



Mount Vernon
Council
of Citizens'
Associations

Record

Volume XLIV, No. 2, February 2012

MVCCA COUNCIL MEETING

January 25, 2012 8:09 p.m.

Walt Whitman School, Jack Knowles Lecture Hall

PRESIDING: Co-chair Al Bornmann.

ATTENDING: Co-chairs Al Bornmann, Bob Reynolds, Jim Davis. Committee Chairs Louise Cleveland, Judy Harbeck, Betsy Martin, Catherine Voorhees, David Voorhees; Treasurer Trish Gowland. Supervisor Gerald Hyland. Planning Commissioner Earl Flanagan.

Representatives from: Belle Haven Terrace, Belleview Condominium Owners, Collingwood on the Potomac, Engleside, Hollin Glen, Hollin Hall, Hollin Hills, Montebello, Mount Vernon Civic, Mount Vernon Manor, Mount Vernon Terrace, Mount Zephyr, Pinewood Lake, Potomac Valley-Riverbend, River Towers, Riverside Estates, Southwood, Sulgrave Manor, Villamay,

Waynewood, Wellington, Wellington Heights, Wessynton, Westgrove, Williamsburg Manor North.

SUPERVISOR HYLAND REMARKS – Discussed an upcoming amendment to the Zoning Ordinance intended to correct situations of dancehalls and other recreational activities in eating establishments. The amendment will revise and extend current definitions of entertainment activities conducted at eating establishments.

MINUTES – Approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Accepted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget and Finance – See the Record. Next meeting February 8.

Consumer Affairs – No meeting in January. Next meeting February 7 telecon.

Education – See The Record. Next meeting February 8. One Resolution

Environment and Recreation – See The Record. Next meeting February 1.

Health and Human Services --- See The Record. Next meeting February 7.

Planning and Zoning – See The Record. Next meeting February 6.

Public Safety – See The Record. Next meeting February 2.

Transportation – See The Record. Next meeting February 6.

Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation – See the Record. Next meeting February 24.

RESOLUTION

EDUC-2012-01 MEANINGFUL INPUT TO FAIRFAX COUNTY'S FY2013 BUDGET PROCESS

Purpose of the Resolution is to ask the Fairfax county Board of Supervisors to advertise a maximum residential real property tax rate applicable to FY2013 of no less than \$1.16 in order to permit meaningful citizen input to the FY2013 County Budget and improve and enhance public discourse on budgetary priorities and the appropriate balance between County services and tax burden.

Approved 14-4

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MVCCA BOARD

Co-Chairs	Al Bornmann	703-360-5964
	Jim Davis	703-799-3278
	Robert Reynolds	703-439-7490
Treasurer	Patricia Gowland	703-329-1021
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	Betsy Martin	703-360-0691
H/HS	Louise Cleveland.....	703-780-9151
PL/Z	Ivan Matthews (<i>Acting</i>)	703-772-7112
PSAF	Dallas Shawkey.....	703-360-2185
TRANS	Catherine Voorhees	703-765-7551
SCAWH	<i>Please see HHS Report, pages 5-7</i>	
LRSP	Kahan Dhillon	703-768-8437
FCFCA	Karen Pohorylo	703-780-7825
SFDC	Karen Pohorylo	703-780-7825
Webmaster	Karen Keefer	703-660-6699

Council Minutes

CO-CHAIRS' REPORT

Co-chairs announced the reappointment of all standing Committee Chairs returning except P&Z (vacant). Slate ratified by unanimous vote of the Council.

Co-chairs announced that the Special Committee on Affordable and Workforce Housing, instituted in 2005, has been retired, and primary concerns returned to Health and Human Services.

Reminder of due dates for submission of nominations for the Citizen of the Year award.

Welcome to new President of Mt Vernon Civic Association, Paul Schray.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 P.M.

— Bob Reynolds, acting for Carol Coyle, Secretary

MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS' TIME

Outgoing President of Southwood, Carl Cameron, spoke about committee representatives from homeowners associations in general and their motivation. He also spoke specifically about his experiences as a member of the Budget Committee.

Katherine Ward (Wellington) suggested that the Council establish a "Recommended Legislative Agenda" to be sent to the State legislature annually as a method of direct communication regarding MVCCA priorities for the upcoming year.

Treasurer's Report				
January 1, 2012 through January 31, 2012				
Balance Available	<u>\$ 10,571.53</u>			
January 1, 2012				
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>YTD</u>		
Receipts				
Dues-Current Members	-	\$1,386.00	\$4,000.00	\$(2,614.00)
Dues—New Members	-	-	200.00	(200.00)
Gala Income	-	-	6,000.00	(6,000.00)
MM Interest Income	0.21	0.21	-	
Total Receipts	<u>\$ 0.21</u>	<u>\$ 1,386.21</u>	<u>\$ 10,200.00</u>	<u>\$ (8,814.00)</u>
Disbursements				
Administrative Exp	29.09	\$29.09	\$300.00	\$270.91
Gala Expenses	-	-	5,700.00	5,700.00
Gala Expenses-Spring 2012	-	-	300.00	-
Insurance	-	-	700.00	700.00
Outreach/Town Hall Meeting	-	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
Public Safety—Mailings	-	-	100.00	100.00
Record Production	-	-	1,550.00	1,550.00
Student of the Year Stipends/Awards	-	-	600.00	600.00
Web Site	-	-	300.00	300.00
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 29.09</u>	<u>\$ 29.09</u>	<u>\$ 10,550.00</u>	<u>\$ 10,220.91</u>
Balance Available	<u>\$ 11,928.65</u>			
January 31, 2012				
Wachovia Checking	\$ 6,924.22			
Wachovia Money Market bal	5,004.43			
Total Money Available	<u>\$ 11,928.65</u>			

Committee Reports

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Minutes of the Budget and Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 8, 2012 at 7:30 pm
Walt Whitman Middle School Cafeteria

Present: David Voorhees (Committee Chair), Hollin Hall Village, Mount Vernon Civic, Riverside Gardens, Stratford Landing, Wellington, Williamsburg Manor,

The Budget and Finance Committee held a joint meeting with the Education Committee to hear Susan Quinn, FCPS Assistant Superintendent for Finance. See the Education Committee minutes for the substance of that meeting.

County Executive Tony Griffin has accepted our invitation to speak to the Budget and Finance Committee meeting at 7:30 on Thursday, March 1, 2012. The County Executive releases the Advertised Budget on February 28, 2012.

