terms of our implementation and ways that we can really work together with the community. And one of the ways we need to do that is by inviting more community members to participate in the working group.</li> </ul>
<b>Question and Answer</b>	<p>Don opened the Floor for Question and Answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Larry Seftor: First I want to say that I appreciate everybody's efforts that have been discussed in this Zoom meeting. Tonight. But I also want to provide a little feedback. I have lived here for 20 years in Spring Valley two blocks from AU and for many years we got casual mailings from AU mainly postcards and letters, talking about interactions with the university and what we can expect and some of the issues that have been discussed here. That stopped about five years ago. I think I heard somebody say that cards are still going out. I haven't seen a card.</li> <li>• So, I was very surprised to learn on next door about this partnership. And the fact that all of this has been going on. And so I wonder how many people in the community I think there's over 1000 households in Spring Valley, many of which would have been interested in this. So I think the my feedback tonight is reach out is the primary thing that people need to do and I think relying on next door or websites is not working. If people don't get on next door don't look at websites, I think at some point mailings people in their community old fashioned snail mail to let people know what's going on is what needs to happen. Apparently, this has been going on for a couple of years now. I've been completely unaware of it, and I'm mystified how something happening two blocks from me and people are discussing with a you about community concerns without having my involvement or soliciting my opinions about it has been happening.</li> </ul> <p>Don invited Maria and Betsy to respond:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maria: Certainly, it's nice to meet you virtually. Obviously, I've been I've been here for the first eight or nine months of my term I was here, and we were able to do in real life before COVID Obviously our work. Post COVID was a different kind of challenge. But I can say that every event I attend all the ANC meetings. I make announcements at every ANC meeting every month at both 3D and 3E letting folks know to a subscribe to the newsletter but also we presented every step of the way around the campus plan and other AU happenings.</li> <li>• Maria: There's a time on the actual agenda that those institutions report out on. So that is one tool and one place that we've been able to continue and obviously it's been virtual, but in the beginning, it was and will someday we'll go back to in real life meetings. Other events in the community other places I've tabled before</li> </ul>

as you know turtle park at a jazz festival etc. that we sponsor. AU sponsors the Northwest Little League so I have been out and about there's always room to grow that and that's certainly something that I love to do. That's why I took this job is to engage more with neighbors we have a lot of relationships with the apartment buildings all throughout the area along with all the neighborhood associations, which we really partner with very heavily with whether it's Fort Gaines or our relationship with Westover Spring Valley neighborhood association, etc. I serve on the Board of Tenleytown Main Street, so we do a lot of partnerships. That's how we're able to get our work done. And through those partners, particularly the community associations, they also amplify and augment our messaging and put it out so not just on next door but on their own tools for their own residents. So, I know like Tony's in Fort Gaines. He did a hand delivery about this meeting tonight. So that those are some of the tools that we use and strategies. Thank you

- Tony Ciccone: And Don I would also like to just answer that briefly too and say, Larry, thanks for the feedback. This is exactly what this meeting is about – to find out where we are lacking. We certainly have, as Maria and Betsy said, done our best with the newsletter and communications through the ANCs and CLC, and through the individual associations like Fort Gaines, Spring Valley Neighborhood Association, and Westover. So, if you're not getting the information, you now know how to reach us, and we will be glad to work with you. But do join us and help us get the word out.
- Betsy: I want to thank Maria for all the outreach that she's done. And everybody else but especially Maria, really enjoy getting all the information that she sends constantly, which is great.

Don recognized Anne Sullivan:

- Anne: I was interested in Dan Nichols was speaking about people are teleworking more from AU, so I mentioned that like some office administrative people are beefing up their teleworking which results in less commuting and less traffic in the neighborhood, which is great. And I was just wondering, is there a concerted effort for the university to move to more of a hybrid remote learning type situation that would also maybe alleviate some of the traffic and parking issues? Thank you
- Dan Nichols: Thanks for the question. As you know, American universities heavily invested in brick and mortar. That's our traditional format for our educational mission, but we are expanding out to more online opportunities. So, we can have more remote learning for students across the spectrum, actually the provost recently hired a person on his staff to really develop the online learning program. Ironically, that person was hired just before the pandemic. So that's what enabled us to pivot so, so quickly to a complete online learning strategy. So, we had a proof of concept, incidentally, because the pandemic so you know, to answer your question, brick and mortar is always going to be our primary format, but we are exploring much more online format so we can have more remote learning for much wider population students.

