



Mount Vernon  
Council  
of Citizens'  
Associations

# Record

Volume XLI, No. 9, September 2009

## MVCCA COUNCIL MEETING

July 22, 2009 8 p.m.

Walt Whitman School, Jack Knowles Lecture Hall

**PRESIDING:** Co-chair Pat Rea.

**ATTENDING:** Co-chairs David Dale, Pat Rea, Katherine Ward;  
Committee Chairs Louise Cleveland, Queenie Cox, Kahan Dhillon,  
John Jeszenszky, David Plummer, Dallas Shawkey, Catherine  
Voorhees; FCFCA Rep Karen Pohorylo; Treasurer Tonda Phalen;  
Secretary Carol Coyle.

Representatives from: Belle Haven Terrace, Collingwood on the  
Potomac, Engleside, The Fairfax, Hollin Hall, Hollin Hills, Hunting-  
ton Club, Mount Zephyr, New Gum Springs, Newington, Newington  
Forest, River Towers, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens,  
Shadowbrook, Southwood, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing,

Stratford on the Potomac IV, Villamay, Waynewood, Wellington,  
Wellington Heights, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor, Woodley  
Hills.

Presiding co-chair announced that Jerry Fill is now a reporter for  
the Mount Vernon Gazette and plans to give coverage to Council  
matters; he would like to meet with each of the committee chairs to  
develop an understanding of the scope of activities.

Shadowbrook Homeowners have applied for membership. Unani-  
mous approval.

### SUPERVISOR'S TIME -

Board of Supervisors' Retreat was positive. They will be looking at  
ways to deal with the budget shortfall; they will look at a meals tax  
and BPOL gross receipts tax.

Re: APR, Supervisor is watching the progress of our Strategic  
Planning Committee; he is considering suggestions for his long-  
range planning board but will wait until Fall to appoint.

Mulligan Road will be 4 lanes; two 11 foot travel lanes and two 15  
foot lanes to accommodate bikers.

*continued page 2...*

### MVCCA BOARD

Co-Chairs	David Dale .....	703-765-8247
	Patrick Rea .....	703-385-3322
	Katherine Ward.....	703-627-8782
Treasurer	Tonda Phalen .....	703-768-7091
Secretary	Carol Coyle .....	703-780-7955
Editor	<i>vacant</i> .....	
BUDG	David Voorhees .....	703-765-7551
COAF	Queenie Cox.....	703-360-2414
EDUC	Judy Harbeck.....	703-780-1883
E&R	David Plummer .....	703-360-7964
H/HS	Louise Cleveland .....	703-780-9151
PL/Z	<i>vacant</i> (David Dale, <i>Acting</i> ) .....	703-765-8247
PSAF	Dallas Shawkey .....	703-360-2185
TRANS	Catherine Voorhees.....	703-765-7551
SCAWH	John Jeszenszky .....	703-799-9635
LRSP	Kahan Dhillon .....	703-768-8437
FCFCA	Karen Pohorylo .....	703-780-7825
SFDC	[Jim Davis on leave of absence] .....	703-799-3278
	Tom Hook .....	703-765-6869
	Karen Pohorylo .....	703-780-7825

Webmaster Karen Keefer ..... 703-660-6699

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

All MVCCA APR Comprehensive Plan Nominations have been  
submitted on time to the County.

At the September Council meeting, the membership of the  
MVCCA will elect three people to be on the nominating committee.  
Names of volunteers to serve on the nominating committee will be  
taken from the floor. The nominating committee is charged with  
selecting the slate of candidates for the election of the three co-  
chairs, secretary, and treasurer, which will take place in  
November.

**Board Vacancies:** Contact co-chair if interested in applying.

- Planning and Zoning Chair
- Editor of the Record

# Council Minutes

Design funds have been approved for the widening of Route 1 from Route 235 (Woodlawn) south to the Fairfax County Parkway. Kings Crossing development is still a challenge. JPR can, by right, do as they wish with the existing building; comprehensive plan calls for a park on part of the property which does not seem to be in JPR's plan. Martin Tillett reports that Spring Bank community is indignant; the stream there runs into Hunting Creek which runs into the Potomac. Mr. Quander, who still lives there, remembers when he used to be able to go swimming in Quander Brook.

**MINUTES** – Approved as published.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Accepted as published.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Affordable and Workforce Housing** – See minutes. Next meeting July 30.

**Budget and Finance** – No meeting this month. Next meeting August 5 to discuss BPOL tax resolution.

**Consumer Affairs** – See minutes. One resolution.

**Education** – See minutes.

**Environment and Recreation** – See minutes for report on Mike McGrath's presentation of upcoming improvements to Cole Sewage Treatment Plant. One resolution.

**Health and Human Services** – See minutes of joint meeting with Public Safety. Next meeting will be September 8, annual report from IMVH CEO Barbara Doyle on the health of the hospital.

**Planning and Zoning** – See minutes. Next meeting September 8 as September 7 is Labor Day. One resolution.

**Public Safety** – See minutes of joint meeting with HHS which addressed ways to preserve preventive programs such as substance abuse treatment teams; Juvenile Domestic Relations supervised visitation and exchange for which there is space at South County Center. Next meeting September 3 to discuss the impact of budget cuts on Mount Vernon Police Station.

**Special Committee on Long-Range Strategic Planning** – Chairman Dhillon thanks the Voice for coverage of the charret; 62 attendees represented 30 associations plus businesses, SFDC, other interests. Next meeting of the committee will be July 27 at MV Governmental Center, Room 3. Next public meeting will be August 22. September 10 will be a General Council Special Meeting to vote on the APRs that we are presenting. A special issue of The Record will announce the meeting.

Sam Wood (Villamay) suggested that it is time to figure out how to shoot down WalMart at Kings Crossing. Sheldon Hoening (Wessynton) explained that it is imperative to get the Comprehensive Plan changed; that property is under special exception now.

**Transportation** – See minutes. Next meeting September 8.

**FCFCA** – Rep Pohorylo will have a resolution next month in support of Congressman Connolly's bill to finance expansion of the Metro in Northern Virginia. Child-only Health Care plan took effect July 1.

Co-chair Rea reports that Tom Hook and Jim Davis are temporarily unable to attend SFDC meetings, so Karen will assume that duty.

## CO-CHAIR' REPORT

Gerry Fill is now reporting for the Mount Vernon Gazette and will interview committee chairs.

## RESOLUTIONS

**COAF/ER-2009-01 JOINT RESOLUTION ON TREE WORKERS CERTIFICATION AND LICENSING** Discussion included how to implement legislation, other states' experiences. Tree commissioner Quigley suggested that education is the most important consideration.

Approved 21-1-4.

**ER-2009-01 REGULATION OF ILLEGAL AND INTRUSIVE MOTORCYCLE NOISE** Discussion included that County ordinance should be changed to require that mufflers be in accordance with federal regulations; current laws are unenforceable. Motion to table until Public Safety has had a chance to review passed with one abstention.

<b>Treasurer's Report</b>			
<b>For Period January 1, 2009 through September 17, 2009</b>			
	<b>Budget 2009</b>	<b>Actual to Date</b>	<b>Budget/Actual</b>
<b>Balance Beginning Period</b>		<b>\$8,746.67</b>	
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
Dues	\$4,000	\$4,033.00	\$33.00
- Dues from new member drive	\$250	\$126.00	-\$124.00
Record Subscriptions	\$250	\$0.00	-\$250.00
Gala Income	\$4,100	\$4,625.00	\$525.00
Drawn from reserves <sup>1</sup>	\$500	\$0.00	-\$500.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$9,100<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$8,784.00</b>	<b>-\$316.00</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Record Production	\$3,470	\$879.11	\$2,590.89
Record Postage	\$200	\$0.00	\$200.00
Administrative	\$300	\$153.58	\$146.42
Gala Expenses	\$3,200	\$2,570.00	\$630.00
Web Site	\$520	\$0.00	\$520.00
Miscellaneous	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Member Marketing	\$250	\$299.65	-\$49.65
Insurance	\$660	\$660.00	\$0.00
Strategic Planning Meetings <sup>1</sup>	\$500	\$0.00	\$500.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$9,100<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$4,562.34</b>	<b>\$4,537.66</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>		<b>\$12,968.33</b>	

<sup>1</sup> On June 24, 2009, the General Council voted to approve \$500 in previously unbudgeted expenditures for use in Strategic Planning Meetings. These funds must be drawn from reserve funds as no additional receipts were established to cover the expenditure. The revised budget's total receipts and total disbursements now reflect the approved change, as do the itemized notations.

