



Together we make a difference

Founded in 1969

Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations

Record

Volume LV, No. 7, July 2022

FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

1. There is no August MVCCA General Council meeting. However, P&Z, Tran and PS will meet the end of August. Dates located on page 12 of this RECORD.
2. Committee Chairs reappointments and one new committee chair appointed.

Edu:	Cathy Hosek
E & R:	Christopher Morgan
Membership:	Cathy Hosek
Fairfax Federation:	Larry Green Jr.
P & Z:	Bindu Mathur ** newly appointed
PS:	Jason Zaragosa
SFDC:	Ellen Young
Transportation:	Peter Sitnik
3. A big shout out of thanks to Gretchen Walzl for all the years she has served as the chair of the P&Z committee. You will be missed thank you for your service.
4. Read our latest letter to the BOS on undergrounding on page 10 and background at <https://onthemove.town.news/g/mount-vernon-va/n/110442/mount-vernon-district-supervisor-urges-immediate-action-route-1-utility>

MVCCA BOARD

Co-Chairs	Katherine Ward	co.chair1@mvcca.org
	Lynn Pascoe	co.chair2@mvcca.org
	open	co.chair3@mvcca.org
Secretary	open	secretary@mvcca.org
Treasurer	Bill Kane	treasurer@mvcca.org
Membership	Cathy Hosek	membership@mvcca.org
Editor	Karen Keefer	editor@mvcca.org
BUDG	open	chair.bf@mvcca.org
EDUC	Cathy Hosek	chair.edu@mvcca.org
E&R	Christopher Morgan	chair.er@mvcca.org
PL/Z	Bindu Mathur	chair.pz@mvcca.org
PS	Jason Zaragoza	chair.ps@mvcca.org
TRAN	Pete Sitnik	chair.tran@mvcca.org
SFDC	Ellen Young	rep.sfdc@mvcca.org
FCFCA	Larry Green, Jr.	rep.fairfaxfederation@mvcca.org
Stormwater	Leo Milanowski	specialcommittee@mvcca.org

MVCCA General Council Meeting Minutes

MVCCA General Council Meeting Minutes June 22, 2022

Attending: Belle Haven Terrace; Belle Haven CA; Belle View Condo; Collingwood Springs; Collingwood on the Potomac; Holland Ct; Hollin Hall; Huntington CA; Hybla Valley Farms; Mason Hill; Montebello; Mount Vernon CA; Mt Vernon Manor; Mount Zephyr; New Alexandria; New Gum Springs; Spring Bank; Stratford Landing; Sulgrave Manor; Tauxemont; Wellington Civic; Wessynton; Williamsburg Manor North.

Called to order by Co-Chair Ward at 7:05 p.m.

May GC minutes approved unanimously. Treasurer's report accepted unanimously.

Supervisor's Report:

- Supervisor Storck is working on setting up a County reserve fund for utilities undergrounding, which could be funded with proffer dollars, a bond issue, or an electric utility meter fee.

- There will be a July 26 BOS committee meeting to discuss the Huntington Club redevelopment, which will not move forward without County support.
- County staff is concerned that undergrounding on Richmond Highway could delay the widening by 2-3 years.

Committee Reports:

Membership: goal for this year is 50 members.

Education: as published.

E&R: as published.

P&Z: as published.

P.S.: joint meeting with Transportation.

Transportation: as published.

SFDC: as published.

Fairfax Federation: as published.

Bylaws Amendments:

- Amendment to Article XIII, Sec. 1, approved unanimously as published.
- Amendment to Article XI, Sec. 2, approved unanimously as published.

ELECTION:

No floor nominations. Co-Chairs Ward & Pascoe, and Treasurer Kane elected unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS:

- Resolution on 5904 Richmond Hwy approved unanimously, as published.
- Resolution on the proposed Flood Wall approved unanimously, as published.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Budget & Finance

The Budget and Finance Committee did not meet in June. The next meeting is TBD. We are looking for a chair for this committee - if you are interested, please contact a co-chair.

Education

The chair is reviewing historical records in order to identify past member communities whose membership has lapsed. She will reach out to them. She has also identified newly formed communities within the MV district and will reach out to them so they become familiar with the MVCCA.