Don recognized Denise Liebowitz:

- Denise: I'm a member of OLLI and I'm also a close neighbor to the campus. For those of us who followed the campus plan process last year closely, how in the coming years, can we stay current on implementation of the plan? What's happening? What's going forward?
- Ed Fisher responded: Denise, thanks for that question. It's good to see you again. So as part of our 2021 campus plan, one of our conditions is that the first project that we must move forward with is the Jacobs field sound barrier wall. So, we can't move forward with any other project until we get that going.
- What we anticipate is that we will, within six months of receiving the final order, file a further processing which is the application that allows us to move forward with that project before the Zoning Commission. Now we may couple that with some of the resurfacing of some of our athletic fields, and then we will continue to prioritize other projects. You've all heard about our Center for athletic performance, which would be behind the Bender arena. That is another priority of ours. It is a busy athletic facility, where our student athletes will have opportunity for training and practice but also it will also have a wellness component. And then we'll look at you know, wherever funding is to look at whether it's residential housing or academic spaces on the campus, but I will say that for the remainder of this for this county, you will see us moving forward with the sound barrier wall at Jacobs field and then we will start to look at what's most appropriate either for the center athletic performance or a residential site Tony earlier mentioned the work that we're doing at the new president's house on grad school, Nebraska Avenue, and in the Marabar project right outside of the Kay spiritual center. So those things are technically outside of the realm to campus plan, but because there will be minor construction happening and those places, we're making sure that we make sure that everyone is aware of those as well. Are to for the rest of the calendar year.
- Natalie: I didn't go into detail but on the earlier PowerPoint that showed the map of the campus, it shows that if approved and built in in the entirety of the new campus plan identifies 15 potential sites and up to 748,000 square feet in either building, repurposing expansion or new construction, and I put this in perspective, the last campus plan in 2011 proposed 900,000 square feet. Not all of it was built over the course of 10 years. So not necessarily everything's going to build be built now over the next 10 years. But we did see a lot of changes in the last 10 years things like the new East Campus, which was on the old parking lot, and which certainly was concerned of both the concern and supported by Westover residents. We also saw the Hall of Science, the new dorm.
- Natalie: This year's going to be relatively slow. But like with the other working groups, this is an opportunity for our working group that are members of current and hopefully some new members. New ideas, new perspectives, new vantage points from the neighborhood this is an idea of opportunity for us to get our

working group to really get our work plan together to see how we're going to assess these different sites and work closely with the University and communicate with the neighborhood and the community. Thank you.

- This is Tony Ciccone again, I just wanted to say with regard to Denise's point, the question that she raises is also a very good point with regard to communication – which is it's good that we gave her a quick update of what is now on the table, but I'm hoping that the Partnership will do a better job of communicating these things, as we go forward, on our website, through the newsletters, the listservs and, you know, you're right, if you don't know what's going on, then I feel like I haven't done my job to let you know. So, I heard what you said and just wanted to let you know that.
- Shelly Repp: I want to bring up something that came up last night at the Wesley seminary CLC community liaison meeting. As you may or may not know Wesley Seminary is proposing as part of its CLC new CLC plan campus plan to build an eight-story dormitory basically where the parking lot is right now in the center of their, their center of their campus. And there was during the meeting, and we'll Clarkson's here. Sherry Rutherford is here. They were both on the on the call yesterday, there was concern expressed by people on the call. Well, people were asking about the relationship with American University.
- Almost all the 600 Plus beds in this dormitory will be, I guess, will be dedicated to American University students. And so, it's basically another American University dorm if this is approved. And there were people asked, not just me, people asked, you know what, you know, have you talked to American University about this? And what they said is that American University had declined so far. To engage with, with Wesley seminary about that addition. So, two things one, I just want to pass that on to people on this call here. And second, get your reaction there was a lot of people were hoping that that Wesley seminary would engage, or American university would engage with Western seminary on that issue.
- Ed Fisher responded: Thank you, Shelly. Yeah, so I was unable to attend last night's meeting due to a family conflict. But let me let me just tell you this, I've gotten a recap and summary of what was said at last night's meeting. I want to very clearly state that AU once again, is focused on building 500 beds on our campus. What Wesley is proposing on their campus is their campus plan. I would stay I will say that their description of conversations between the two universities is inaccurate. And AU, once again is focused on building 500 beds on our campus. We there their project is their project.
- We've gone this campus and we communicated everything that we plan to do as far as housing goes for the last three years or so. And we've been very clear about our desire to build housing at sites two insights for on the back end of campus. That is our goal. That is our intent. If Wesley decides to move forward with their project, that is their right, but it is not an AU dorm on an AU campus. And that is what our goal and our intention is and so I want to be very clear on what I'm

saying. We are moving forward with our campus plan, and we hope to get a final order soon so that we can move forward with what we had planned. What they have planned, is what Wesley has planned. And any other descriptions of conversations that were expressed last night are inaccurate.