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# Council Minutes

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## **PZ-2009-05 RESOLUTION ON BRAC APR NOMINATION 08-IV-9S**

Only change from last month is in #6 Whereas: percentages have been removed and the designation changed to "light" industrial.

Approved 24-1-1.

## **PZ-2009-06 ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT ON RESIDENTIAL GRADE HEIGHT**

Approved 24-0-1

## **MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS' TIME**

Neal McBride (Newington Forest) reports that South County Federation opposes the current Laurel Hill plan as proposed by the Alexander Company and also, the "secret" new land fill being planned by the County.

Meeting adjourned 9:45.

— Carol Coyle, Secretary

## **MVCCA SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING ON APR NOMINATIONS September 10, 2009 8 p.m. Walt Whitman School, Jack Knowles Lecture Hall**

**PRESIDING:** Co-chair Pat Rea.

**ATTENDING:** Co-chairs David Dale, Pat Rea, Katherine Ward; Committee Chairs Kahan Dhillon, John Jeszenszky, David Plummer, Dallas Shawkey, David Voorhees; Secretary Carol Coyle.

Representatives from Belle View Condominiums, Collingwood on the Potomac, Hollin Glen, Hollin Hall, Huntington Club, Marlan Forest, Mason Hill, Montebello, Mount Vernon Civic, Mount Vernon Manor, Mount Vernon on the Potomac, Mount Zephyr, Newington, Pavilions at Huntington Metro, Riverside Gardens, Shadowbrook, Sherwood Estates, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac IV, Sulgrave Manor, Villamay, Waynewood, Wellington, Wellington Heights, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor, Williamsburg Manor North, Woodley Hills. Representatives of landowners from Kings Crossing/Penn Daw and Justice Snowden Farm. Marianne Gardner of the Fairfax County Planning Department. Bruce Leonard, special consultant to the committee.

The single purpose of this Special Meeting was to vote on Nominations for revisions to the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan. Kahan Dhillon, Chair of the Special Committee for Long Range and Strategic Planning, explained that the Comprehensive Plan is only reviewed and modified every five years. The APR working group included representatives from each of the MVCCA committees, member associations, and stakeholders throughout the Mount Vernon District. Open meetings were held to determine which parcels throughout the MV District might benefit from changes in the CP. The Committee worked diligently under tremendous time constraints, while reaching out to all stakeholders in the MV

District. All meetings were open to the public. In brief, the Committee held 2 charrettes to obtain input from the Community and had the participation of over 100 members of the Community (which included representatives from approximately 30 member organizations of the MVCCA, businesses, non-profits, landowners, County staff, and others). The Committee also met with and reached out to members of the Community outside meetings; produced a video entitled "Planning 101" to assist those in the Community who may want to better understand the APR process; and held Environmental Tours of the Trails and Watersheds. The resulting nominations have been published on the MVCCA website in The Record, and there has been extensive coverage of this process in both the Mount Vernon Voice and the Mount Vernon Gazette who also both consistently published notice of all the public meetings.

Dhillon then presented each of the nominations, answering questions with the help of committee members who were most familiar with each of the nominations.

## **NORTH GATEWAY**

**Approved 26-0-1.**

## **KINGS CROSSING/PENN DAW**

**Approved 26-0-1.**

## **MOUNT VERNON GOVERNMENT CENTER**

There was discussion regarding plans for the space now occupied by Burke & Herbert Bank and the Shell station; request was made that the nomination include text that will assure that these uses may continue.

**Approved 22-1-5.**

## **JUSTICE SNOWDEN FARM**

Green space must be maintained as part of an agreement which allowed the townhouse development on Hinson Farm. RDH 5 zoning on the rest of the parcel would preclude development as a mobile home park.

**Approved 24-0-3.**

## **SMITTY'S TOWN CENTER**

Friendly amendments were offered to include language that 1) would assure that dwelling units would be strictly ownership (at market rate); and 2) would eliminate the reference to bermed screening (as this would be ground floor commercial and should be visible from Route One.

**Approved 23-0-4.**

## **ISA – FORMER MOUNT VERNON HIGH SCHOOL**

Building will be preserved for education. Friendly amendment to eliminate the specific amount of space to be dedicated to non-profits was not accepted.

Comment that this LEEDS language is inconsistent with the other nominations.

**Approved 22-1-5.**

## **DOGUE CREEK PUMPING STATION**

**Approved 22-0-4.**

## **LITTLE HUNTING CREEK PUMPING STATION**

Stratford Landing Citizen's Association offered a friendly amendment to "vote yes for this nomination with the stipulation that 30

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## Council Minutes

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## Committee Reports

days after the SLCA October 2009 Annual Meeting, we can give you our support for this nomination or we can give you our request to pull this nomination.....” Dhillon stated he had no issue with the amendment. Because there was opposition to the friendly amendment, a separate vote was taken, and the friendly amendment was defeated 8-18-2. The point was made that the friendly amendment was not necessary because, if the SLCA is opposed to the nomination, the SLCA can request that MVCCA pull the nomination. Amendment as published **Approved 19-6-2.**

**RICHMOND HIGHWAY CORRIDOR** **Approved 23-0-1.**

**POLICY GUIDANCE** **Approved 23-0-0.**

**HYBLA VALLEY AND GUM SPRINGS** **Approved 22-0-0.**

**BEACON/GROVETON** **Approved 20-0-2.**

**URBAN DESIGN LANGUAGE** **Approved 21-0-1.**

— Carol Coyle, Secretary

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## Committee Reports

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### BUDGET AND FINANCE

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Minutes of the Budget and Finance Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, August 5, 2009 at 7:30 pm  
Walt Whitman Middle School Lecture Hall

Present: David Voorhees (Committee Chair), David Dale (MVCCA Co-chair), Spring Bank, Hollin Hall Village, Williamsburg Manor, Shadowbrook Assn.

Our guest speaker for this meeting was Mary Stevens, Deputy Director of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for Fairfax County. HCD administers the Federal Housing Choice Voucher rental subsidy program (formerly known as the Section 8 Program) for Fairfax County. Participants in the Housing Choice Voucher Program receive assistance to rent privately-owned housing units that are located in apartment complexes, condominiums, townhouses, or single-family homes. Priority is given to serving households with incomes at or below 30 percent of the median income for the Washington, DC Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA).

Fairfax County HCD and Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority (FCRHA) have a budget of \$94,945,267 for fiscal year 2010.

The FCRHA is a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia created pursuant to Title 36 of the Code of Virginia, as

amended. It was created by the Board of Supervisors and approved by a County-wide voter referendum on November 2, 1965. The FCRHA was activated by the Board of Supervisors on February 23, 1966 and has been in operation, without interruption, since that date. Unlike most Redevelopment and Housing Authorities which are completely separate from the local government and employ their own staff, the FCRHA has had no employees since 1974. At that time the Board of Supervisors created the HCD, which provides administrative support to the FCRHA and operates its programs.

Currently FCRHA administers 1,063 units of federally funded public housing and offers 3,204 Housing Choice Vouchers which are also federally funded. Under the Fairfax County Rental Program, FCRHA owns 1,932 multifamily units, 414 senior units and 135 units of other specialized housing.

On August 26, 2008 tenant-based vouchers leased in and administered by Fairfax County totaled 2,865. Of those 2,865 vouchers, 460 were in the Mount Vernon District. The combined districts of Lee, Mason and Mount Vernon accounted for 55% of the vouchers issued in the county.

The Mount Vernon District includes 913 units of privately owned affordable housing and 419 units of FCRHA owned affordable housing. An additional 67 units are proposed for the North Hill project.

Elizabeth Lardner is a Commissioner to FCRHA from the Mount Vernon District and also attended the meeting.

The committee plans to re-submit the BPOL tax resolution for a vote at the September MVCCA Counsel meeting.

The next meeting for the Budget and Finance Committee is scheduled for October 7, 2009 at 7:30 at the Walt Whitman Middle School Principal's conference room.