The next regular Budget and Finance committee meeting will be held March 7, 2012 at 7:30 at the principal's conference room at Walt Whitman Middle School.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Although more than one association representative provided a written apology for not being able to attend the Consumer Affairs teleconference meeting on February 7th, the committee did not have a quorum to officially conduct a meeting. However, we proceeded with a discussion on How To Energize the Consumer Affairs Committee. With feedback from the participants during the teleconference on February 7th along with e-mail submissions from association reps, a list of projects is being compiled to include:

- a) *Establishing a consumer affairs opinion bulletin board;*
- b) *Evaluating restaurants* particularly those "off the beaten path" as an extension to the restaurant ratings conducted by the Consumer Affairs committee—See January and February 2010 *Record* on Restaurant Inspections, How to get good restaurant service and Guidelines for tipping. Consumer Affairs noted that the Mount Vernon Patch is now providing updates about restaurant ratings and will duplicate the Patch's public service announcement on restaurant ratings. The Consumer Affairs evaluation will be an actual experience by at least one committee member who will then provide his/her opinion about the food and service received. We will be dubbed the "secret" diners;
- c) *Taking a tour of Doctors Express* at the invitation of the owner Earl Reed. Doctors Express is new business on Richmond Highway providing medical care to the Mount Vernon and Lee District communities. Doctors Express is not in competition with INOVA Mount Vernon but is viewed rather as a compliment—more about this business later; and

d) *Having a speaker* to discuss living wills and estate planning. We are still accepting suggested topics. If you have a topic you feel should be pursued by Consumer Affairs, please send to the chair of the committee or attend a meeting and bring your ideas. We are here for our member associations and would like to provide consumer information of interest to you!

Next teleconference meeting: Tuesday, March 6th at 7:30 p.m.
Dial-in number: 1-866-866-2244 and the pass code is 4636258.
Topic: Utilities

EDUCATION

The MVCCA Education Committee met jointly with the Budget & Finance Committee at 7:30pm on February 8, 2012, in the cafeteria of Whitman Middle School. Associations represented included: Riverside Gardens, Williamsburg Manor, Tauxemont, Mt. Zephyr, Wellington, Stratford Landing, Mt. Vernon Manor, and Potomac Valley/Riverbend. Co-chair Al Bormann also attended.

The two committees heard a presentation of the Superintendent's FY2013 Proposed Budget by Susan Quinn, FCPS Assistant Superintendent for Finance. Full documents, including revisions made by the School Board subsequent to the meeting, can be viewed at www.fcps.edu/budgetdocuments.

Quinn noted that the FY2013 budget as proposed requests an increase in transfer from Fairfax County of \$135.8 million, or 8.4%, which compares to the over 8% increase in enrollment experienced since the start of the recession in FY2008. The trend continues in FY2013 with 4000 more students expected, and with ever increasing percentages of the population including children with special needs (poverty, non-English speaking, learning and/or physically disabled) who require additional resources and staff to comply with federal and state mandates.

As in past years, the main driving force of the budget, and the reason both enrollment increases and demographic changes are so significant, is that 88% of total expenditures goes to employee compensation. Further, 93% of employees are school-based, meaning in direct interaction with students, 1% are central office management team (the lowest regional percentage) and the remainder various support functions including financial services, human resources, maintenance, warehouse and purchasing, and the like. Per student spending remains in the mid-range of all local jurisdictions, and remains significantly lower than those systems most comparable to FCPS: Montgomery County spends \$2000 more per student, Alexandria almost \$5000 more and Arlington nearly \$6000 more.

Another factor driving the budget is increased contributions required to retirement and benefit funds, particularly the Virginia Retirement System (VRS). VRS participation contributions are

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mandated by the Commonwealth, which also sets the contribution rate. Last year, the Commonwealth artificially lowered rates in order to balance its own budget exposing participants such as FCPS to large “make-up” increases in the future. However the School Board, in anticipation, set aside a reserve which will cushion that bump. Health and life insurance also increased but at a rate lower than industry average, in part because FCPS manages its own plans.

In response to questions, Quinn said that employees do not contribute to VRS. Employees a decade ago contributed 5% but that contribution was phased out over several years to be consistent with surrounding jurisdictions which did not require employee contribution and remain competitive. Employees do contribute to the smaller Fairfax County ERFC and FCERS programs. Quinn also noted that VRS has established a two-tier system which now requires new hires to have more years of service for full benefits. The budget does include a 2% market scale increase (\$36.6 Million) and a step increase (\$42million). The step increase is offset \$38.2million “lapse” savings which are experienced when a position is unfilled for a period of time, or when an experienced high salary teacher retires and is replaced by a teacher at a lower pay grade. In a positive note, schools expect a slightly higher state contribution due to changes in the Local Composite Index (LCI) which will return slightly more funds to Fairfax County and northern Virginia generally. Countervailing that, however, is a drop in federal funding generally and the expiration of the education jobs funding program.

All members are reminded to check their association’s status with their presidents: associations who have not paid dues will not be able to vote after March 1. Also, if your association has not formally named you as representative, you will not be able to vote.

Next meetings:

- 1) March 1, 2012 7:30pm (place TBD), joint with Budget to hear a presentation on the County Budget
- 2) March 8, 2012, 8pm, Whitman library to adopt a budget position/resolution

ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

The committee met 1 February 2012, at 7 p.m. in room 3, Mount Vernon Government Center. Attending were Betsy Martin (chair), Jim Davis (MVCCA Co-chair), Belle View Condominium, Collingwood-on-the-Potomac, Hollin Hills, Montebello, Mount Zephyr, River Towers, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac, Sulgrave Manor, Tauxemont, Wellington, Wessynton, and Williamsburg Manor.

Reducing Litter in Fairfax County. Lily Whitesell (Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District) explained the watershed concept, and noted that trash is an *indicator* of watershed

land use and stream health. It is also a *pollutant* that, as it decomposes, releases nasty chemicals with wildlife impacts locally and downstream. (Four cigarette butts contain enough toxins to kill a small mammal, according to Ms. Whitesell.) Trash also has visual impact and conveys negative social meaning and messages about a community. Much trash ends up in streams through storm drains; many people do not know that storm drain water flows directly into streams, without being filtered. To address litter, Fairfax County sponsors cleanups and educational campaigns, including public service announcements and storm drain labels.

Fairfax County, Clean Fairfax Council and NVSWCD are partnering on a trash assessment for improved environments (TAFIE) to monitor trends in amount and type of trash. This also is being done because Fairfax County’s MS-4 permit, a permit from the EPA and the state that allows the county’s stormwater to be discharged to local streams and the Potomac River, will likely require trash assessments soon. The numbers and types of trash items along 100’ stream segments were enumerated at two pilot sites on Little Hunting Creek, at Janna Lee Avenue bridge and Shaw Park Court. (The chair promised to send out statistics from the Janna Lee trash survey.) Staff and volunteers will do the trash surveys, and the partnership is looking for groups or individuals to volunteer. They don’t know how many sites will be selected.

Several members questioned whether measuring and cleaning up a site every 6 months is the best approach, and asked if NVSWCD was pushing strategies for prevention, beyond education, such as a bottle deposit law. One asked whether all the local Target and Walmart stores could be induced to implement a more effective shopping cart system that prevented their removal from store parking lots. He was urged to draft a letter to send to stores.

Resolution on the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB). A resolution was introduced and seconded to ask the governor and state legislature to restore funding for the ICPRB and cancel the governor’s request to withdraw Virginia from the ICPRB. After amendment, the resolution was adopted with 13 in favor and 1 opposed.

