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Proposal would break off part of thoroughfare

By RAY BETNER
Staff Writer
WILLIAMSBURG — The city Planning Commission has come up with a proposal to make two pieces out of Lafayette Street, one of the important east-west thoroughfares in the city.

The Planning Commission is recommending that two cul-de-sacs be placed on a section of Lafayette that would cut it off from the rest of the street. Commission members said installing the cul-de-sacs would encourage only local traffic in the area. A new name would likely be given to the isolated portion of the street.

In addition, the commission wants Lafayette to be extended through the undeveloped Casey property so that much of the land can still be used, possibly as an office park. The new section would link Lafayette with Richmond Road.

The changes are part of the land use map being reviewed by the commission as part of its

comprehensive plan overhaul. While it might be years before the commission's proposals become reality, city Planning Director Rod Neider said the recommendations are important.

"It will have an effect on just about every person in the city. That is a well-traveled street," Neider said.

The proposed new look for Lafayette Street started when a cul-de-sac at one end of Lafayette Street, the cul-de-sac would be installed as part of the \$7.7 million Monticello Avenue extension project. Construction is scheduled to start in January 1992.

City officials approved the cul-de-sac site but said they also wanted a new link between Lafayette and Richmond Road.

That would require travelers of small, residential streets like Wythe, Delaware, Shirley, Woodrow and Berkeley avenues.

The solution, proposed by the commission as part of its

read from Lafayette through the undeveloped Casey property to Richmond Road at Brooks Street.

But Planning Commission members didn't like the first drawing for the connector. Chairman Prier Bryan complained the proposed connector road "chopped" the undeveloped land, making it almost impossible to build on.

A new proposal recently approved by the commission would shift the connector to the edge of the Casey property, leaving most of the land open for development. Commission members agreed a low-density, non-residential use would be best for the land, possibly an office park.

Commission members will meet again at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Municipal Building to take a look at all the changes proposed for the land use map.

A public meeting to explain the changes will be held in late October or early November.

Monday morning, with the keys in the ignition, the radio playing and a door open. That afternoon, Karl began searching through the files that might lead to his son.

Karl was nearby when Barbara's car was found. Wednesday he waited while investigators gathered evidence and he finally walked around the car.

"I couldn't do any good in identifying the girl," he said. "I walked on by. I walked another 30 or 40 yards and I saw him in the car of the cover."

As a tribute to David, Karl wants to repair an information sign at the refuge that had been damaged by gunfire before the murders. And the family hopes to find a miniature Ford Ranger pickup to bury with their son.

Karl and David had come to terms as father and son. But the sadness and regret over unfinished business brought tears to his eyes. "I just wish that I could have said goodbye."

The two were dead at the head of the car. Karl said he had seen the bodies. Knottling was also seen in a shoulder.

Dixon believes the man was killed at the end of a half-mile elevated walkway over the marsh that ends at the river. He thinks the killer might coincide and a plane that could not be seen from the James River Bridge.

Because the fatal action would have apparently spared the bodies to shore, Dixon said he thinks the bodies were pulled by hand several hundred feet into the river.

The water is only a few feet deep for about 300 yards into the river. Dixon said the man is one of the most tallings he has worked in a career that dates back more than three decades. Avid what his gut feeling on the case was. Dixon responded: "The only gut feeling I have is I have two dead people and I don't know who killed them."

Briefs

New fee schedule in building rules

KING WILLIAM — The Board of Supervisors has amended the county building regulations to include a new fee schedule.

The amendment passed Thursday changes the fee for a basic building permit for up to 1,000 square feet from four cents per square foot to six cents per square foot.

Virtually all the fees for permits related to building were increased to rates that are in line with surrounding counties, said David S. Whitlow, county administrator.

In other business, the board:
• Changed the penalty for delinquent taxes to 10 percent. The old penalty was the greater of \$10 or 10 percent.
• Appropriated \$5,000 to the King William Volunteer Fire Department for self-contained breathing apparatus.

Officers chosen

URBANNA — The Northern Neck Middle Peninsula Area Agency on Aging board has reorganized for its 1988 fiscal year beginning Oct. 1.