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### CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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Consumer Affairs met on Tuesday, September 1st. We discussed the development of an education packet for member associations for tree care and maintenance as described in the resolution passed by the general membership during July 2009. Contact was made with Growing Earth Tree Care ([www.growingearth.com](http://www.growingearth.com)) because their website and newsletter addresses the concerns of tree care and maintenance as stated in the tree resolution passed by the general membership during July 2009. Growing Earth Tree Care has no objection to the MVCCA linking to its website.

Another feature of the Growing Earth Tree Care website is that you may send a tree question electronically and a certified arborist will respond. An information sheet will be provided during the

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## Committee Reports

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September 23rd general membership meeting about Growing Earth Tree Care.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 6th at Walt Whitman Middle School in the Principal's Conference Room. Topic: Mature Driver Safety.

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### EDUCATION

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The Education Committee met at 7:30 pm on September 2, 2009, in the media center of Whitman Middle School. Associations represented included: Huntington, Waynewood, Wellington, Hollin Hall, Newington Forest, Sulgrave Manor, Riverside Estates, Potomac Valley Riverbend, Williamsburg Manor North, Woodley Hills.

Daniel Storck, Mount Vernon District School Board member and former Board Chair, was the featured speaker. Storck had asked to attend the meeting for the primary purpose of eliciting committee views on the performance of Superintendent Jack Dale, whose contract renewal would be voted on by the School Board on September 10, 2009. [The School Board did later vote 7-3-1 to extend Dr. Dale's employment through June 2013; Storck's vote was "nay".]

Storck noted that in general the School Board evaluates the Superintendent within the framework of the strategic governance and accountability standards established by the Board and according to progress made in reaching specific target goals agreed in advance by the Superintendent and the Board. (see [www.fcps.edu/schlbld/sg/index.htm](http://www.fcps.edu/schlbld/sg/index.htm)) As an on-going process, and culminating in June of each year, the Superintendent submits progress reports as to each goal, and, for those not met, a plan to address those shortcomings. The Board and Superintendent then set new specific targets for the next year.

Storck also noted that although most of the evaluation documents are public record, neither he nor the Board had considered whether there could effectively be public input on these annual reviews but stated his intent to meet with the Committee in June or July to get our views on whether targets were appropriate measures or were met as well as general performance questions or concerns. He did not know to what extent, if any, other Board members were seeking community input.

Committee comments generally centered on leadership style, visibility, and effective advocacy for school needs.

Several committee members expressed concern that Dr. Dale (and his senior staff) has been essentially invisible in our area, both in public and in our schools. This leads to a perception that he is neither particularly interested in, nor understands, the significant and unique needs of our schools. Certainly, while our schools should be a hotbed of activity given public focus on reduction of

achievement gaps, visible presence and attention from senior staff seems desultory at best.

Although the budget crisis has damaged all schools, several opined that Dr. Dale did not seem to recognize (or care about) the special damage some cuts would inflict on diverse school populations struggling with achievement issues, or cuts (such as to adult education) which would result in the loss of outside matching funds critical to the program.

Others noted that Dr. Dale's leadership style appears weak and reactive rather than proactive, with little of the follow-through or accountability which is no less essential in a collegial-style decision making process than in a more top-down approach. In particular, some members noted an apparent inability or unwillingness to "think outside the box" or encourage staff to do so with the result, for example, of delaying the construction of South County Middle School and greatly increasing its cost to taxpayers.

Underlying these comments was the common thread of concern over the lack of effective public advocacy in order to explain issues, elicit vital public support, strongly communicate and forcefully advocate for essential needs to the Board of Supervisors, especially in difficult budget times.

This lackluster public persona likewise does not inspire teachers, students, parents or the public to continue to work for educational progress, nor does it promote pride and confidence in an excellent school system let alone in each school within that system.

It may be unfortunate that this "public persona" aspect is so significant but the fact remains that the Superintendent is the face of the school system and that face needs to be able to inspire confidence, demonstrate passion and commitment, and be a strong, forceful and determined advocate for the needs of the system and its teachers and of each school and each child.

The Committee emphasized that if Dr. Dale's skill set justifies retention despite his perceived shortcomings in the public persona and advocacy arena, it is essential that someone—staff or Board—step into this role as we continue through difficult financial times and beyond.

The next meeting will be an opportunity to meet the new Assistant Superintendent for Cluster 4, Scott Brabrand, and continue our annual "State of the Cluster" tradition.

Next meeting: October 7, 2009, 8 pm, Whitman MS library  
Speaker: Scott Brabrand, Cluster 4 Assistant Superintendent  
Other meetings of interest: (1) VA BOA Regional public meeting on SOLs: 7pm, September 30, 2009, West Potomac HS Kogelman Theater; (2) FY2010 County/School budget dialogues, see [www.fcps.edu/news/fy2011.htm](http://www.fcps.edu/news/fy2011.htm) for lists of dates and locations.

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# Committee Reports

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## ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

The committee met on 2 September 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 217 of the South County Building. Present were David Plummer (chair), Collingwood-on-the-Potomac, Mount Vernon Civic, Mount Vernon on the Potomac, Potomac Valley – Riverbend, Southwood Civic, Spring Bank, Sulgrave Manor, and Woodley Hills Community Association.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

The Chair thanked Ms. Betsy Martin (in absentia) for her strong contributing role in the recent planning and execution activities of the MVCCA Strategic Planning Committee. Virtually every nomination contained specific language that re-affirmed or bolstered current environmental requirements. In some cases language was added to bring the comprehensive plan into alignment with modern stormwater requirements. In other cases, language was suggested to preserve open space in or near environmentally-sensitive areas. In all cases, Ms. Martin's hard work and dedication was unanimously appreciated by the committee.

There was also a discussion of the APR nomination process. The MVCCA general council will be voting this month on whether to send the generated nominations through the long-range planning taskforce. Links to the nominations are on the MVCCA web site. Those sent forward are next reviewed by county staff. The next important community input to the process will be via a committee appointed by Supervisor Hyland in January. A Huntington Gateway nomination sponsored by a builder was briefly discussed. It seemed to be short on environmental provisions. We expect further review of this nomination next month.

**GW Parkway Invasive Species:** The discussion next moved to the detrimental effects of invasive species along the George Washington Parkway. Volunteer efforts have helped with cleaning up trash, but fall far short of what is needed to control expanding vine cover and other problems. The Committee desires to ask the National Park Service to do more or to find a way of supporting more volunteers. It is not legal for people to attack this problem on their own. Storm damaged trees seem to be dealt with fairly promptly and some replanting occurs. There is no such attention to trees dying from overgrowth of invasive plants.

In conjunction with the discussion of invasive species, a question was raised about who is responsible for keeping bike paths clear where the bike path is on private property.

**Miscellaneous:** Finally, general concern was expressed with the overuse of pesticides and what this does to Fairfax County watersheds.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the E&R committee will be held on Wednesday, October 7th, in Room 217 of the South County Government Center at 7:00 p.m.

[correction] The E&R Resolution below was incorrectly numbered in the July 2009 Record. The correct number is shown below.

## E&R-2009-02: REGULATION OF ILLEGAL AND INTRUSIVE MOTORCYCLE NOISE

## HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

The MVCCA Health and Human Services Committee (HHS) met September 8, 7:30 PM, at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital (Engh Room) with representation from the following member associations: Belle Haven Terrace, Collingwood on Potomac, Hollindale, Hollin Glen, Mount Zephyr, Pinewood Lake, Stratford on Potomac-Sec. 4, and Tauxemont.

### HHS and the APR Nominations Process

We met two days before the MVCCA Special General Council meeting scheduled to vote on the proposed Nominations for changes in the Comprehensive Plan, to be submitted by a Sept. 16 deadline in order to be considered in the 2010 Area Plan Review. Committee reps were able to ask questions about specific Nominations and hear from their representatives on the Strategic Planning Committee and at charrette discussions during the summer. Human services considerations included healthy environmental practices, transportation availability and safety (including pedestrian) for all, and efficient community-based service delivery. There was general agreement that the proposals reflected wide consultation with the community and thoughtful approaches to specific sites and interests.