Updates

- A workshop on native and invasive plants, co-sponsored by MVCCA, Audubon Society of Northern Virginia, and the National Park Service, will be held March 24 at River Farm. Local garden clubs have been notified, and the chair asked members to include notices in community newsletters. The chair asked if the committee was willing to address postcards to the members of their CAs who live adjacent to the George Washington Memorial Parkway. They agreed, and she will request funds for printing and postage from the MVCCA Board.
- The committee was briefed on a grant proposal to be submitted to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation by Wessynton Homes to stabilize the shoreline on the Wessynton channel by

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installing coir logs, filling behind them, and creating a living shoreline. Wessyn-ton seeks a letter of support from MVCCA as a partner for their project. One member noted that Wessyn-ton will likely need approval from the Wetlands Board. The MVCCA co-chair spoke of the educational value of the project. The committee was unanimous in its support of the project.

- Hollin Hills reports that small check dams are to be installed by the county in Paul Spring Branch, probably this summer, to address bank erosion problems there.

Topics, new and old, for future E&R meetings were suggested by members at the meeting or by email:

- History/heritage sites and features.
- Planned Fairfax County budget for parks and recreation, and programs with environmental responsibilities and impacts.
- Public responses to the FCPA parks survey completed 6 months ago or so. I believe they found some consensus or clustering on the types of park amenities and resources of people would like to see. It would be a good topic to find out from the FCPA what the status is on moving forward with those recommendations, how they select projects to pursue, the status of securing funding, etc.
- There was a great deal of damage done to the Cross County Trail as a result of the Iris and Lee storms, but there is no information on the Cross County Trail website about plans for cleanup and restoration. That would be a good item for discussion.
- Stormwater management, particularly important before Route 1 is redeveloped.
- TMDLS (total maximum daily loads).
- Relationship between Fairfax County and Virginia, and the state's devolution of responsibilities onto localities, without reducing constraints on localities' ability to raise revenues.
- Uranium mining.
- CDC will reveal lead levels that they regard as dangerous in the next few months; lead at the new levels is likely to be quite prevalent in historical areas due to old paint.
- Spring Bank park property.
- Hydrilla.
- Renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- Solar farms on flat-roofed commercial property.
- Restoration of Dyke Marsh, which is eroding at 6' per year.
- Funding for sidewalks.
- Flood mitigation proposals for Belle View, Huntington, New Alexandria (levees and pumping station).
- Invasive exotic plants.
- Litter.
- Little Hunting Creek Trail.
- Potomac Path.

- Pertinent movies—e.g., *Green Fire* (about Aldo Leopold), *Bag It!*

Next meeting is March 7, 7 p.m., room 3, Mount Vernon Government Center.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

The MVCCA Executive Board's recent decision (January 2012) to end the MVCCA Special Committee on Affordable and Workforce Housing, or SCAWH (Sept. 2005-Dec. 2011), has returned primary responsibility for its concerns to the Standing Committee for Health and Human Services (HHS).

On Tuesday, February 7, 2012, the HHS Committee met to focus on an agenda of questions, headed "Housing/Homelessness—Next Steps?"

The following 7 MVCCA members were represented: Collingwood on Potomac, Hollin Glen, Hollin Hills, Mount Zephyr, Stratford on Potomac-Sec. 4, Wellington and Waynewood. HHS Chair Louise Cleveland moderated the discussion.

Three agenda questions (see below) were circulated in advance—with an invitation to respond by e-mail or at the open public meeting—to the HHS Committee, former SCAWH members, and some local community leaders of nonprofit organizations as well as citizen representatives to countywide Boards, Authorities and Commissions (BAC) with information and experience in housing policy issues, especially as these impact ongoing community development in the Richmond Highway Corridor and the southeastern Fairfax County area designated Human Services Region I. Helpful replies arrived by e-mail for attention of the committee, and ongoing participation of this kind will continue to be welcome.

HOUSING / HOMELESSNESS—NEXT STEPS?

Question 1. How should MVCCA (e.g. via its public web site) retain the vision and work of the Special Committee on Affordable and Workforce Housing?

The HHS Committee agreed that maintaining a presence on the MVCCA web site for acknowledging significant MVCCA contributions to the County's policies on A & W issues as these have evolved during the active years of the Special Committee (Sept. 2005 – Dec. 2011) will continue to be important. An A & W page should become a bridge to current efforts to identify both ongoing and emerging issues for MVCCA attention and action.

The HHS Committee recommends that MVCCA retain on its current Home Page the name (with dates) of the "Special Committee on Affordable and Workforce Housing (2005-2011)" with the link to an Affordable & Workforce Housing Page (to be revised and updated) which may explain, briefly that—

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(1) primary responsibility for identifying and developing current issues on A&W for MVCCA attention and action now resides in the Committee on Health and Human Services;

(2) the Special Committee's years of activity were intertwined with, and made important contributions to, the evolution of two major Fairfax County public policy Initiatives, on homelessness and on housing (links to selected "benchmarks" might include key SCAWH documents and a few current County informational pages);

(3) these County Initiatives are combined in a housing policy statement based on broad consensus among many stakeholders countywide, with 4 policy goals identifying Needs and 4 Concepts for strategic allocation of public and private resources available for each, that was adopted in 2010 by the Board of Supervisors as the "Housing Blueprint," to guide specific targeted year-by-year implementation, as described in "FY 2011 and Beyond": <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rha/housingblueprint.htm>

Specifics of communications strategy (e.g., selection and emphasis, where to place links to Housing information, a statement of kinds of issues under consideration) are matters left to be fine-tuned, with committee suggestions, volunteer time and MVCCA web site technical parameters in mind.

Q2. What housing/homelessness issues should we follow and focus on during the year ahead?

As response to two emerging crises—the growing risks and social costs of homelessness and the shrinking supply of housing affordable for the workforce—has evolved, changing perceptions of both "greatest need" (for several kinds of housing) and available resources are incorporated into the consensus on policy adopted in 2010 as the Housing Blueprint.

Understanding the goals and strategies of the Housing Blueprint becomes the starting point for examining the complex process, conducted annually, of matching of specific projected Needs (grouped in 4 categories) with projected Resources (from public and private sources) for the coming Fiscal Year.

The HHS committee discussed the scope of the Housing Blueprint and examined the "snapshot" view presented (with detailed narrative description) at the January meeting of the Board of Supervisor's Committee on Housing: "DRAFT (1-31-2012) Housing Blueprint: At a Glance—FY 2013."

The committee also received the Jan. 31, 2012 "Letter of Recommendations for the FY 2013 Housing Blueprint" addressed to the Board of Supervisors, signed by the County's citizen Affordable Housing Advisory Committee and 28 additional public and private agencies and organizations actively involved in efforts to expand the supply of housing that meets the needs identified in the Housing Blueprint.

The committee took special note of items listed in the Blueprint "snapshot" for FY2013 under the headings "Other County Efforts in Concept" and "Cross-cutting Initiatives—FY 2013 and Beyond." In

view of the recognition, nationally and locally, that 'Housing First' is as an essential evidence-based strategy for stabilizing individuals and families (and in some cases communities) as well as for providing other critical human services more cost-effectively, the committee will track with particular interest the "Cross-cutting Initiative" listed first: "Coordinate Housing Blueprint with creation of a supportive Services Blueprint." The Deputy County Executive for Human Services will lead an effort to identify needs and resources for this new Services Blueprint, which is expected to include data from public services—public safety, schools, community services, health dept. etc.—as well as private partners.

