VP Advocacy Office Report, Laura Stewart

October 2020

This past month I have had the following meetings.

**Black and Brown Coalition**

The coalition has been preparing for the forum on 10/15. More equity hubs are opening to serve students in need.

**Virtual Learning Committee** and **Health and Wellness Committee**

We have met several times and have narrowed down some priorities. Please see their reports.

**SSP Subcommittee, meeting a few times a week!**

The policy is going through council committees now! Highlights below:

Council Committee Vote on Moratoria: Hans Reimer and Andrew Friedson voted to remove moratoria throughout the entire county, including Clarksburg area. Will Jawando wanted an “emergency stop” at with schools 135% capacity limit. All three wanted ONE policy for the entire county. This is different than the Planning draft.

Council Committee Voted on Impact Tax discounts: Certain discounts in dense areas including metro and purple line areas were up for debate. The Council committee voted to NOT apply the extra discounts because they wanted the tax to actually cover the impact as intended. Student generation rates were reduced in this CIP for newer high-rise buildings so that they won’t pay more than their impact.

Recordation Taxes were not covered and will go to the full council instead.

Utilization Premium Payments will be paid in overcrowded areas. The council staff recommended they be paid in areas that have schools at 105% capacity at a lower rate, then at a higher rate at 120%. Will Jawando wanted a slightly higher rate, Friedson a lower rate. Friedson’s passed committee. All agreed to a payment that started at 105% instead of the 120% suggested by Planning Board.

Past Enterprise Zones would now be subject to impact taxes, but new opportunity zones would be exempted from school impact tax. Non MPDU units might be subjected to the Utilization Premium Payments, more information on that policy was requested. It will go to the full council.

The MCCPTA SSP Subcommittee would like to see the projected impact all of these decisions will have on CIP revenues.

**Advocacy Committee, meeting 1 to 2 times a week**

Finalized TWO drafts of the Advocacy Priorities. Sent to e-lest.

After receiving feedback, we drafted a one page that might serve our purposes this year.

**CIP Committee**

We are communicating with MCPS on the process for the upcoming CIP hearings. The presentation to MCCPTA will now be directly before the DA on Tuesday the 27th. Testimony for the first session on November 2nd will be Friday Nov. 30th at noon.