Environment & Recreation

E&R Meeting Minutes July 6, 2022

- Roll Call
- E&R Calendar
 - Katherine Ward encourages resolution regarding sludge from Oronoco Street City of Alexandria moving down river.
- Guest Speaker, Gwendolin McCrea, Environmental Justice Coordinator, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
 - Northern Region coordinator, includes Fairfax County and other municipalities in NOVA
 - Office at DEQ is small part of broader social environmental justice movement
 - Intersections of Environmental Justice, Federal Law (e.g. Justice40 - 40 percent of resources on disadvantaged communities), VA DEQ
 - At DEQ - focus on permitting, monitoring, inspection, etc.
 - Developments in VA
 - 2020 two bills passed into law
 - Environmental Justice Act focused on environmental justice communities and fenceline communities
 - VA Council on Environmental Justice advisory council for governor meeting at least quarterly to inform the governor (some open spots on council)
 - Land use, zoning, economic development are not in DEQ purview
 - Office opened in April of 2021
 - Role is to engage with community and get to know region and localities to provide enhanced public participation and better connection between what communities want and actions DEQ takes
 - Consultant report in 2019 talked about how DEQ could make progress on environmental justice
 - Coordinator role is to identify EJ communities, reach out and build relationships, provide opportunities for community engagement
 - Other projects include EJ Academy for education, EJ GIS Screening Tool, fostering partnerships with localities, further funding, expanding partnerships, incorporating EJ into all DEQ processes
 - Alan Ruof question re: effects of climate change
 - Gwen: Yes, factored in. DEQ is only regulating anything to do with climate change if there is a regulation
 - Katherine Ward Questions: What does working with communities mean?
 - Gwen: Definition of communities is community on the ground. Civic association would be included. Less focused on localities. Our focus is on people

----- Committee Reports ----- Committee Reports -----

- living in communities and getting their voices heard.
 - Katherine: MVCCA is doing battle re: expansion of Richmond Highway. EPA Report on Heat Island effect on communities less fortunate.
 - Gwen: Encourage you to talk to me. Fairfax County has a standing meeting with colleagues on DEQ about this project.
- Active Committee Items
 - Floodwall: comment period extended to July 31
 - No updates on 6514 Cygnet or Verizon Property
 - Stormwater Coordination
 - Larry Zaragoza: next actions will likely fall to us.
 - Katherine: To discuss at board meeting next week.
 - CECAP
 - Larry: ECAQ meeting next week will be proposing priorities to get county moving on the plan. Were expecting implementation by now, so going to suggest prioritizing by greenhouse gas emissions
 - Katherine: Does it have teeth?
 - Larry: Want to push it to have teeth
 - City of Alexandria Toxic Tours
 - Katherine: End of Oronoco Street used to be a coal plant, but coal tar sludge is still in ground and every time it rains the toxic material washes into the Potomac and comes south. Potomac River Keeper filed lawsuit against Alexandria. Community going to write a letter to ask Alexandria to clean it up. Anita Kerr will own.
 - Fort Belvoir Fulfillment Center
 - Comments due at end of month
 - Larry
 - They say operations are a fraction of a percentage of state greenhouse gas emissions, but they should be talking about carbon neutrality
 - Possible issues with employee safety and wetlands species protection
 - Dorothy Keough: Where is document posted?
 - <https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/FBNA/>
- Proposed Resolution: Living Shorelines Wetlands Board Guidance
 - Larry
 - Reason resolution was put together is wetlands board put out their guidance at request of Dan Storck
 - <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/plan2build/tidal-wetlands-and-shorelines/wetlands-board-meetings>
 - Questions
 - Alan Ruof: Do we comment on drafts?
 - Larry: Yes, there is precedent

- Alan: Can we substantiate the statement about “false testimony?”
- Katherine: Yes, they did give false testimony by saying homeowners were not affected
- Alan: I was taken aback by the language
- Larry: I sought advice from attorneys on this including a retired Department of Interior environmental lawyer
 - Vote
 - 5 aye
 - 1 abstention
 - Resolution passes
- Next Meeting
 - September 7
 - Dorothy question re: bamboo - who do I ask about county property with bamboo that abuts private property?
 - Katherine will follow up with Dan Storck

The E&R Committee meets at 7pm the first Wednesday of each month via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84774856175?pwd=MEFZVW1pSjNNc3pxaEh6d1A3Y0R0QT09>

Planning & Zoning

While no meeting was held, the P&Z chair and 3 other MVCCA board members participated in the Site Specific Plan Amendment Task Force reviewing the changes to the Comprehensive Plan for the Transit Station Area at the Huntington Metro area. The task force unanimously disagrees with the staff recommendations on : 1) the issue of how to create a safe and environmentally appropriate pathway from North Kings Hwy to Huntington Ave thru the community, 2) the modification to the area of WMATA property that abuts Biscayne Rd in the Huntington Community that is currently heavily treed. The task force wants the trees to remain. The staff and WAMATA want to approve buildings at a 55 foot height in that area. The final recommendations to the BOS will be made by the Planning Commission at their public hearing on July 26th.