The committee emphasized, in their discussion, that strong connections in the service network are crucial, yet often overlooked in public opinion. Issues of Housing policy directly impact community well-being and quality of life for people of all ages and conditions. Perceived obstacles to healthy community development may be complex and the proposed solutions intertwined with availability of both public and private sector resources and potential partnerships—not unlike cross-cutting issues in delivery of other major health and human services such as healthcare that includes mental health, temporary emergency response and assistance, and prevention / early intervention to reduce or mitigate circumstances that lead, too often, to chronic dependency or costly long-term institutionalization.

The committee has identified, so far, these kinds of issues/tasks: (1) Track progress of the Housing Blueprint, including scrutiny of the projected needs and available resources, countywide, in the DRAFT Housing Blueprint for the next County Fiscal Year, and make informed recommendations to MVCCA on matters that may impact the proposed Fairfax County Budget Plan.

(2) Identify both ongoing and emerging housing issues that do not seem to be addressed directly in the current Blueprint, especially where these may impact socially and economically healthy development choices near the Richmond Highway Corridor. For example, what proportion of housing affordable to the workforce (esp. at levels up to 120% AMI) is needed to match current and projected jobs located near the Richmond Highway Corridor?

Recognizing the need for informed and interested participation in identifying and tracking issues, members will return to their associations in search of those interested in assisting the committee in monitoring affordable and workforce housing needs and proposed solutions. John Jezzensky, former chair of SCAWH and now member of the HHS, has volunteered to report in March on ongoing issues, in particular those with bearing on recommendations the HHS Committee will decide to make to the Council in relation to the County's proposed FY 2013 Budget Plan.

Q3. What are HHS Committee's views on the recommendations in the Final Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development (April 2011), in the Mount Vernon Visioning Task Force Report (pages 78-99)? In particular, do you agree with the recommendation that the Supervisor appoint an

Committee Reports

Advisory Committee with wide representation including realtors, affordable housing advocates, MVCCA, nonprofits, South County Federation, faith-based organizations, building industry reps., FC staff, etc., to consider development proposals with a view toward promoting the mix and style of housing desired in Mount Vernon District? <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon/>

While the committee did not have enough time for discussion, members expressed support for this recommendation for an Advisory Committee and agreed that the *Visioning Report* deserves to be reviewed more carefully for constructive ideas and actions worthy of MVCCA support. (Issues #5, 6, and 7 are recommended for attention.)

FY 2013 HEALTH/HUMAN SERVICES PLANNING

The chair provided information to assist Committee members (and others) in understanding how Fairfax County's planning and budgeting will impact the entire local public and private human services network. Some key dates for citizen participation in public review of the County Executive's *Fiscal Year 2013 Fairfax County Advertised Budget Plan* are these:

Tuesday, Feb. 28—The County Executive's presentation to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) on his proposed FY 2013 Budget Plan is broadcast on Cox Channel 16, starting 10 A.M. Presentation to the Human Services Council is at 7:30 PM, at the Fx Co Government Center. The power point *Presentation*, an executive summary or *Citizen's Guide*, and the full multi-volume *Advertised Budget Plan* are all published on the county web site, immediately after.

Saturday, March 3 & Tuesday, March 6—MVCCA HHS Committee has its opportunity to make recommendations re human services planning and funding, in a Resolution (Fx Co FY 2013 Planning for Health and Human Services) for publication in the *MVCCA RECORD*, March 2012 issue, for consideration of the MVCCA General Council at its meeting **Wednesday, March 28**, 8 PM, Walt Whitman Middle School lecture hall.

Wednesday, March 21, Route 1 Task Force for Human Services meets with the Deputy County Executive for Human Services Patricia Harrison (7 PM, Verdia Haywood Center--South County building, 8350 Richmond Hwy), with analysis of budget planning for 8 County human services agencies and cross-cutting impacts. Also, the citizen advisory Human Services Council recommendations are expected to be available.

Tuesday, March 27, Human Services Council presents its recommendations to the BOS Budget Committee, 10 AM at Fairfax County Governmental Center.

April 10, 11, 12—Public testimony before the BOS will take place, with organizations limited to 5 minutes, individuals to 3 minutes.

BOS action on the final plan begins with **April 24** markup. Adoption of the *Fairfax County Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Plan* and of the *residential real estate tax rate* is scheduled for **May 1, 2012**. **July 1, 2012**, marks the start of the new fiscal year.

State actions on policy and funding will also impact local health and human services. See the *Fairfax County 2012 Legislative Agenda* and especially its supplementary *Human Services Issue Paper*.

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/legislation/2012/2012-legislative-program.pdf>

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/legislation/2012/2012-human-services-issue-paper.pdf>

MVCCA HHS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Saturday, March 3, 9 AM - 1 PM, HHS workgroup meets to receive and review detailed information re projected impact on human services of the *Advertised Fairfax County FY 2013 Budget Plan*, and to draft a response with recommendations, at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital (IMVH) Board Room (2nd floor).

Tuesday, March 6, 7:30 PM, HHS Committee meets to discuss, amend, and approve a Resolution, "FY 2013 Health and Human Services Planning," for consideration of the General Council, at IMVH Engh Room, 2nd floor (YELLOW entrance and parking).

OTHER HUMAN SERVICES EVENTS—FEB / MARCH

T/B/A, Mental Health First Response—a free 3-hour forum developed by the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board to raise public awareness of effective ways to recognize and respond to mental health and substance abuse emergencies among youth and adults—was canceled (Jan. 21 weather) but will be rescheduled: contact ann.bahr@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Saturday, Feb. 25, a free drop-in **Youth Mental Wellness Fair** is open 10AM-2PM, at West Springfield High School Auditorium: contact Community Education Coordinator, Mary.Waite@FairfaxCounty.gov, 703-324-5535.

Feb. 27 and 28—Mental Health First Aid, a 12-hour course with certification, will be held on two full days, at South County Center. Curriculum, Registration:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb/announcements/mental-health-first-aid.htm>

All MVCCA meetings are open to the public. The HHS Committee welcomes your participation.

Please note that MVCCA Health and Human Services Committee monthly meetings for 2012 are now scheduled, at 7:30 PM in the Engh Room at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, 2nd floor, YELLOW entrance and parking, monthly on the first Tuesday (with a few variations): January 3, February 7, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, July 10 (2nd Tuesday), August—no meeting, Sept. 4, October 2, Oct. 30 (in place of Nov. 6 Election Day), Dec. 4.

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PLANNING & ZONING

Minutes of the February 6, 2012
Planning and Zoning Committee Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:40pm and was attended by representatives from the following associations: Huntington Club, Newington Forest, Williamsburg Manor North, William H Randall, Wellington, Belle View Condominium, Collingwood Springs, Villamay, Collingwood on Potomac, New Gum Springs, Waynewood, Hollin Hills, Huntington Community Association, Marlan Forest, Wessynton, Belle Haven Terrace, New Alexandria, Potomac Valley River Bend, Stratford Landing, Hollin Hall, Mt Zephyr, Mount Vernon Terrace, Mount Vernon Civic Association, and Engleside. There were two resolutions the Committee voted on, and the second half of the meeting was combined with the Transportation Committee.