### HHS Focus for Fall

Because the guest presenter for September needed to postpone until October (please see below, the Tuesday, Oct. 6, HHS meeting), the committee was able to raise and discuss concerns that will demand study and attention in coming months. Some issues will require guest presenters and be announced as the focus of an upcoming meeting: please see the MVCCA web site ([www.mvcca.org](http://www.mvcca.org)) for the Health and Human Services Committee page, which offers a link to the *HHS Agenda for 2009* that is updated as speakers are scheduled. Other issues may be scheduled this fall for a public forum in our area, and these may deserve HHS members' participation and follow-up: Please see the list below, "*Public Meetings on HHS Concerns.*"

Questions and concerns of HHS members include:

1. *What kinds of emergency preparedness and response (for "all hazards" inc. pandemic disease) can neighborhoods best engage in?* (Our last meeting on this issue, joint with Public Safety, was in July 2007. Take special note that the CERT program is offered, free, in our area for the first time, on 9 Monday evenings starting

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## Committee Reports

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September 21, at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center. For information, call Terry Akins 703-966-2568, or email [pio@fairfaxcountycert.org](mailto:pio@fairfaxcountycert.org).

2. *What is the plan for providing public transportation to services (Metro Access, paratransit, volunteers, etc.)? What exists now, in the FY 2010 budget, and what is the plan for FY 2011?*

3. *Where are opportunities to sustain and strengthen services, coordinate resources and respond better to needs, in this time of fiscal difficulty and rising demand? For example:*

--What are the "nexus opportunities" in mental health, especially for children and youth? (See Public Meetings, Oct. 13)

--How is Community Services (CSB) redesign of services aiming to implement Beeman Commission recommendations for transformation of the mental health services system?

--Prevention Programs and Services: Has coordination suffered in the present County budget? Where are the key services now, how are they explaining/measuring their effectiveness, and will they be retained as further cuts take place in the current fiscal year and the next?

In addition, the committee expects to continue in communication with the MVCCA Special Committee for Affordable and Workforce Housing and the new county Office coordinating public and private "Community Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness." Healthcare will be under discussion at meetings listed below (Sept. 30, Oct. 6, Oct. 13, Oct. 29). Finally, the committee asks: Where, exactly, has federal Stimulus money found its way into Fairfax County?

### Public Meetings on HHS Concerns:

**Wednesday, Sept. 30, 7 PM, Route One Task Force for Human Services**, convenes at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center, 2511 Parker's Lane, on *Healthcare (including Affordable Health Care and Mental Health)*. Directors of the county's Health Dept. and Community Services (CSB) will participate. Convener Anne Andrews, 703-780-1773

**Tuesday, Oct. 6, 7:30 PM, MVCCA's HHS Committee** meets at IMVH, Conf. Rm C/D (2<sup>nd</sup> floor), with *Inova Mount Vernon Hospital (IMVH) CEO and Inova Health System (IHS) Vice President Barbara Doyle*. Ms. Doyle provides our annual update on operations at the Hospital and also explains the status of planning for the Inova Lorton Healthplex, the Inova Behavioral Health program office now opened on Richmond Highway, and other planned enhancements of Inova healthcare services to be delivered in our area. Following, there will be a tour of the newly completed Radiology services.

**Tuesday, Oct. 13, 7-9 PM, "NEXUS Opportunities"** is the first in a series of discussions hosted by the Advisory Board of the Mount Vernon Center for Community Mental Health (MVCCMH), who invite leaders from CSB and Public Schools to explore collaborative strategies that can build better *Mental Health Services For Children And Youth*, especially in a period of fiscal difficulty and expanding needs. Because room space is limited, leaders, stakeholders, and

interested citizens (especially MVCCA HHS and Education Committee reps) are invited to participate by contacting NEXUS Coordinator Lainge Bailey ([laingebailey@earthlink.net](mailto:laingebailey@earthlink.net)) to reserve a place and receive background information prior to the meeting.

**Thursday, Oct. 29, 7 PM, Southeast Health Planning Task Force** meets quarterly, at Mount Vernon Governmental Center (Parker's Lane), on planning for enhancement of hospital and Healthplex services for residents of this area of Fairfax County.

**Tuesday, December 1, 7 PM, Route 1 Task Force for Human Services** convenes at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center (Parker's Lane) on "Strengthening Our Services," with Deputy County Executive for Human Services Verdia Haywood and Supervisor Gerry Hyland.

**Community Dialogues on Fairfax County FY 2011 Budget** begin soon, across the county. See the County website, [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov), for dates and details, and **to register in advance**. Two in Southeast area are: **Wednesday, Oct. 14** (7-9 PM South County High School Cafeteria) and **Saturday, Nov. 14** (10 AM-Noon, Sherwood Regional Library).

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## PLANNING AND ZONING

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### Minutes of the Sept. 8, 2009 Planning & Zoning Committee mtg

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 and was attended by representatives from the following member associations: Belle Haven Terrace, Hollin Hall Village, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Huntington Club, Montebello, Newington Civic, Newington Forest, Potomac Valley Riverbend, Riverside Estates, Spring Bank, Stratford on the Potomac Section IV, Wellington, Wellington Heights, and Wessington Homes. There were three land use cases and two resolutions were passed.

The first land use case was a presentation by County staff on the "final" Draft Master Plan for the Laurel Hill Adaptive Reuse area. The current plan, which will be presented to the Project Advisory Committee, includes approximately 41,000 sf of specialty retail, 55,000 sf of pad sites, 50,000 sf of historic office, 171 historic residential, and 181 new residential. Committee members expressed concern about the financial arrangements, most significantly on the amount of tax credits (\$6 million) from including low income housing. The income levels required for the tax credits are below the levels typically associated with entry-level County positions, such as police, teachers, and firefighters. Also, there was no apparent effort to consider preservation of trees in the design, the impact on the local schools, and the mix of rental and for-sale housing. The Committee voted to oppose the master plan with a resolution modeled on a similar resolution from the South County Federation.

The second land use case was a return presentation by Cingular Wireless to put a cell tower, dressed to look like an evergreen tree, on the property of the Masonic Lodge at 8717 Fort Hunt Road.

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## Committee Reports

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The applicant has worked with the adjacent neighbors to address their concerns about screening, fencing, appearance, and storm-water. While there are nearby residents who still oppose the proposal, the most directly affected homeowners no longer oppose the plan. The Committee voted to not oppose.

The final land use presentation was an information only presentation about a proposal to tear down and rebuild the McDonald's restaurant at 8735 Richmond Highway. This property is included in an APR nomination recommending higher density use; however the property owner said that regardless of the Comprehensive Plan, there will be a McDonalds on that corner for many years to come. If the proposal to rebuild is ultimately rejected by the Board of Supervisors then they will proceed with a renovation of the current store. The owners believe that it is in the community's interest to permit a new, modern restaurant with better traffic flow and landscaping to be built.

The Committee adjourned at 9:30. The next meeting will be on Monday, October 5, 2009 in the Jack Knowles lecture hall of Whitman Middle School.

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### PUBLIC SAFETY

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Associations represented: Collingwood on Potomac, Hollin Hills, Mt. Vernon Manor, Mount Zephyr, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens, Southwood, Stratford on the Potomac Sec IV, Waynewood, and Williamsburg Manor North.

The chair began by advising that CERT training is available to residents of the Mount Vernon District. CERT informational material and copies of the Syllabus for Class 39 were provided. The training will be given in Community Rms. #2 and #3 in the Mount Vernon Governmental Center each Monday evening 7 – 9:30 pm beginning September 21 through November 21.

The chair also provided follow-up information that the federal grant from the Department of Justice for continuation of the Diversion to Detoxification Program was, in the end, not approved. (The program was no funded in the Fairfax County Budget for FY 2010.) This will mean that persons picked up on the street by police for substance abuse will have to be taken to jail, where there are no substance abuse services, rather than being given the option of going to treatment. This means that Mount Vernon Police will have not choice but to have them transported to the Adult Detention Center.

Finally, the chair provided information and a resolution concerning motorcycle noise passed by the MVCCA Environment and Recreation Committee which the MVCCA Council referred to us for review. The Committee will take it up at the October meeting.

Our speakers for the evening were CAPT David Moyer, Commander, Mount Vernon Police Station, and LT Mike Wall, the new Assistant Commander. CAPT Moyer introduced LT Wall who gave a short history of his police career. He served at the Mount Vernon Station previously.