Public Safety

The Public Safety Committee did not meet in July. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled as a joint meeting with the Transportation Committee on Monday, August 29 at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

Transportation

Our regular scheduled meeting for Monday, July 11, 2022 was *Canceled* in lieu of attending a "Virtual/Online" Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) & Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) Meeting.

We canceled our July 11, 2022 meeting and instead asked and urged Transportation Committee Members, Friends, and Interested Citizens, to attend a very important virtual/on-line VDOT & FCDOT Richmond Hwy, Speed Limit Study, Public Information Meeting (PIM), on July 20, 2022. This is the second and last planned Speed Limit Study, PIM. Committee attendance was highly encouraged especially in light of the high number of pedestrian deaths on Richmond Hwy between the Beltway and Fort Belvoir this year. Tragically the most recent pedestrian fatality occurred July 6, 2022 near Huntington Ave on Richmond Hwy. This marked the 11th pedestrian to die in Fairfax County in 2022.

All are encouraged to watch the video "Safety and Vehicle Speed are Fundamentally Opposed" <https://default.salsalabs.org/T36a429bb-80e3-402b-961f-88295f641adc/eddaf367-5c03-4a78-bd90-1c33d9bb858f>

Note:

The same Speed Limit Study presentation that is to be shared at the July 20, 2022 PIM is also going to be shared at the MVCCA July 27, 2022 General Council Meeting.

Information and links to both the 1st PIM (November 30, 2021) and 2nd PIM (July 20, 2022) follow:

2nd PIM: 2022

VDOT and FCDOT (PIM) presentation including the recommendations for the posted speed limit along this section of Richmond Highway (between Belvoir Road/Meade Road and I-95/I-495 (Capital Beltway). Attendees can/could register and fully participate or choose to listen in.

Richmond Highway (Route 1) Speed Limit Study, Public Information Meeting (PIM)
Wednesday, July 20, 2022, 7 p.m.
Presentation began/will begin promptly at 7 p.m.
The meeting will be/was held as a virtual/online meeting. Information for accessing and participating in the virtual meeting is available at <https://www.virginiadot.org/Route1SpeedLimitStudy>

1st PIM: 2021

VDOT Richmond Highway (Route 1) Speed Limit Study first virtual public information meeting webpage. The meeting was held Nov. 30, 2021. You can watch the video: https://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northern_virginia/richmond_highway_route_1_speed_limit_study-first_virtual_public_information_meeting.asp

Get smarter: Watch a video

Support the Embark Vision of a "Main Street Concept" for Richmond Highway.

Use the following link to go to Smart Growth America's Article, "Safety and Vehicle Speed are Fundamentally Opposed"

<https://default.salsalabs.org/T36a429bb-80e3-402b-961f-88295f641adc/eddaf367-5c03-4a78-bd90-1c33d9bb858f>

Then click on the video: Why Safety and Vehicle Speed are Incompatible Goals for Street Design

Or: go directly to the video

<https://youtu.be/li4fXICNh8k>

For more information:

Links:

2nd PIM Speed Study

<https://www.virginiadot.org/Route1SpeedLimitStudy>

11th Pedestrian Dies

<https://patch.com/virginia/greateralexandria/pedestrian-struck-hit-run-richmond-highway-police>

1st PIM Speed Study

https://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northern_virginia/richmond_highway_route_1_speed_limit_study-first_virtual_public_information_meeting.asp

Safety & vehicle speed are fundamentally opposed

<https://default.salsalabs.org/T36a429bb-80e3-402b-961f-88295f641adc/eddaf367-5c03-4a78-bd90-1c33d9bb858f>

Note: If you have trouble loading a link, copy and paste it into your search bar.

Documents [attached to end of this Record]:

1. Flyer - Richmond Hwy Speed Limit Study_PIM-2_FINAL
2. Article - Pedestrian Dies After Hit-&-Run At Huntington & Richmond Highway 7 6 2022

----- Committee Reports ----- Committee Reports -----

Announcements

Future Transportation Committee Meetings:

The next Transportation Committee Meeting will take place on August 29, 2022 (This is our September Meeting). Until further notice, all meetings will be held remotely. Subsequent meetings are scheduled for Oct 3, Nov 7 and Dec 5.