The first resolution brought to the floor and voted on was P&Z-2012-02: Special Exception to Place Construction Fill in a 100 Year Flood Plain. This was a follow on from the January 9, 2012 meeting where the applicant presented their case for the owner of 6414 13th St in New Alexandria to fill in an area within the flood plain for a new home construction. The Resolution passed with 21 in favor and 1 opposed.

The second resolution P&Z-2012-01: Transit Center on Belle Haven Lodge Property at Richmond Highway and Fordson Road was brought to the floor by the President of the New Gum Springs Civic Association. The Transportation Committee and P&Z Committee voted separately whether to support the resolution as is or whether to oppose the resolution as is and table the resolution until Fairfax County Staff were able to present their case. 13 voted to support the resolution as is, and 9 voted to oppose the resolution as is and table the resolution. Motion presented to accept resolution with amendments, which was seconded. Final resolution with amendments was voted on, with 23 supporting the resolution with amendments, and 1 opposed.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Associations represented: Collingwood on Potomac, Hollin Hall, Mount Vernon, Mt. Vernon Manor, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens, Stratford on the Potomac Sect. IV, and Waynewood. We were joined by Co-chair Al Bornmann. Capt. Randy Joyce, Commander, Mount Vernon Police Station also attended.

Old Business

The chair advised that it appears that the findings and recommendations of the MVCCA's Special Committee on Long Range Strategic Planning will not be available for Public Safety Committee review in either March or April.

There was a short discussion about bikers on the GW Parkway. The chair advised that there was some effort on the Transportation Committee to have the decision by the National Park Service to ban bikers from the GW Parkway overturned. In the end, but one member on the Public Safety Committee agreed that we continue to oppose this action.

The County Executive will present the Advertised Fairfax County Budget for FY 2013 to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) on Tuesday, February 28, at which time it will be released to the public for review. The chair will try to get copies for review on that day or the next for review by the committee at our next meeting on Thursday, March 1. We will need to do this so that we can have our comments and recommendations to the Budget Committee for inclusion in the draft MVCCA resolution for the BOS.

New Business

Copies of the agenda for Supervisor Hyland's Town Meeting on Saturday, February 4 were provided to the members.

Last month the chair provided copies of the Police Department report *Driving Under the Influence (DUI) in December 2011*. Police officers arrested 358 drunk drivers as part on the Safe December 2011 effort. Of those arrested the majority (150) were young adults between the ages of 21 and 29. Further analysis determined that 28 were between the ages of 15 and 20, 82 were 30 to 39, 55 were 40 to 49, and 43 were 50 or older. During December 2010, they made 217 DUI arrests. Clearly, as they stated, the Police need to continue to aggressively pursue violators.

As related information, the chair provided copies of minutes from the January 2012 Fairfax County Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB) meeting at which Judge Michael J. Cassidy of the Fairfax County General District Court gave a presentation on traffic court matters. He stated that each of the ten Fairfax County District Court judges hears approximately 25,000 traffic cases per year for a total of 250,000 cases. He stated that one of the most common traffic offenses is driving while under the influence (DWI). Judge Cassidy provided handouts titled *Mandatory Minimum DWI Sentences and Mandatory and Discretionary Use of Ignition Interlock*. (Copies were provided to the Public Safety Committee.) The first handout provides information on the mandatory minimum sentences for offenses involving DWI with blood alcohol content (BAC) levels under .15, between .15 and .20, and over .20 and the mandatory sentences for first offenses, second offenses within ten years, or second offense within five years. Judge Cassidy noted that for a first offense with a BAC of between .15 and .20, the offender must pay \$250, serve five days in jail, and his/her driver's license is suspended for one year. For a first-time offender with a BAC over .20, the offender must pay \$250, serve 10 days in jail, his/her license is suspended for one year, and the offender cannot drive again until a mandatory interlock is installed in the offender's car. For second time offenses, the amount of the fine and the jail time increases along with the amount of time that the offender's license is suspended.

Committee Reports

Judge Cassidy also noted that when an ignition interlock is required in an offender's motor vehicle, the offender must generally have no violations for six months before it can be removed. There are currently four vendors who install ignition interlocks. Although there is generally no installation charge, the vendors charge \$80 per month for use of the ignition interlock.

Judge Cassidy noted in DUI cases, a breath technician may be required to testify in court. If for various reasons, the breath technician does not appear or is unwilling to testify, the offender cannot be convicted. He also stated that the Commonwealth Attorney's Office has discretion as to whether it wants to be involved in traffic cases, although in Fairfax County, the Commonwealth Attorney's Office appears in all Class 1 misdemeanor cases.

Judge Cassidy recommended that those individuals who are drinking alcohol and need to drive afterwards have designated drivers who did not drink or implement "stay over" nights in order to avoid driving. He stated that because of increased enforcement of the DUI laws, deaths from alcohol related incidents have decreased. However, he also noted that Fairfax County judges are seeing more individuals being charged for the second and third time for the same offenses and with higher BACs. Judge Cassidy believes that a more realistic approach is necessary for individuals who are not compliant.

Judge Cassidy also stated that for most traffic infractions, the maximum fine is \$250 and that in addition to DUI, speeding is a common traffic offense. Judge Cassidy reported that the most common excuses that he hears from motorists cited for speeding is "I was going with the flow of traffic" or "I am from Maryland." Judge Cassidy then discussed two specific intersections (the corner of Graham Road and Route 50 and West Ox Road at Monument Drive) where motorists commonly receive tickets for not properly following the traffic laws.

He then mentioned that other common traffic offenses include failure to follow stop signs and reckless driving. For failure to follow stop sign infractions, the burden is proof beyond a reasonable doubt. Reckless driving occurs when a motorist is driving at least 20 miles above the speed limit. Judge Cassidy noted that for cases in which the motorist is found guilty of driving more than 90 mph, a judge may order the offender to serve jail time; although juries do not generally order jail time in such situations.

Judge Cassidy also remarked that other traffic offenses include high occupancy vehicles (HOV) violations. He stated that these violations may be confusing, because different signs provide different information on the times when the HOV rules apply. The fines that apply for HOV violations are:

- For a first offense, a fine of \$125;
- For a second offense within a period of five years from the first offense, a fine of \$250;

- For a third offense within a period of five years from the first offense, a fine of \$500; and
- For a fourth or subsequent offense within a period of five years from the first offense, a fine of \$1,000 and points on the offender's license.

In addition, he mentioned that another common traffic offense involves handicapped parking violations, in which the fine is between \$125 and \$500.

Judge Cassidy also advised that given the volume of traffic offenses in Fairfax County, judges do not generally refer individuals to traffic school. He reported that only 1% of traffic cases are appealed from the Fairfax County General District Court and the appeal centers on whether the judge's ruling was correct.