CAPT Moyer began by giving us a review of various Mount Vernon Police Station data. In the budget year beginning July 1, the Station lost ½ position for Crime Prevention Officer, the one position for School Education Officer (SEO) (this officer worked with the elementary schools in the District) and one position for Resource Officer. This last position was civilianized. Currently, there are four school crossing guard vacancies. While they are vacant, an on duty police officer must be diverted to perform those duties. CAPT Moyer is hopeful that these positions will be filled soon. There are four applications under review. The downturn in the economy has attracted applicants who may not have other employment opportunities.

He continued with a review of the crime statistics for the Station area. Fairfax County theft is down 15% so far this year; Mount Vernon Police Station is down 48% so far! However, burglary is up 25.7 % while the County is down 3%. Many of these burglaries take place at homes where the doors are left unlocked. One tactic burglars use is to pose as a magazine seller (or other seller) and ring the doorbell. If there is no answer, they may try the door. If it's unlocked, they're in. Destruction of property and larceny are both down 2% each. Robbery is down 35.2% while the County is down only 2.2%. Sex crimes are down 45.5% so far. He noted that in about 90% of the sex crime cases, the perpetrator and the victim know each other. Tampering is down 42%. These are mostly cases of person's damaging vehicles.

Next he spoke about the results of the sobriety check points. One was held on May 23 on a Richmond Hwy intersection. 849 vehicles were inspected. Two DUIs were arrested, two persons were arrested for possession of cocaine, and five were arrested for outstanding traffic summons. The next sobriety check point was conducted on July 24. 725 vehicles were inspected. Three DUIs were arrested, two persons were arrested for drug possession, and five were arrested for outstanding traffic summons. CAPT Moyer believes that his regular patrols are more effective in combating DUIs. During the last quarter, they arrested 44 DUIs.

With regard to the prostitution problem along Richmond Hwy, it is fading away as johns turn to the internet to set up meetings. This is more difficult to stop because it is arranged on line leaving many fewer street pickups taking place. Also, payments can be made without a visible funds exchange taking place.

Trying to improve pedestrian safety is a continuing battle. There are many causes for pedestrian accidents along Richmond Hwy including the limited number of crossing points, cultural issues, and disregard for the safety rules. The Mount Vernon Police will

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## Committee Reports

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continue to stop illegal or dangerous crossing by pedestrians. There will be periods of tough enforcement with pedestrians being issued warnings during the first two days and, after that, summons. Another pedestrian safety enforcement effort will be conducted this fall.

Although the SEOs were cut for the elementary schools, all the School Resource Officer (SRO) position for each middle school and high school was retained in the budget for this year. Also, there were no personnel changes at any of these schools. The SRO each school had last year is assigned there again this year. As for gangs, the station is lucky to still have a full time gang detective, MPO Greg Bender. Mount Vernon is the only station to have a full time gang detective. As a result of the station's activities, gang activity is very low. The police know who the members of gangs are in our District. When something happens, the culprit can be identified rapidly. This has been a deterrent to active gang activity. The incidence of graffiti has dropped also. Most gang tags are usually applied by wannabes.

CAPT Moyer is very grateful that manning of the Mount Vernon Jail by the Sheriff's Deputies was restored in the budget. This has allowed his police officers to spend more time in the District on patrol rather than spending time transporting prisoners to the Adult Detention Center (ADC) in Fairfax City. A round trip to the ADC takes about five to six hours.

He is also grateful that the Motor Carrier Safety Program (MCSP) was retained in the budget. This program has four officers who have received specialized training, are federally certified to stop and inspect trucks and related vehicles, and may forbid them to operate until identified safety deficiencies are corrected. The State Police have very few such officers in Northern Virginia and they are assigned to the interstate routes. The Fairfax County Police normally operate on other routes in the County. Recently, there has been increased contractor work in and near Fort Belvoir due to BRAC. The MCSP police have inspected many contractor heavy vehicles and found that the majority are unsafe to operate on County roads.

Finally, CAPT Moyer gave us a brief description of the duties of the Police Liaison Commanders (PLC). There are four positions. They were also going to be cut in the current budget but were restored in the final review by the Board of Supervisors. The PLC positions are staffed twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week to ensure continuity of command within the Police Department. The PLC is the key command link in the department's ability to effectively manage its resources to ensure maximum local and regional interoperability. This command level position guides, directs, coordinates, and supports police assets in every aspect of its operations. It is the integral link between the field duty officer, Uniform Fire Officer, Office of Emergency Management, and future co-located partners at the PSTOC facility – the Virginia State Police and Virginia Department of Transportation. This role provides critical real-time

support to every operational and sensitive matter that involves the police.

We concluded with questions and discussion with CAPT Moyer and LT Wall.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting will begin at 7:30pm Thursday, October 1 in the Mount Vernon Governmental Center in the Supervisor's Conference Rm.

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### TRANSPORTATION

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The MVCCA Transportation Committee met on Tuesday, September 8, 2009 in the Library of the Walt Whitman Middle School. The meeting was chaired by Catherine M. Voorhees. Attending were Katherine Ward, MVCCA co-chair and representatives of 10 member citizen associations (Belle Haven Terrace, Engleside, Hollin Hall Village, Huntington, Montebello, Mt. Vernon Manor, Mt. Vernon on the Potomac, Stratford Landing IV, Tauxemont, Waynewood ).

The July minutes of the Transportation Committee, as written in the Record, were approved.

**Richmond Highway** - After hearing from the Director of the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (Kathy Ichter, February and March 2009), VDOT officials (April 2009), our State Delegate Kris Amunson in June and the Northern Virginia member of the Commonwealth Transportation Board (Doug Koelemay, July 2009), the committee and the Mt. Vernon Community was successful in maintaining the speed limit on Richmond Highway and spent several months discussing among individual citizens associations what vision for Richmond Highway should be sent to our elected officials and Commonwealth Transportation Board. Two Resolutions were discussed concerning Richmond Highway: 1) Improvement of Traffic Flow and Provision for Mass Transit ; and 2) Metrorail Extension On Richmond Highway.

**a. Traffic Flow and Provision for Mass Transit on Richmond Highway** - Committee members were provided with drafts of this resolution in June and July so that they could obtain feedback from their respective civic associations on the Transportation committee's vision. The Resolution states that the MVCCA urge the Commonwealth Transportation Board, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, FCDOT and VDOT to act to secure funding to complete the widening of Richmond Highway to six lanes from Buckman Road (North) to Prince William County, and requests that VDOT undertake a Richmond Highway Rail Mass Transit Study for informed longer term planning of the future of Richmond Highway and that the Board of Supervisors retain in the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan the current future concept of a wider Richmond right of way (ROW) that includes a wide median with turn lanes plus 6 travel lanes, sidewalks/trails, and landscaping in

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## Committee Reports

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order to guide planning for a far distant future when regional growth provides the need, opportunity (revitalization) and means to further enhance the Richmond Highway Corridor.

One committee member was concerned that an on the street bicycle trail was not included in the Resolution. It was explained that the primary objective of this resolution was to obtain 6 travel lanes on Richmond Highway from Rt.235 (N) to the Occoquan River (Prince William County line) in the near future. The committee felt that the Resolution would not preclude such a bike trail in the future and the committee did not want to complicate the 6-lane request or do anything to further delay the implementation of 6 lanes. The chair indicated that an exploratory group was being formed for Route 1 Bicycle Advocates (see new business) and at the appropriate time, the Transportation Committee may address a resolution on bicyclist needs.

The Resolution passed with one abstention.

**b. Metrorail Extensions** - Congressman Gerald Connolly sponsored H.R. 1635, which Congressman Jim Moran co-sponsored. The bill is currently in a subcommittee (Highways and Transit) of the House Transportation and Infrastructure, but the subcommittee may act upon it by December. The Fairfax County Federation of Citizens' Associations supports H.R. 1635 and the MVCCA Fairfax County Federation representative (and Engleside Transportation Committee rep.) introduced this Resolution, which would authorize alternatives analysis and preliminary engineering for new Metrorail capital projects in Northern Virginia and surrounding areas. This Resolution is directed to the Yellow line metrorail extension.

Q. Does this Resolution preclude monorail or other alternatives?  
A. They (VA Congressional House Reps) discussed alternates but to keep the bill (HR 1635) simple they left them out.

Q. There is an intended destination on one line in H.R., 1635, but not on the others?  
A. Maybe we should add Woodbridge to the Yellow line extension, as it would enable a preliminary engineering study from point A to point B. (Added after a wordsmithing discussion)

**Discussion:** At Fort Belvoir, there is a railroad siding, which crosses U.S. 1 across a trestle; can it be used? Since it was a single line of track, the width of the bed would have to be redone, as well as to include safety improvements required since that bed was built.