Fairfax Federation

The Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations had its Annual Picnic on June 23, 2022 where the new officers were sworn in by Jeff McKay, Chairman, Board of Fairfax County Supervisors. During that event, a motion was passed and approved for updating the cover letter and 2019 resolution in support of undergrounding utilities in Fairfax County.

Additionally, work continues on two proposed resolutions which are in the final stages of revision:

- * Residential Uses within Airport Noise Contours
- * Data Center development in Prince William County in what was once an environmental corridor in their county is a picnic 6:30 pm on Jun 23, 2022 at Mason District Park.

SFDC

We are starting a second Mural project, to be on the ZIPS Dry Cleaners wall. Community input will be essential, and we're asking people to give us their ideas. Go to www.SFDC.org, and scroll to the bottom to find the survey link!

Special Committee on Stormwater Management

MVCCA SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON STORMWATER (MSCS) Meeting Minutes June 15, 2022

MSCS team members representing Belleview, Westgrove, Mount Vee Manor, New Alexandria, Stratford Landing, Tauxemont, Wellington, Williamsburg Manor, and Hollin Hall Village communities attended.

The meeting's agenda included the following items:

- Committee activities since previous meeting
- Briefing from Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District representative
- County Executive Memo on Staff stormwater efforts

MSCS Activities between May 12 & June 15

In November 2021, MSCS initiated discussion with VDOT and County representatives requesting joint site visits to reported stormwater(SW) problem sites. With County staff unable to participate to date, a request was made to VDOT to visit select problem sites clearly under their purview. Four individual sites were identified to VDOT in Westgrove, Hollin Hall, Wellington, and Riverside Estates. VDOT advised that their inspectors had previously visited the sites in Westgrove and Riverside Estates and found no issues with the either sites; they did not want to revisit those sites. They did agree to visit the Wellington and Hollin Hall sites and a meeting is scheduled for June 22. Additional dialogue with VDOT to arrange visits to the other two sites will continue.

Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation (NVS&WCD) District Briefing

The NVSWCD organization partners with Fairfax County, the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and the Virginia Cooperative Extension to promote soil and water conservation practices in Fairfax and neighboring counties with an aim to prevent pollution, reduce runoff, and protect streams and rivers.

Dan Schwartz, a soil scientist at NVS&WCD, briefed the committee on its conservation programs for landowners. The briefing focused on its Home Turf Program, its Conservation Assistance Program, and Technical Assistance service. Key elements follow.

Started in 2009, the Home Turf Program focuses on the extensive lawn cultivation occurring in our communities and its effect on soil and water. There are 6.1 million "turf grass farmers" - aka homeowners - in Chesapeake Bay watershed and there is an 8% annual increase in turf acreage. And it is estimated that \$600 million is spent on fertilizers/pesticides to care for these lawns. Started in 2009, the program promotes careful application of chemicals on lawns. A Master Gardener make a home visit, collect soil for testing, and measures lawn area. The product is a Certified Nutrient Management Plan to guide lawn chemical application and timing. The cost of the service is \$40.00.

The Technical Assistance Program provides property owners with assistance with drainage problems, erosion issues, landscaping issues, and plant recommendations. The briefing noted that from 2020 through the present, nearly 35 cases of assistance were provided in the Mount Vernon Supervisory District, of which 20 were related to flooding and drainage. This resource is free, but assistance is limited by staff availability.

----- Committee Reports ----- Committee Reports -----

The Conservation Assistance Program is available to homeowners, HOAs and Places of Worship. Specific assistance is provided in areas of Conservation Landscaping, Rain Gardens/Bioretenion, Dry Wells/Infiltration Trenches, Permeable Paving, Stormwater Conveyance, Rainwater Harvesting, Impervious Surface Removal, Green Roofs, and Wetland Construction. Property owners apply for assistance and if determined eligible, may be allotted monetary grants for the work to be done. Grant amounts vary depending on the project. The applicant must present a problem that impacts water quality. Grant ceilings are under review at the State level and may be increased this year. Further information can be found at:

- Conservation Assistance Program: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation/conservation-assistance-programs>
- Home Turf Program: <http://fairfaxgardening.org/home-turf/>
- General Technical Advice: conservationdistrict@fairfaxcounty.gov

County Staff Stormwater Efforts

In memorandum, dated May 10, 2022, the County Executive detailed County staff flood mitigation activities and its efforts to develop a comprehensive county-wide flood risk reduction plan. After a July 2019 storm event dropped 5.3 inches of rain in 1 hour (this is a 1,000 year storm event), resulting in an estimated \$14M in damages, the BoS Environmental Committee tasked staff to develop flood response options.