After this review, the chair provided copies of recent Fairfax County Police Department information bulletins concerning *Illegal Prescription Drug Take-Down in Fairfax County* (it is noted that five of the thirteen businesses involved are located in the Mount Vernon District); *Local Child Abuse Reports & Concerns Rise After Penn State Allegations Surface* (since November 2011 when that occurred the number of reported abuse in Fairfax County has doubled); and *Seniors Scammed; Police Educate* (to learn more about financial crimes and scams or to report a crime, visit the Financial Crime Online Reporting site of the FCPD website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/financialcrimes/>).

March Meeting

Our next meeting will be begin at 7:30 pm Thursday, March 1, 2012 in Community Rm. #3 in the Mount Vernon Governmental Center. Our main subject will be a review of the proposed budget with attention to public safety support (Police, Sheriff's Office, Fire and Rescue Department, Courts and related issues).

TRANSPORTATION

The MVCCA Transportation Committee met on Monday, February 6, 2012 in the library of the Walt Whitman Middle School. Catherine Voorhees chaired the meeting. Attending were our guest speakers, the Mt. Vernon Transportation Commissioner, the Mt. Vernon Planning Commissioner, an interested citizen and representatives of 19 member citizen associations (Belle Haven Terrace, The Fairfax, Hollin Hall Village, Huntington, Marlan Forest, Montebello, Mount Vernon Civic, Mount Vernon Terrace, Potomac Valley-Riverbend Estates, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens, Stratford Landing, Southwood, Tauxemont, Waynewood, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor North and Woodley Hills).

The January 2012 minutes of the Transportation Committee as printed in The Record were approved.

Committee Reports

Guest Speaker: Ben Helwig, George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP), National Park Service Park Ranger

Park Ranger Helwig was accompanied by US Park Policeman Steven Wood and he wanted to hear from the Committee about our concerns. If he or Officer Wood could answer the questions, they would do so. Otherwise, Park Ranger Helwig would research the questions and supply answers to the Transportation Committee chair.

Question: Can the vines that are killing the trees along the GWMP be cut from the trees and does the National Park Service (NPS) need money for this?

Answer: Park Ranger Helwig indicated that the NPS together with citizens groups are tackling invasive plants along the South Parkway. In fact, a "weed warriors" program will be held on March 24, 2012, 10am-Noon at the American Horticultural Society to learn how to halt invasion of English ivy, bush honeysuckle and porcelainberry from a NPS ecologist and an Audubon Society naturalist.

Question: Since BRAC was implemented at Fort Belvoir in September, the number of vehicles going southbound has increased significantly as folks who live in Maryland proceed to the new hospital at Fort Belvoir. This new traffic volume is making it difficult to access the GWM Parkway. One January morning at 7am, there were 8 vehicles in line to go north on the GWMP at Southdown Road. That is, vehicles are finding it difficult to merge into the northbound traffic with the new heavy volume of traffic going southbound and vehicles are crossing the GWMP at the stone bridge road via Alexandria Road and then using the northbound exit from Southdown Rd. Is the NPS aware of this traffic volume, have there been accidents as a result of this new traffic volume. What can the NPS do to improve traffic flow on GWMP?

Answer: The Transportation chair's e-mail to the GWMP NPS was the first that the NPS was aware of the increased volume of traffic as a result of BRAC. Officer Wood did not know about the increased volume of traffic, but he works the night shift and no accidents have been reported. With respect traffic flow improvement, new lights or any change to the road infrastructure would be very difficult to approve, as each project would require a NEPA study and a review under Section 106 of the Historical Preservation Act.

Park Ranger Helwig indicated that there are statistics taken concerning usage of the GWMP. However, the stats on GWMPky usage are by months only. Note from the chair: the counts at Belle View indicate 32,670 in August 2011 (which is higher than August 2010, 2005, 1994 and 1992, but lower than other years), 19,258 in September 2011 (which is higher than August 2009 and 2003) and 17,524 in October 2011 (which is higher than October 2009, 2007 and 2006). Thus, the counts made by the NPS do not seem to mesh with observational data and other years.

The Potomac Valley-RiverBend representative added that in his 30 years of commuting on the GWMP, rush hour traffic is much worse due to new southern flow in the AM and northern flow in the PM. The Alexandria Road bridge acts as a cloverleaf so vehicles going north can avoid the southern traffic so it is easier to merge onto the GWMP northbound at that location. Further, the morning southbound traffic is moving at greater speeds than the 45 mph speed limit. Note: Officer Wood noted this comment about the speed of southbound vehicles in the AM.

Question: At the Mount Vernon circle cars are cutting through the parking lot area at higher than the posted speed limit. Isn't this illegal?

Answer: Yes, the US Park Police will check on this.

Question: What about bikes on the southern part of the GWMP? Has enforcement begun and what is the amount of the ticket?

Answer: Officer Wood indicated that most officers issued warnings when the signs were posted. The GWMP is not safe for bicycles because there is no shoulder and the storm water drains have openings that are parallel with the road (causing problems with bike tires that are in the same direction). Also, bikes mixed with rush hour traffic and after dark are extremely dangerous.

Recently, Jon James became the acting superintendent of the GWMP and it appears that Jon James is to continue the ban on bicycles on the Parkway. Some tickets have been issued to bicyclist and pre-paid amount is about \$45.

Question: How about bikes on Sunday in the AM?

Answer: While we do not know the current traffic volumes and the situation requested, as of now, we would have to say no.

Question: Any improvements to the bike path planned?

Answer: There is some talk about adding an express lane, but no action as of yet.

Question: How about bike access to path at Belle View OVER the GWM Parkway?

Answer: I can bring this up with the acting superintendent; no plans yet.

There is no good access for now from Belle View to the Mount Vernon Bike Trail. While according to VA law, roads with a 35 mph limit can have a crosswalk installed; the transportation committee and VDOT do not recommend as the crosswalk may result in accidents between cars and pedestrians.

Question: Does the NPS have statistics on bike accidents?

Answer: The GWMP NPS gathered accident data on the Mount Vernon Trail. Since GWMP staff does not respond to reported accidents, the data has been gathered from US Park Police, Fairfax County Police and Fire, Alexandria Police and Fire, Arlington County Police and Fire and the airport authority (others are

Committee Reports

possible, but these organizations were polled). The data generally covers 2006-2011, and it is not comprehensive or definitive.

Upon receiving this information, the Chair notes that about 15 Bike on Bike accidents were reported in the Fairfax County part of the MVT and about 5 Bike on Pedestrian accidents were reported in the southern part of the GWMP. There were over 200 incidents over the 6-year period from Roosevelt Island to the Mount Vernon Trail Head in Fairfax County.

Question: Statistics on traffic flow on Sundays?

Answer: Ranger Helwig would ask if be hourly, rather than monthly data is available.

Question: What about the plans to remove pavilions at Fort Hunt Park?

Answer: The NPS is reconsidering their original plan. The NPS understands that the community wants to retain its picnic pavilions, but the NPS wants some sort of historical memorial so that Fort Hunt's history is told.

Question: What is the number of officers on Parkway patrol?