Additional options, such as monorail, should they be added or addressed in another resolution? The committee felt that since H.R. 1635 calls for preliminary engineering, not just another study, so the bill represents a step up and it would be better to avoid complications that could delay authorizing funding for the preliminary engineering.

Q. Have you contacted Supervisor McKay? (He is our Transportation Supervisor.) No, not yet.

A press release concerning Metro funding approved by the House was handed out to the assembled group. But, it was determined

that the focus of the approved House Bill was on maintenance and safer train cars, not new rail construction.

Request that the Commonwealth of Virginia ask for federal money, including stimulus money.

Group agreed adding a funding "Be It Further Resolved" and that our destination for the extension would be Woodbridge VRE Station. The vote on the augmented version of the Resolution passed with one abstention and one opposed.

**c. DAR funding of roads identified as needing improvement** - Our Fairfax County Federation representative handed out a press release dated 7-28-09 from Congressman Jim Moran's website, which indicated that Congressman Moran has sent a letter to the Secretary of Defense Robert Gates requesting a meeting to discuss transportation issues involved with the transfer of 19,000 military and civilian personnel to Fort Belvoir pursuant to the 2005 BRAC decision. In his letter, Congressman Moran wrote: "The influx of employees being sent to Fort Belvoir threatens to greatly exacerbate an already problematic situation. We must directly address the transportation needs of the Fort and surrounding communities before the transfer occurs. I look forward to sitting down with the Secretary to discuss these issues in greater detail."

"The [Army] Corps' Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) identified thirteen necessary transportation projects at Fort Belvoir 'to maintain the transportation system's operational performance at an acceptable level of service and delay.' These projects include intersection improvements, road widening, and investments in public transportation infrastructure. Unfortunately, the limited criteria used by the Defense Access Road (DAR) program severely restricts DoD or the Army from funding the vast majority of these programs. To date, the DAR program has funding \$36 million in spot traffic improvements, a mere 8 percent of the \$458 million in necessary improvements identified in the FEIS." To read the entire letter, go to <http://moran.house.gov> and click on the July 28, 2009 news item.

While the transportation committee would like funding for the widening of Richmond Highway, the committee did not want to send a Resolution on this matter to the Council. However, individuals or individual civic associations, if so inclined, should write to the Secretary of Defense and copy Congressman Moran to request that the Secretary of Defense meet with Congressman Moran about the issue raised in his July 14, 2000 letter to Secretary Gates.

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## Committee Reports

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### Old Business

**Median Change at the Mt. Vernon circle** - The National Park Service recognized that the concrete divider that was installed between the drop-off area and the circle caused irritation (drivers hitting the divider and then the circle curb resulting in tire damage, as well as deep ruts in the adjacent grassy area of the circle). While the profile of the divider has been shortened, it does not appear as if the travel lane between the divider and circle was widened. Thus, will drivers use the travel lane, as opposed to the drop-off area?

**Strategic Planning Committee representative wrap-up** - John Kohout filled in for Frank Cihak who was the official Transportation committee member, and discussed after a compressed meeting schedule of possible nominations for the upcoming annual planning review of the Comprehensive Plan, including two meetings open to the public, the Strategic Planning Committee offered 13 nominations which MVCCA member presidents/representatives voted on September 10, 2009. One of the nominations included a potential mini-transit center at Kings Crossing, which would give that area more density under known Urban Design Criteria.

### New Business

**a. Route 1 Bicycle Advocate meeting.** No date or time has been set, but the Coalition for Smarter growth is looking for interested participants bicycle priorities. The Coalition for Smarter Growth is a regional DC non-profit for smart growth development solutions (i.e., compact, walkable, bikeable mixed used, mixed-income developments close to Metro stations and along important transportation corridors. If you are interested in participating in a meeting discussing bicycling priorities for the bike/pedestrian advocates on U.S. 1, contact Chris Orvin at [chris@smartergrowth.net](mailto:chris@smartergrowth.net) and let him know what your priorities are.

**b.** John Kohout (Waynewood) attended the Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance Seminar on Wednesday, 9-9-09 and this is his report of this Transportation meeting:

**Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance Seminar on "What You Need to Know About Transportation":** The Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance is primarily a lobbying group of Northern Virginia corporations dependent on the quality of transportation in the region. This September 9 fifth annual seminar gathered some 250 business and community leaders to hear brief presentations by executives of major Northern Virginia transportation organizations. These included Tom Harrington, Director for Long-term Planning for WMATA; Dale Zehner, CEO of VRE; Nick Nicholson, regional Transportation Director of VDOT; John Lynch, Chief Construction Engineer of VDOT; Lee Fifer, Counsel for the Western Alliance for Rail to Dulles; Bob Chase, President of the Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance; and Pierce Homer, Secretary of Transportation of the Commonwealth of Virginia. While news about progress on on-going projects was positive, the overall message was that transportation in the region is starved of funds. While the funding pattern established by Richmond in 1986 was

based on obtaining dedicated funds from gas taxes, vehicle sales and use taxes, vehicle license taxes and retail sales and use taxes, these sources have been greatly diminished by virtue of the current economy. Further, since 1986 the State government has consistently shifted from a construction-maintenance/operating fund balance to an allocation of most construction funds to maintenance and operations. The priority set for allocating what construction funds remain has placed in number one position the matching of Federal funds with Virginia's one dollar against four Federal dollars. This means that the huge projects such as the Springfield "Mixing Bowl", Woodrow Wilson Bridge, and Dulles Rail are eating up the remainder of highway construction funds in Northern Virginia. The only bright spot for the audience at this meeting was the availability of non-traditional transportation, such as the Dulles Rail special Tax District and public-private partnership initiatives such as the HOT lanes going in on the Beltway and anticipated for I-95 farther south. It was cited as being ironic that, while all agreed that there was no discretionary transportation funding to be had, over \$4.5 billion in transportation is currently underway within a few miles of the seminar's Tyson's Corner venue. If there was a policy consensus, it was to communicate to Richmond the need to go through a complete reform of the way transportation is funded. The "First Rule of Holes" being: If you find yourself in one, quit digging!

**c. Troublesome road design proposed adjacent 235 near Wessynton community** - An initial meeting of Mt. Vernon Estate's proposed library and conference center on the land adjacent the Mt. Vernon post office indicates that a new road may be proposed to access the library and conference center off of 235. The land is owned by the Mt. Vernon Ladies Association of the Union and the library would be used for research of our first president George Washington. It would be a 35,000 square foot building and conferences would be hosted there. But, the initial meeting indicated that the proposed road would intersect with 235 at the curve. Thus, if the proposal is moved forward, the MVCCA transportation committee should review the placement of the access road. It was suggested to obtain a speaker on this topic.

**d.** Montebello resident, Gail Parker, said that the Montebello community approved a Resolution extending the Metro yellow line to Fort Belvoir. The group in its resolution requesting rail urged a further destination to Woodbridge. Ms. Parker also indicated that regional transportation funding may be available from Congress and that a Metropolitan Transportation Commission plans to have a speaker at the Alexandria Amtrak Station in October or November, but the date is not set yet. When the date is set, the Transportation Committee chair will send out the information to its members so that they can attend this meeting.

The next Transportation Committee meeting will be Monday, October 5, 2009 at 8pm in the Walt Whitman Middle School Library.

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## Committee Reports

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### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AFFORDABLE AND WORKFORCE HOUSING

The committee met on the July 30th at the Mount Vernon District Government Center. Present were representatives from the following community organizations: Collingwood on the Potomac, Stratford Landing, and Stratford on the Potomac Sec. IV along with Elisabeth Lardner Mt Vernon FCRHA Rep and Pat Rea MVCCA Co-chair.

The Committee discussed the resolution that had been drafted regarding proposed changes in procedures for obtaining authorization for accessory dwelling. The Committee opposed making further changes to the draft and decided to return to its earlier version. Members of the Committee expressed the need for further information about experience in jurisdictions where by right applications for accessory dwelling units have been accepted. The Committee agreed to gather this type of information before moving the resolution further.