- Don also added: Thank you, and William, before I recognize you, I just want to say that we're not going to use this compensation or meeting tonight to re litigate the campus plan or figure out what's going on between resume you. We're going to use it to talk about the neighborhood partnership.
- William Clarkson: I recognize that, and I was at the meeting last night and when I was one of the people that was the most frustrated asking the most questions about it. And as you'll note, I didn't raise my hand until after Shelly raised this because I think it's an important issue. And I'll just leave it at that but the last thing I'll say though, is this is a very important issue. I strongly believe that they're interconnected as to several people on this call, including ANC commissioners. And I look forward to addressing those separately with the community and I will provide everyone with the transcripts and the recordings from both meetings.
- Don thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting after inviting closing comments from the Steering Committee co-chairs.
- Tony: Ok, Don, this is Tony Ciccone I just would like to say thank you for everyone coming, and the most important thing to take out of this is, if you have just learned about the Neighborhood Partnership, this is the time to get involved. And this is how it started. People said we want to get involved in making the relationship with AU work better for us as neighbors. So please get involved. Get your friends involved, get your neighbors involved, get your dog involved, just get involvement going. Reach out to two or three people tomorrow and say, "Hey did you know about this thing?" And go to our website – and we can post the link again – it's basically [american.edu/communityrelations/neighborhood-partnership](http://american.edu/communityrelations/neighborhood-partnership).
- That's where you can find out more about us, see the structure of the steering committee and groups, see the summaries of our various meetings, and get involved that way. We want to hear more from you, and we really need your help, because the last time we did this was in person and, I think, late 2017, so this is really a chance to get new blood and we really want to get new faces and new members on the working groups, because this is going to be a very important time as the Campus Plan goes from a "plan" to implementation That's why these next ten years are so critical, and this is how we can get involved in making sure it goes well. So that's my two cents and thank you for coming.
- Ed: Thanks Tony and I'll just close out by saying again we appreciate your time. If you have any questions, I'll drop my email in the chat. But we really do want your insight and your input and, as Tony said, if we're missing people, please forward this information, share this information. We're happy to answer any questions. We really want this to be a collaborative effort. We want to make sure that



	<p>anything we do here on this campus, we do it with our neighbors. We want you to have an input, have some say here. And please feel free to reach out to me separately.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Again I'll drop my email in the chat right now. Again, we thank you but we encourage you to invite more people. If you have any ideas, I think it's already been said, but if you have any ideas on how to share what we're doing with a broader group, we certainly welcome that. So I'll just leave it at that and I look forward to meeting some of you – and I'll say this, the next time we have one of these, hopefully, we'll have one in person and there will be wine and cheese, so that might be a little more incentive to have some of your neighbors come out. So maybe, when it's safe for us to do it, we're looking forward.</li> </ul>
<b>Meeting Chat</b>	<p><b>From Jente McKnight to Everyone:</b>  <b>Hi my name is Jente McKnight. I'm here for your tech needs. Please Call me at 404-200-1773</b></p> <p><b>Mark Nadel to Everyone:</b>  <b>Mark Nadel, OLLI</b></p> <p><b>From Tony Long, OLLI at AU to Everyone:</b>  <b>Hi. My name is Tony Long, Executive Director of OLLI at AU</b></p> <p><b>From Marsha Harper to Everyone:</b>  <b>Marsha Harper, AU Women's Soccer Head Coach</b></p> <p><b>From Steve Weissaman to Everyone:</b>  <b>Steve Weissman &amp; Carole Horn</b></p> <p><b>From Diane D to Everyone:</b>  <b>Diane Dragaud, President, Fort Gaines Citizens Association. I serve on the Facilities Planning Working Group.</b></p> <p><b>From Rita McWilliams to Everyone:</b>  <b>Rita McWilliams</b></p> <p><b>From Leigh Catherine Miles to Everyone:</b>  <b>Leigh Catherine Miles, Tenleytown Main Street (resident of Tenleytown/AU Park)</b></p> <p><b>From W. Clarkson to Everyone:</b>  <b>Hi everyone! William Clarkson (Spring Valley Neighborhood Association)</b></p> <p><b>From Steve Weissaman to Everyone:</b>  <b>Wesley Heights</b></p> <p><b>From Penny Hansen to Everyone:</b>  <b>Penny Hansen, OLLI</b></p> <p><b>From Chuck Elkins to Everyone:</b></p>