Answer: The number of police car varies, usually about 5 or 6 patrol cars assigned to the entire length of the parkway. Usually, there is one patrol car assigned to southern region of the GWMP.

Question: The Belle View Boulevard intersection does not have a wide enough median so that a car can wait at the median to cross the other lane of traffic, like at Belle Haven.

Answer: The Belle View intersection one was forced onto US Park Service a long time ago when the military were living there. Ranger Helwig is not aware of any plans to improve that intersection although he indicated that he would check into it.

Question: Does the GWMP coordinate with Fairfax DoT or VDoT?

Answer: Not much. While the Park Service can comment on plans like citizens, the NPS does not have authority to change plans. For

example, the Base Realignment and Closure at Fort Belvoir team did not consult with the Park Service.

Question: Any coordination with Fairfax County concerning the stop sign just beyond the GWMP Mt. Vernon circle? During rush hour, traffic cops might speed up the flow of traffic as the line of cars waiting for the stop sign from US Route 1 can be waiting 20 minutes to pass the stop sign.

Answer: In the eyes of the NPS, the GWMP it is not a commuter road and they do not want to encourage more traffic. However, the NPS does own the road from the GWMP through the stop sign past the US Post Office. Fairfax County and the NPS have not coordinated about the stop sign.

Joint meeting with Planning and Zoning in the Cafeteria:

New Gum Springs presented a resolution opposing the site of a transit center at US Route 1 between Fordson and Boswell Roads. The owner of the property in question has not been approached by the County and has submitted their site plan for commercial use, which New Gum Springs CA supports.

According to the president of New Gum Springs, 16 other sites along US Route 1 were considered by Fairfax County staff, but several of those sites were already under development for something else. Supervisor Hyland indicates that he supports New Gum Springs. The Wellington Planning and Zoning representative recognized that there is a need for a transit center some place along US Route 1 and that FDOT needs to visit the MVCCA and explain their selection of a site.

The Mount Vernon Planning Commissioner brought up that the Comprehensive Plan has approved some commercial use for that site; but, the Comprehensive Plan does not approve a transit center there. There was a discussion on tabling the resolution pending Fairfax County staff's explanation as to the selected site and if other sites are not more appropriate. The Transportation Committee voted in favor of tabling the New Gum Springs resolution, while the Planning and Zoning Committee voted against tabling the resolution. The Transportation Committee will discuss this resolution in March with Fairfax County Department of Transportation staff.

Old Business (back in library)

a. Supervisor Hyland's town hall meeting report – The Huntington representative indicated that an Eastern bypass was discussed and that Congressman Moran was pushing the Eastern bypass. However, couldn't the monetary resources be used better by improving the infrastructure of US Route 1 (Richmond Highway)? According to the Huntington representative who asked this question at the town hall meeting, in private, elected officials agreed. If bus rapid transit takes two travel lanes, does this mean that US Route 1 becomes one lane with an extra lane dedicated to bus rapid transit in each direction or 4 travel lanes with the extra 2 lanes reserved for bus rapid transit? The Transportation Committee objects to a transit scenario where US Route 1 does not have 3 unreserved or non-dedicated travel lanes in each direction.

What about monorail? If the median between the travel lanes was used for transit, it would be possible to have both transit and 6 unreserved or non-dedicated travel lanes. The objections to monorail are 1) visual blight, 2) more expensive than ground-based transit and 3) grade limited. However, all objections doubtful when compared to other forms of rail transit.

At the Town Hall Meeting, some 50 items (projects) were discussed and all 50 had transportation impacts.

Committee Reports

b. Widening of US Route 1 through Fort Belvoir – the Mount Vernon Planning Commissioner spoke about his sub-committee's idea to route extra US Route 1 lanes around Woodlawn Plantation (Woodlawn Stables) and merge with the rest of US Route 1 at 235S. Since Woodlawn Plantation (house on the hill) has a historic viewshed, another plan calls for southern lanes higher than northern lanes to improve on sight blight from Woodlawn Plantation. At one time, Woodlawn Plantation agreed to this plan. Perhaps, the previously agreed upon solution should be the way to bring 6 travel lanes through Woodlawn Plantation and Fort Belvoir.

According to the Comprehensive Plan, transit might end at Fort Belvoir. The extension of the blue line would accomplish this and the Lee District Supervisor is in favor of this plan that would have transit avoid US1.

c. Mulligan Road construction is under way and 4 travel lanes should be done by November 2013.

New Business – sidewalk projects

The Transportation Commissioner was pleased to announce that the sidewalk on Old Mill Rd, half a block, was completed after 10 years of requesting and waiting.

Fairfax County staff has released a number of unfunded pedestrian projects. These projects are categorized as follows: Projects recommended by staff for funding prioritization; buildable projects not recommended by staff at this time and not recommended by staff. A number of sidewalk projects have been nixed— land owners would not give easements so that sidewalks could be built and Supervisor Hyland will not condemn or take the needed land by eminent domain, so the County dropped the projects. It would be helpful for effected communities to understand why the needed sidewalks were dropped and what they can do to keep the projects alive.

Priority sidewalks are those near middle or high schools or those that allow parents to walk their children to elementary school.

The Planning Commissioner indicated that of \$180 Million procured for US Route 1, VDOT and FCDOT are trying to squeeze some money for an overpass of US Route 1 at the Fairfax County Parkway to feed into Fort Belvoir directly.

ADJOURN

The next Transportation Committee will be held on Monday, **March 5, 2012** at 7:30am in the library of the Walt Whitman Middle School. The chair hopes to have a representative from Fairfax County DOT to speak about transit center plans and maybe sidewalks.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR AFFORDABLE AND WORKFORCE HOUSING

The MVCCA Executive Board's recent decision (January 2012) to end the MVCCA Special Committee on Affordable and Workforce Housing, or SCAWH (Sept. 2005-Dec. 2011), has returned primary responsibility for its concerns to the Standing Committee for Health and Human Services (HHS). Please see the Report of the Health and Human Services Committee, pages 5-7 of this Record.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LONG RANGE STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Committee didn't meet this month and its next meeting will be March 12th at 7:30 pm at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center in Room 1. Please contact the Committee's Chair Kahan Dhillon by e-mail at ksdjir@regentcompany.com or by phone 703-768-8437 should you have any questions or want to schedule a Listening Tour stop for your Community Association or Organization.

SOUTHEAST FAIRFAX DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

SFDC: Take the Richmond Highway Survey! The SFDC is conducting a survey of residents who live on the Rt.1 corridor. The survey consists of 9 questions regarding Richmond Highway, how often do you dine/shop there, what new businesses are needed/wanted, and traffic/transportation issues. The SFDC will use the information collected as a snapshot of community wants/needs while promoting Richmond Highway to potential developers/retailers. You can access the survey through the SFDC Facebook page, this link: <http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs042/1102832163509/archive/1109248585159.html>, or contact Karen Pohorylo, MVCCA representative to the SFDC, at kpohorylo@msn.com for more info on other ways to participate in the survey. The survey will run through the end of February 2012.