The memo outlined the following:

- Completed 17 flood mitigation projects on individual residential properties
- Managing 39 flood mitigation projects ranging from individual lots to neighborhood scale SW improvements
- Working with Army Corps of Engineer on Belle View/New Alexandria flood prevention
- Explored partial property tax exemptions for qualifying flood improvements on real estates, but it was determined not feasible
- Collaborated with FEMA on its update to Flood Insurance Rate Maps

It also documented ongoing collaborations between County offices including:

- Assisting County's Land Development Services (LDS) in developing policy "Localized Flooding Mitigation Policy for Infill Lot Development"
- Developing a tool to identify flood prone properties during LDS plan reviews
- Assisting Resilient Fairfax Initiative

- Encouraging SW management practices above regulatory requirements on properties upstream of known drainage issues

In addition to these efforts, the County noted it has formed an Interdepartmental Working Group (in January 2022) to develop flood mitigation policy options. The aim is to produce a comprehensive county-wide flood risk reduction plan to assist residents living in flood-prone communities, including change to flood mitigation project selection/prioritization process and revisions to Zoning and SW ordinances to incentivize flood risk reduction. On completion of the group's work, options will be presented to the BoS Environmental Committee to reduce flooding risks in areas already developed and incoming development. Completion is scheduled for "later this year."

The County is also revising its policy regarding use of SW Tax Funds for SW improvements in VDOT right-of-way (ROW). This would allow DPWES to implement improvements to mitigate property or road flooding in VDOT Right of Ways, essentially taking over VDOT responsibilities. It excludes roadway, transportation, pedestrian, street lighting, or vehicular improvements, except replacing existing facilities that are damaged or are removed to implement a flood mitigation project. Supervisor Storck has estimated this at about \$11M/year.

The next meeting is TBD.

Committee Resolutions

PROPOSED MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS RESOLUTION Environment and Recreation Committee (MVCCA) E&R 2022-01

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 739 ON LIVING SHORELINES AND COMMENT ON THE DRAFT WETLAND BOARD GUIDANCE

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2022 the MVCCA approved a resolution in support of House Bill 739 on Living Shorelines;

WHEREAS, 1) lacking support from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in advance of a January meeting of the Chesapeake Subcommittee and 2) as a result of false testimony from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and other environmental representatives, who claimed that property owners are not being impacted as a result of the 2020 legislation, House Bill 739 did not advance beyond the Chesapeake Subcommittee;

WHEREAS, in response to community comment, including the above referenced resolution of the MVCCA, Supervisor Storck asked the Fairfax County Wetlands Board to explore the development of guidance that would consider costs and impacts to property owners as well as provide an applicant knowledge about how they can comply with living shoreline requirements;

WHEREAS, the draft guidance circulated by the Wetlands Board Staff recognizes that a variety of factors, including cost to remove a sea wall and cost to install a living shoreline may be considered in the decision making process, but fails to provide the applicant sufficient information to assess how to comply with requirements enabling them to maintain and repair an existing sea wall or bulkhead;

WHEREAS, the draft guidance does not address either the 1984 Attorney General opinion^[1] nor Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences guidance that provide for maintaining sea walls or bulkheads that would not impact wetlands;

WHEREAS, Virginia's 2020 living shorelines legislative update establishes Virginia as the only state among the states within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed that established a framework that results in a taking of property without compensation in violation of the 5th and 14th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution (while Maryland has a preference for living shorelines, it provides exemptions so that property will not be taken without compensation);

WHEREAS, the draft guidance is vague and would permit the Wetlands Board to essentially decide an issue any way they want to, depriving an applicant of knowledge about how they can comply, and this can lead to a decision by a court on

appeal of an adverse decision of the wetlands board that the decision was arbitrary and capricious; and