Officers are H. L. Mays of West Point, chairman; Martin Weaver of Lancaster, vice chairman; and Dallas Long of Warsaw, secretary.

In other business Thursday, the board selected Mitchell and Wiggan & Co. of Fredericksburg to conduct its FY87 audit; and B. H. Beard Insurance of Warsaw for insurance coverage.

Man killed in crash

CAROLINE — An Urbanna man died early Friday when the car he was driving crashed on Caroline County. John Charles Kanak, 38, of Route 277, died instantly, according to the report filed by State Trooper W. E. Shropshire.

Kanak's car was southbound on Route 17 near Port Royal when it rounded a curve and ran off the right side of the road. It then slid sideways across the road, went down an embankment on the left side and struck a tree, the report said.

From staff reports

Dioxin tests

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The decision to test the mills comes on the heels of a two-year study of five paper mills in the United States revealing that dioxin has been discovered in the mill's sludge, paper products and waste water.

The American Paper Institute studied the problem after receiving traces of dioxin were found in 1985 in products or discharge from a Maine mill.

The EPA and industry spokesmen agree that further testing needs to be done. Since Union Camp and Chesapeake were not among the five mills tested in the American Paper study, it is not known how much dioxin would be found with the new testing methods.

No dioxin traces were found under the methods in 1986, according to Gilbert and Norman Shroyer, a Union Camp technical director.

The dioxin is believed to be caused when the pulp paper product is bleached with chlorine to turn it from brown to white. The greatest amount of the substance has been found in the sludge on a state-approved landfill at the company site. Chesapeake turns its sludge in its incinerator.

With such low dioxin levels, Gilbert said, there was no need to worry about even more reduced levels getting into the air from the incineration.

"It is a legitimate concern," Shroyer said of the dioxin link. It was a surprise to the industry because previous testing had shown there was no contamination, he said.

Man recalls son's life

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Both had been shot in the head after being missing since early Sunday.

"His truck — that's his pride and joy," Karl said with a smile. David shared his love of cars and racing with his father. "Whenever he had something he was justified about he came to me."

Kathy, Karl's wife and David's stepmother, raged in "Or he'd take something apart and say, 'How do you put this back together?'"

Karl, a German-born landscaper, is a big man with dark piercing eyes. At he recalled David's life and death, his mood switched from anger to amazement to heartbreak.

Kathy stayed close to comfort her husband as he talked. "The more I talk about it, I think the easier it gets. I don't know," he said.

The relationship between David and his father had high and low points. Karl divorced David's mother when the boy was young. "We drifted basically apart," Karl said of himself and his son. "The worse days that to you. We talked to each other on the phone — but as much as we fought, I suppose."

"People, when he was a big youngster, called him a problem child," Karl said. "OK, he had a mind of his own."

Three years in military school brought a change in the relationship between David and his father, but Karl said he still misses the boy who was so close to him.

Hebel said he is confident Willy will make changes that will satisfy the county and the city manager. Forrest, however, said the council eventually may have to step in.

"If they (the Police Department) don't make the improvements, I think there ought to be some replacements" from the chief down, Forrest said.

Death threats

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any theory that the pair was in a car as a drug deal that had gone bad. "There's no indication of drug use," he said.

Investigators have said Knottling and Edwards met Saturday night while she was out with Knottling's cousin and made arrangements to meet after school had been taken home.

Edwards said Wednesday her daughter seemed anxious for a while to get to sleep and was not the house Sunday morning.

Because underwear and shoes belonging to the two were found in the abandoned truck, which was found unlinked with keys in the ignition and a radio playing, Dixon believes the pair were surprised by their assailant.

The parking at Rugged Island is a popular "lovers lane" for Peninsula teenagers.

There was a steady rain Sunday and investigators say any blood marking the spot where

the two were shot at the head may have been washed away. Knottling was also shot once in a shoulder.

Dixon believes the man was killed at the end of a half-mile elevated walkway over the marsh that ends at the river. He thinks the killer might coincide and a plane that could not be seen from the James River Bridge.

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Automotive News By Allen Quinn

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