Members of the Committee were encouraged by the extended discussions on affordable housing and the "Penny for Housing" that the Board of Supervisors included in their discussions during the 2009 Retreat and expressed the hope that the County staff will draw guidance from the issues raised by the Supervisors about affordable Housing and the Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness and provide recommendations for new approaches to deal with this problem. The chair suggested that the Committee plan meetings with selected members of the County staff during the fall months. An issue the Committee plans to take up for discussion is whether the percentage of affordable housing units should be increased from the mandated 12%, particularly around transportation centers. The next Committee meeting will be on **Thursday, September 24, 7:00 pm**, at the Mount Vernon Government Center.

#### — LONG RANGE STRATEGIC PLANNING —

##### MVCCA Long Range Strategic Planning Committee July & September Meetings Brief Overview

As the last MVCCA Record was dedicated to the work of the MVCCA Long Range Strategic Planning Committee this report will briefly touch upon the work of the Committee since the July version of the Record that led to final 13 Nominations which were presented and passed by the MVCCA General Council at the MVCCA Special General Council meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup>. If any member of the Council/Community has any comments or follow-up questions or comments they are encouraged to contact the Chair Kahan Dhillon at [ksdjr@regentcompany.com](mailto:ksdjr@regentcompany.com).

The first outreach to the Community was held on July 11<sup>th</sup> in the form of a Charrette at Mount Vernon High School. As outlined in our July record we expected 30-50 participants as our goal was to involve the

Council/Community in our process so we could gain their insight and input as we moved forward. The goal of the Committee from day one has been to be as open, transparent, and engaging of the Community and therein all of our meetings including our Committee meetings and public e-mail list have been open to all. In short we received an overwhelming response to the Charrette. We had over 60 members of the Community participate that included representatives from approx. 30 MVCCA member associations, the business community, the non-profit community, property owners, the County, and others. The participants were divided into groups which rotated amongst tables which outlined all the sites the Committee up to that point had discussed which had been split up according to the Planning Sectors in which they belonged.

The feedback we received from the Charrette was then presented to the Committee at its next meeting July 21<sup>st</sup>. The Committee reviewed all the input it received and then began filtering its Master List based on both the feedback it received and Committee deliberations. The Committee decided to continue its filtering at its next meeting on July 27<sup>th</sup>. As many are aware the Committee had been under a severe deadline from the County to complete its work therein at this meeting the Committee was split into 3 teams with a Captain for each Team to most effectively and efficiently move the process forward. As the updated Master List items were primarily based in areas at or near CBC's along the Rt. 1 corridor the teams which split up according to the CBC areas. This structure gave the teams the ability to work in a cross functional manner where needed they could consult and convene with one another to complete their tasks at hand.

Each team by the Chair was given the latitude through its Captains (thank you to Katherine Ward, Frank Cohn, and Neal McBride) to delegate the work within its team how they deemed fit. The Chair in its August meetings requested three things of each team. One would be to take the items on its list which again were derived from the updated Master list and decide on if there should be any further filtering of the items of those on their respective list. Second that the teams continue to communicate and gain input from the property owners, community members, and others throughout the process of their work. Thirdly to begin drafting the Nominations for each of those items it decided to pursue and have those draft Nominations completed in time for a meeting of the Committee by August 17<sup>th</sup> so the Committee as a whole could decide upon what draft Nominations it would present at the August 22<sup>nd</sup> Charrette Follow-up Meeting.

At the meeting of the Committee meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup> the Committee reviewed the work of each of the teams and provided input for some changes and after extensive deliberations decided to move all 13 draft Nominations forward to the August 22<sup>nd</sup> Charrette Follow-up Meeting. At the Charrette Follow-up Meeting on August 22<sup>nd</sup> the Committee presented each of its 13 draft Nominations to the members of the Community in attendance and received constructive feedback and input primarily centered around consideration's the Committee should keep in mind as it works to refine the draft Nominations. The Committee at its August 24<sup>th</sup> meeting discussed all the feedback received and outreach that had been in progress with property owners and communities impacted by the draft Nominations.

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# Committee Resolutions

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The Committee in its following meetings worked to finalize the draft Nominations and at its August 31<sup>st</sup> meeting voted to forward all 13 draft Nominations to the MVCCA Board of Directors.

End of Committee Report

Beginning of Chair Comments

Dear Fellow Council/Community Member,  
As the Chair of the MVCCA Long Range Strategic Planning Committee I can't convey adequately in words what an honor and privilege it has been to work with all those that made this process as it has been to date. Many have commented that our work was years worth of work accomplished in 3 months, some have called our work "historic", however one comment that truly defines what we have done our best to try and achieve is "change in action". Without question no process is ever perfect and there are definitely areas that I wish we might have had further time to work on however I believe with the time we were afforded we did our best. Below is a brief overview of the Committee and some of its efforts over the past 3 months.

- MVCCA Long Range Strategic Planning Committee made up of at least 1 representative from each MVCCA Committee, the Mt. Vernon District Planning Commissioner, a subject matter expert and Principal of a Planning & Consulting Firm who donated his time pro-bono, and the participation of 2 members of Fairfax County Planning & Zoning Department.
- 2 Community input meetings. (Charrette and Charrette Follow-up Meeting)
- Had the participation of over 100 members of the Community.
- All meetings open to public.
- Committee public e-mail list open to public.
- Produced multimedia production entitled "Planning 101".
- Reached out and met with Property Owners, Community Members, and Others.
- Held 2 hands on tours of area Watersheds & Trails.

I feel it is important to note that the opportunity for the Community to participate in the APR nominations process doesn't end here, in fact it only begins. Now that the Nominations have been filed with the County they will begin their process which will include opportunity for public comment and input. Lastly I want to thank each and every member of the MVCCA Long Range Strategic Planning Committee, the MVCCA Council, the Community, and those members of the County Staff that worked with us to see the birth of a Vision for our area's future.

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## PLANNING & ZONING

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### PZ-2009-07: RESOLUTION ON THE ALEXANDER COMPANY DRAFT MASTER PLAN FOR THE LAUREL HILL ADAPTIVE REUSE AREA

- 1. WHEREAS** The closure of the Lorton prison complex and the transfer of the federal land to Fairfax County created opportunities to revitalize the South County area, which now includes the South County Secondary School, the Workhouse Arts Center, the Laurel Hill Elementary School, an approved site for a planned South County Middle School, the Laurel Hill Golf Course, and hundreds of acres for Laurel Hill Park, and
- 2. WHEREAS** The transfer designated two adaptive reuse areas, one at the former Workhouse site, and one at the former Reformatory site, and
- 3. WHEREAS** Adaptive reuse seeks to balance the competing demands of historic preservation, community needs and preferences, and economic viability for the property, and
- 4. WHEREAS** In November 2004, the Citizens Task Force, with representatives from throughout Fairfax County, voted for a set of recommendations for mixed use development at the Reformatory site to include residential, commercial and retail uses, and
- 5. WHEREAS** The Board of Supervisors at its December 10, 2004 and February 7, 2005 meetings unanimously approved motions to move forward with the Task Force recommendations and created a Laurel Hill Project Citizens Advisory & Oversight Committee ("PAC") to ensure faithful implementation, transparency, and citizen input, and
- 6. WHEREAS** The County, with support of the PAC, secured the services of a developer (Alexander Company) to develop a master plan for the adaptive reuse site, and
- 7. WHEREAS** The master plan concept proposed by Alexander calls for mixed use development of retail, office and residential development, including new residential construction and magnet/workforce housing, and
- 8. WHEREAS** The latest version of the proposed master plan contains new details on the financing needed to make the plan viable, which includes a heavy reliance on increased numbers of townhomes, on federal and state historic preservation tax credits, on public low income housing tax credits, and on direct funding by Fairfax County, and
- 9. WHEREAS** The latest version of the proposed master plan effectively changes the proposed magnet/workforce housing for modest income Fairfax County workers into publicly subsidized low income housing, and

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## Committee Resolutions

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**10. WHEREAS** The latest version of the proposed master plan does not include adequate consideration of preserving the few quality trees and fails to provide large undeveloped areas for tree replanting,

**A) THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (Council) opposes the proposed master plan for the former Lorton Reformatory site at this time for the following reasons:

- 1) The Council has serious questions about the financial viability and sustainability of the proposed master plan, specifically the reliance on public low income housing tax credits, unsubstantiated estimates of historic preservation tax credits, and uncertainty about the level of financial contribution that the County will be able to afford in the current fiscal environment,
- 2) The Council does not support the substitution of publicly subsidized, low income housing for the proposed magnet/workforce housing that was originally planned to benefit important components of the County's workforce, a proposal that was unanimously recommended by the Task Force, adopted by the County and supported by the Council, and
- 3) The Council is not satisfied with the proposed scope and mix of new housing units, which must be significantly changed in a manner that offers different types of housing, constrains potential school impacts, and adds more visual variety and style of appearance, as is normally proposed and consistent with other new developments in the South County area.