FAIRFAX FEDERATION

Fairfax Federation: Next membership meeting is February 23, 2012 7:30PM at the Packard Center, 4022 Hummer Road Annandale, VA 22003. The topic will be on Public Safety, agenda TBD. For the latest info, visit www.fairfaxfederation.org.

Committee Resolutions

ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

E&R-2012-01: RESOLUTION TO MAINTAIN VIRGINIA'S MEMBERSHIP IN AND FUNDING FOR THE ICPRB

(1) **WHEREAS**, the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB) is an interstate compact agency created by individual statutes of its member jurisdictions (Commonwealths of Pennsylvania and Virginia, States of Maryland and West Virginia, and District of Columbia) approved by the U.S. Congress in 1940, to include participation of the Federal Government;

(2) **WHEREAS**, this multijurisdictional compact has coordinated efforts to monitor water flow and flooding and protect the environmental quality of Potomac River, directly impacting over a third of Virginians who live in the Potomac basin;

(3) **WHEREAS**, Governor McDonnell has eliminated funding and proposes to withdraw Virginia from the ICPRB;

(4) **WHEREAS**, withdrawing from the ICPRB would not save money, but would cost Virginia funds that it now receives through the ICPRB from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other sources;

(5) **WHEREAS**, the Potomac basin includes one third of Virginia's population, and so the ICPRB performs a regional function;

(6) **WHEREAS**, Virginia, Fairfax County, and the Mount Vernon district benefit directly from activities performed by the ICPRB and by no other agency, including:

- a. Sample collection and analyses to support development of TMDLs (total maximum daily load) to address impairments due to PCBs in the tidal Potomac, and due to bacteria in local streams, including Four Mile Run, Holmes Run, Cameron Run, and Hunting Creek;
- b. Coordination of the American Shad Restoration Program, a cooperative, interstate program that has helped make the Potomac the only Chesapeake Bay tributary with a shad stock that has returned to health, while assisting Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries in restoration efforts on the Rappahannock River;
- c. Participation as a member of the Department of Environmental Quality James River Study Advisory group;
- d. Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts, including:
 - i. Development of indexes of biotic integrity for biological communities in tidal and non-tidal waters that allow comparisons among jurisdictions and facilitate better management and accountability of shared resources, and
 - ii. Management of water quality and living resources monitoring data sets collected and shared by multiple jurisdictions in the Chesapeake Bay watershed to provide quality assurance and support decision-making activities;

(7) **WHEREAS** all these projects were performed with significant use of federal grants and ICPRB general funds, and in some cases the work was subcontracted to other Virginia entities, such as the Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences;

(A) THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA) requests Governor McDonnell and the General Assembly to restore funding to the ICPRB and to cancel the request for the legislature to withdraw from the ICPRB.

(B) BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the MVCCA urges our local state legislators and Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to join us in requesting that the Governor restore funding and cancel his request to withdraw from the ICPRB.

END: MVCCA RESOLUTION E&R-2012-01

Committee Resolutions

PLANNING & ZONING

P&Z-2012-01: TRANSIT CENTER ON BELLE HAVEN LODGE PROPERTY RICHMOND HIGHWAY AND FORDSON ROAD

- (1) **WHEREAS** the Gum Springs neighborhood improvement program and conservation plan for the Gum Springs community was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on April 30, 1979; and
- (2) **WHEREAS** the basic goal of this document is the conservation and development of a viable and sound residential community in the Gum Springs neighborhood; and
- (3) **WHEREAS** the Gum Springs Redevelopment Area Plan was approved by the Board of Supervisors on April 16, 1990; and
- (4) **WHEREAS** the basic goal of this plan is to develop the Belle Haven Lodge Property as a mixed-use complex, primarily residential with some office and retail uses as part of a general program for upgrading conditions in the Richmond Highway Corridor; and
- (5) **WHEREAS** the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) is proposing a transit center on the Belle Haven Lodge Property; and
- (6) **WHEREAS** a transit center at this location is in conflict with the comprehensive plan language; and
- (7) **WHEREAS** the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors may seek to, against owners wishes, exercise eminent domain authority to acquire the Belle Haven Lodge Property for a transit center; and
- (8) **WHEREAS** the transit center located on the Belle Haven Lodge Property could adversely affect the quality of life for the community of Gum Springs due to unknown access limitations to the community caused by the closure of Fordson Road and due to negative impacts associated with but not limited to air, light, sound, and noise pollution created by the nearly continuous bus use of the proposed transit station; and
- (9) **WHEREAS** Gum Springs, the community most affected by any development/re-development of the Belle Haven Lodge Property, is opposed to a transit center for the reasons specified above.

A) THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) oppose a transit center located on the Belle Haven Lodge Property.

B) BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MVCCA urges the Mount Vernon District Supervisor to request:

1. The FCDOT no longer consider the Belle Haven Lodge Property as a viable site for a transit center.
2. The FCDOT identify sites for a transit center not only in the Mount Vernon District, but also in Lee District.

END: MVCCA RESOLUTION P&Z-2012-01

P&Z-2012-02: RESOLUTION: SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO PLACE CONSTRUCTION FILL IN A 100-YEAR FLOOD PLAIN

1) WHEREAS the existing house on the lot at 6414 13th Street in New Alexandria has been irreparably storm damaged and has been condemned, and

2) WHEREAS the existing structure and improvements on the lot are to be removed and a new house constructed; and

3) WHEREAS this project will require approximately 1400 cubic yards of fill within the 100-year floodplain; and

4) WHEREAS the storm water run-off plan for the planned new development meets existing guidelines and represents an improvement to impacts to adjacent properties over the previous development; and

5) WHEREAS the proposed development as presented is fully compliant with applicable building codes; and

6) WHEREAS the affected New Alexandria Home Owners Association has been consulted and supports the proposed redevelopment of the property as presented;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) does not oppose a Special Exception to allow fill in the 100-year flood plain as presented for the development at 6414 13th Street in New Alexandria.

END: MVCCA RESOLUTION P&Z-2012-02

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, February 22, 8:00 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

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

Adjournment

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

MVCCA Board—Mar 8, 7:30 pm, MVGC Supvrs Conf Rm

Comm	Date	Time	Place	Chair
*B&F/ED	3/1	7:30	TBD	Harbeck/Voorhees
BUDG	3/7	7:30	WWMS	D. Voorhees
COAF	3/6	7:30	Teleconference	Cox
EDUC	3/8	8:00	WWMS/Lib	Harbeck
E&R	3/7	7:00	MVGC/Rm. 3	Martin
**H/HS	3/6	7:30	IMVH/Rm. Engh	Cleveland
PL/Z	3/5	7:30	WWMS-LH	Matthews
PSAF	3/1	7:30	MVGC/Rm. 3	Shawkey
LRSP	3/12	7:30	MVGC/Rm. 1	Dhillon
TRAN	3/5	7:30	WWMS/Library	C. Voorhees

* Joint Budget & Finance / Education committee meeting to hear a presentation on the County Advertised Budget

** HHS also meets Sat, 3/3, 9am - 1pm, IMVH/Board Rm. for Fairfax County FY2013 Budget review. See minutes for details.

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P.O. Box 203
Mount Vernon, VA 22121-0203
www.mvcca.org