

TWEAK – Transportation Alternatives Sub-sub-committee. (TWEAK – TA)

Members and summary as of 10-9-07:

Marie Reinsdorf, chair/contact, kreinsdorf@cox.net, 703-909-7101 (parent-person)

Jenny Lindner, geneva.lindner@fcps.edu, 703-919-0502 (high school teacher of history and government at South County HS)

The **purpose of this group** is to:

- Identify and existing alternatives to public transportation
- Explore potential alternatives

Transportation alternatives (TA's for short) **definition: means of getting to school other than by riding on an FCPS school bus.**

We identified the following topics and assignments. More may be added – this is our “quick-start” list. A report is a summary and/or verbal report ready to be given. See next page. We’re starting on 1 (Jenny) & 2 (Marie) immediately, launching 3-5 next.

No	Topic	Task	Initial Result
1	<p>What existing legal and policy (not required by law, but FCPS assumes responsibility) liability for safety & conduct students does FCPS have for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students on FCPS buses • Students on existing alternate methods of transportation <p>What legal cases have been brought against the school, & what were the outcomes</p>	Research	Report
2	<p>What alternative modes are in use by other school jurisdictions (w emphasis on what could feasibly be applied to our system). Scope of research will include next topic.</p>	Research	Report
3	<p>What could be outsourced?</p>	<p>Identify any earlier efforts to outsource; work to prepare a questionnaire which we could submit to private carriers (limo services, for example) to see if they may provide service which meets requirements, at less cost –</p>	<p>Questionnaire as-a-facsimile for a request for proposal. Work through TF channels to submit this to</p>

		using one or two high schools as the service recipient [Marie et al]	one or more companies & report back on results
4	"Safe Routes to Schools"	Identify several FCPS schools to study application of Arlington's Safe Routes to School Initiative (1)	Report on how this is applied in Arlington; & how we could apply to one or more identified schools
5	Grants and tax breaks available for TA's	Research available government (local to national) and private grants or incentive programs, and government tax breaks, which FCPS could use	

References:

(1) Email from Phyllis Payne:

“Safe Routes to School Initiative: In 1999, Arlington also began an initiative to provide greater safety for students traveling to and from Arlington’s schools. The Safe Routes to School initiative is a collaborative effort between staff from the Arlington Schools Administration and man County agencies including the Public Information Office, Police and Environmental Services Departments as well as students, and parents. The program has evaluated existing conditions around all 32 Arlington County schools and recommended safety measures. These improvements include improving signage and markings at crosswalks and in school zones, installation of new school zone flashing signals, relocation of parking and drop-off zones and clearance of overgrown vegetation. Longer term projects include traffic calming measures construction of new sidewalks, pedestrian refuge islands, and curb extensions (also known as nubs) along walking routes within one-quarter mile of schools. More than one and a half million dollars of county funding has been directed to Safe Routes to Schools projects to fund the needed construction and signal installation. The program also includes Education, Encouragement, Engineering and Enforcement elements. “