**B) BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that in order to ensure success of this plan, the Council calls on the County to:

- 1) Conduct an independent financial and economic analysis of this and any future proposed master plan to ensure that the project is both viable in the near term and sustainable for the long term; and
- 2) Conduct a thorough review of all available contracting options, including competitive bidding, before reaching an agreement with a master developer for the project.

**C) BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County, Alexander Company and any other developer chosen to implement this or future adaptive reuse plans must continue to seek and make good faith efforts to incorporate additional citizen input throughout the remaining development process in order to further refine and improve the plan.

**D) BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alexander Company and County staff give greater consideration to preserving and creating tree areas, and that a tree preservation commitment is included as a specific factor in the Master Plan for Laurel Hill.

### **PZ-2009-08: RESOLUTION ON SE 2008-MV-031 – CINGULAR WIRELESS MONOPOLE**

**1. WHEREAS** Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC has filed Special Exception application SE 2008-MV-031 to construct a wireless antenna tower at 8717 Fort Hunt Road on the Masonic Lodge property, and

**2. WHEREAS** the tower will be an 85 foot monopole with internal antennas for up to three wireless service providers, and

**3. WHEREAS** the tower will be made to look like an evergreen tree, and

**4. WHEREAS** the equipment shed will be made to look like it is a part of the existing Masonic Lodge building, and

**5. WHEREAS** the applicant has agreed to improved fencing and screening, and

**6. WHEREAS** the applicant has agreed to correct the current inadequate stormwater management facilities, including reducing the amount of impervious surface in the parking area,

**A) THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations does not oppose SE 2008-MV-031 for construction of a wireless antenna tower at the Masonic Lodge, as presented.

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## TRANSPORTATION

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### **TRANS-2009-01: IMPROVEMENT OF TRAFFIC FLOW AND PROVISION FOR MASS TRANSIT ON RICHMOND HIGHWAY**

**1. WHEREAS**, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors applied the Highway Corridor Overlay District to the land along Richmond Highway (US 1) upon concluding that the major purpose of the Richmond Highway was to carry through traffic; and

**2. WHEREAS**, congestion during rush hours and on weekends is compromising Richmond Highway's ability both to carry through traffic and to host profitable commercial activity; and

**3. WHEREAS**, continued growth of Federal Government employment in the region, the Base Realignment and Closure process, the new Fort Belvoir Hospital and the U.S. Army Museum project will further increase traffic along Richmond Highway; and

**4. WHEREAS**, Richmond Highway is the "relief valve" whenever there is an accident or traffic tie-up on Interstate 95;

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## Committee Resolutions

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**5. WHEREAS**, the Level of Service (LOS) currently is already rated LOS F at certain times and locations along Richmond Highway, such as the stretch of US 1 from Route 235 (S) to the Fairfax County Parkway, and Telegraph Road to Interstate 95; and

**6. WHEREAS**, VDOT and FCDOT have conducted extensive planning for widening all of Richmond Highway, from the City of Alexandria to Prince William County, to a minimum of six lanes; and

**7. WHEREAS**, in recognition that obtaining a wider right-of-way (ROW) will impair prospects to widen Richmond Highway now, incremental widening of US 1 should occur to provide 6 free flow lanes of traffic (3 lanes in each direction with a median for dedicated left turn lanes) while still providing for the retail/businesses that exist along Richmond Highway;

**8. WHEREAS**, citizens have requested a Richmond Highway transit study for the corridor for many years; and

**9. WHEREAS**, the 1997 Richmond Highway Centerline Study determined that long-term demands on Richmond Highway may ultimately require a wider ROW to provide for surface mass transit, six lanes of free-flowing traffic, sidewalks, trails and landscaped buffers;

**A. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations urge the Commonwealth Transportation Board, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, FCDOT, and VDOT to act to secure funding to complete the widening of Richmond Highway to six lanes from Buckman Road (North) to Prince William County (This configuration could be about the same as the recently widened stretch near Telegraph and Pohick Roads intersections and include closing excessive curb cuts and adding medians and turn and acceleration lanes where appropriate).

**B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that VDOT undertake a Richmond Highway Rail Mass Transit Study that would explore and compare the feasibility and utility of all rail mass transit options to include lower cost monorail/moonbeam systems, as well as light rail and current Metrorail options for informed longer term planning of the future of Richmond Highway.

**C. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors retains in the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan the current future concept of a wider Richmond Highway ROW that includes a wide mass transit median with turn lanes plus six lanes of travel lanes plus sidewalks/trails, and landscaping in order to guide planning for a far distant future when regional growth provides the need, opportunity (revitalization) and means to further enhance the Richmond Highway Corridor.

### TRANS-2009-02: METRORAIL EXTENSION

**1. WHEREAS**, Congress is considering H.R. 1635, the Northern Virginia Metrorail Extension Act of 2009, which calls for the extension of the Northern Virginia Metrorail.

**2. WHEREAS**, H.R. 1635 supports extension of the Metrorail Blue Line, the Orange Line to Centerville and the Yellow Line;

**3. WHEREAS**, The following projects are authorized for preliminary engineering under section 5309(m)(2)(A) of such title:  
Northern Virginia—Extension of Metrorail Blue Line  
Northern Virginia—Extension of Metrorail Orange Line to Centerville  
Northern Virginia—Extension of Metrorail Yellow Line  
Virginia, District of Columbia and Maryland—Metrorail capacity expansion;

**4. WHEREAS**, Richmond Highway at many locations is graded level of service "D" or below;

**5. WHEREAS**, Fort Belvoir, in line with the Base Realignment and Consolidation (BRAC), will be opening Fort Belvoir Community Hospital with a staff of more than 3000 and the Wounded Warrior Program where there is no Metrorail;

**6. WHEREAS**, the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens' Associations also supports H.R. 1635;

**7. WHEREAS**, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, (MVCCA), has been supporting transportation improvement measures along Richmond Highway for over 10 years to no avail.

**A. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the MVCCA supports H.R. 1635, the Northern Virginia Metrorail Extension Act of 2009, with a priority on the Yellow Line extension along Richmond Highway;

**B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the MVCCA co-chairs are to forward this resolution to the H.R. 1635 bill authors and all Northern Virginia state and federal congressional delegates;

**C. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the MVCCA will advise and encourage the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, (BOS), to notify the H.R 1635 bill authors, that the BOS wants the Yellow Line extension to Woodbridge be added as a top priority to this bill.

**D. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the MVCCA requests the BOS to request any and all funding, including recovery act money to provide for the Yellow Line project.

## NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, September 23rd, 8 p.m.  
Walt Whitman Middle School  
Jack Knowles Lecture Hall

### AGENDA

#### Call to Order

Approval of Secretary's Minutes  
Approval of Treasurer's Report  
Committee Reports  
Co-Chair's Report on Board Actions

#### Published Items and Resolutions

#### New Business

Nominating Committee vote  
Member Association Representatives' Time  
MV Supervisor's Time  
Other Elected Representatives and Public Time

#### Adjournment

## COMMITTEE CALENDAR

MVCCA Board—October 8, 7:30 p.m., MVGC Comm. Rm 1

Comm	Date	Time	Place	Chair
AWH	9/24	7:00	MVGC-Rm1/2	Jeszenszky
BUDG	10/7	7:30	WWMS	D. Voorhees
COAF	10/6	7:30	WWMS	Cox
EDUC	10/7	8:00	WWMS/Lib	Harbeck
E&R	10/7	7:00	SCGC-Rm217	Plummer
H/H/S	10/6	7:30	IMVH-Conf.C/D	Cleveland
PL/Z	10/5	7:30	WWMS-LH	Dale, Acting Chair
PSAF	10/1	7:30	MVGC	Shawkey
LRSP	<i>No meeting scheduled</i>			Dhillon
TRAN	10/5	8:00	WWMS-Lib	C. Voorhees

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