**I'm Chuck Elkins. I live in Wesley Heights and I Co-chair the Work Group on Student Life and Safety**

**From Ellen Malasky to Everyone:  
Ellen Malasky Wesley Heights. Guild of Professional sTour Guides of DC**

**From Martha Cutts to Everyone:  
Martha Cutts, AU Park, and OLLI at AU**

**18:06:04 From Sullivan to Everyone:  
Anne Sullivan here, I live in Fort Gaines neighborhood**

**18:06:09 From Steve Weissman to Everyone:  
Lowell Street**

**18:06:11 From Rita McWilliams to Everyone:  
Rita McWilliams, co-publisher Spring Valley Life magazine**

**18:06:39 From Patricia Cervini (ERPM) to Everyone:  
Greetings! My name is Patricia Cervini and I reside in the Towers (corner of Cathedral & N. Mexico). I'm also an AU alumni.  
From Howard Fogt to Everyone:  
Howard Fogt Westover Place**

**From James to Everyone:  
Jim Treanor Westover Place**

**From Denise Liebowitz to Everyone:  
Denise Liebowitz, OLLI**

**From Karen Froslid Jones (she/her) to Everyone:  
Hi all! I'm Karen Froslid Jones from AU. I'm the Assistant Provost for Institutional Research and Assessment, and I co-chair the Data and Metrics Working Group. Great to see so many people here tonight.**

**From Jim Landau to Everyone:  
Jim and Paula Landau: Westover Place. Thank you for hosting this.**

**From Della Porta, Ann to Everyone:  
Ann Della Porta Westover Place**

**From Hunt La Cascia to Everyone:  
I'm Hunt La Cascia, member of Fort Gaines Community Association and I'm co-chair of the Working Group Data Metrics.**

**From Amanda Cate to Everyone:**

**Hi everyone! I'm Amanda, and I just moved to the AU Park neighborhood with my 2 young daughters and husband. Trying to get more familiar with everything in the neighborhood!**

**From Doug & Jean Saunders to Everyone:**

**Doug Saunders, Westover Place, Transportation & Parking Working Group**

**From Ed Fisher to Everyone:**

**Ed Fisher, AVP of Community & Govt. Relations and Co-Chair of the AU Neighborhood Partnership**

**From Josh Babb to Everyone:**

**<https://www.american.edu/communityrelations/neighborhood-partnership/>**

**From Natalie to Everyone:**

**Natalie Ambrose -- long time resident of Wesley Heights and co-chair of Facilities Planning Working Group.**

**From Bronté Burleigh Jones to Everyone:**

**Good evening everyone, Bronté Burleigh Jones, CFO, VP and Treasurer at American University. Double alum who returned to AU this past fall semester. I look forward to working with all of you.**

**From Jeffrey Brown to Everyone:**

**Hello Everyone, Jeff Brown, Dean of Students here at AU. Thank you for being here.**

**From Larry Seftor to Everyone:**

**From what I hear AU appears to think that it is negotiating with "Neighborhood Leaders." However, these so called leaders are self appointed and do not necessarily represent everyone's concerns. This is the first time I have learned of this "partnership" so, at a minimum, the whole process is doing a poor job of communicating with the community.**

**From Maria Barry, American University to Everyone:**

**Good evening Maria Barry, Director of Community Relations at American University and Co-Chair of the Communications and Engagement Working Group.**

**From Sullivan to Everyone:**

**Dan, are you also looking into remote learning to reduce traffic?**

**From Maria Barry, American University to Everyone:**

**202-885-2146, Maria Barry and please subscribe to the newsletter:  
[American.edu/communityrelations](https://www.american.edu/communityrelations)**

**From Jim Landau to Everyone:**

**I'd like to express gratitude for the beautiful campus, classified as an arboretum and the year-round gardens. We enjoy walking around the campus often. Having moved to**

Westover in summer 2020, we look forward to enjoying the full range of opportunities on campus.

From Tony Long, OLLI at AU to Everyone:

Thanks to Don, Maria, Ed, and others for putting this meeting together. I will put out the word to the OLLI at AU community about the neighborhood partnership and to invite them to sign up for the community newsletter.

From Josh Babb to Everyone:

<https://forms.gle/7sThtpgQmE9PhCBk6>

From Josh Babb to Everyone:

Form for interest in joining a Working Group

From Josh Babb to Everyone:

<https://www.american.edu/communityrelations/neighborhood-partnership/>

From Ed Fisher to Everyone:

Edfisher@american.edu

From Maria Barry, American University to Everyone:

Thank you everyone for coming out.!

From Ellen Malasky to Everyone:

Thanks!