WHEREAS, given the vagueness of the draft guidance, the impacts to waterfront property owners, and the likelihood that a decision to remove an existing sea wall and install a living shoreline will be litigated, it is incumbent on the County to provide clearer guidance that explicitly explains how the guidance outlined above will be used to guide decisions by the Fairfax County Wetlands Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MVCCA has concluded that the draft Wetlands Board Guidance does not provide the clarity needed to address the concerns associated with the 2020 living shorelines legislation as it continues to deprive an applicant seeking to retain their existing sea wall or bulkhead of knowledge about how they can comply;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MVCCA has concluded that the proposed Wetlands Board guidance resulting from the 2020 legislation creates legal vulnerabilities resulting from 1) the vagueness of the guidance, which would allow for an agency or wetlands board to decide an issue any way that they wish so that decisions are arbitrary and capricious and 2) should decisions go against the desires of a property owner who wishes to repair their existing sea wall/bulkhead and is required to install a living shoreline then that decision could lead to a court challenge alleging a taking without compensation.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the MVCCA requests that members of the Fairfax County delegation to the General Assembly provide a draft of legislation to be introduced during the next legislative session that reflects the changes outlined in House Bill 739 by August 1, so that it can be reviewed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and included in the Board's legislative package;

[1] In 1984 Virginia Attorney General Gerald Baliles affirmed "bulkheads are included within the word "facilities" in § 3(h), and that the normal maintenance, repair or additions to a bulkhead would be permitted under that section if no further wetlands were covered."

END PROPOSED RESOLUTION: E&R-2022-01

----- Committee Resolutions -----

Action Required by General Council



The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, Inc.

P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-9998

<http://www.mvcca.org>

Heather Cisar
Fort Belvoir Environmental Division
Directorate of Public Works, Building 1442
9430 Jackson Loop
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060

RE: Comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Proposed Fort Belvoir North Area Distribution Center

Dear Ms. Cisar,

July 12, 2022

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) thanks you for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed construction of a 525,000 warehouse and administrative building with associated parking and convert storage for approximately 600 personnel.

In our review of the draft EA, we identified the following areas that we request be addressed:

1. Contamination from UXO and contaminants of concern: While the maps in the body of the report show the presence of surface water and wetlands, they do not show the relationship between UXO and contaminants of concern, which is important because it is unclear if the project is likely to result in the release of contaminants of concern to surface water and wetlands. This is important information that we request be provided for this and future EAs.
2. Land Use Controls: While the EA notes the use of Land Use Controls (LUC), the EA fails to either list or map the LUCs. Mapping the LUCs is critical to seeing that the LUCs will cover the areas with contaminants of concern and UXO so that health and the environment will be protected. The presence of some LUCs, as presented in the EA is insufficient to assess the adequacy of LUCs. This information on LUCs is critical because LUCs must typically be layered and include enforceable components to be effective. This information is especially important to the MVCCA because contamination to the surface and ground waters can impact wildlife and be spread downstream to waters outside the base.
3. On page 3-35 the document states "Construction activities may require measures to prevent vapor intrusion below ground levels." While there may be a greater threat of vapor intrusion

1

Continued on next page

----- Committee Resolutions -----

Action Required by General Council

Continued from previous page

from construction below ground levels, buildings are typically designed to so that air handling provides for negative air pressure inside the building relative to the outside. The negative inside pressure will pull VOCs from subterranean soils/groundwater into buildings. Thus, to protect base personnel, shouldn't all construction be evaluated to determine if LUCs are needed?

4. Removal of contamination: Where contamination is known to exist, the EA does not evaluate options to remove the contamination. Left in place contamination may continue to pose a threat to health and the environment if LUCs are ineffective. Effective LUCs should include a combination of LUCs that include enforceable LUCs and the more effective that LUCs are the more expensive. Over the long term the cost of the LUCs can exceed the cost of removal of contamination so shouldn't removal be explicitly addressed?
5. We agree with the comment from Kelly Atkinson that the level of LEED certification sought (at least LEED Gold should be sought).
6. On April 22, 2022, President Biden has set a goal of reducing GHG emissions to 50 percent from 2005 levels by 2030. What is Fort Belvoir doing to achieve that goal? The references in the EA do not reflect any efforts to reduce GHG but instead argue that facility emissions are not significant. Instead, we would expect that Fort Belvoir is seeking to employ renewable energy to reduce its GHG footprint and electric vehicles to reduce their GHG footprint from transportation. Fairfax County is in the process of developing detailed plans to address both GHG emission reductions and establish resilience to the impacts of climate change.

We thank you for the opportunity to review this EA and look forward to your response. Please respond directly to Christopher Morgan, Chair, MVCCA Environmental and Recreation Committee Chair chair.er@mvcca.org.

Katherine Ward

Katherine Ward
Cochair
MVCCA

----- Letter to the BOS on Undergrounding -----



The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, Inc.

P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-9998

<http://www.mvcca.org>

July 15, 2022

Jeffrey C. McKay, Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Penelope A. Gross, Vice Chairman, Supervisor Mason District

Daniel G. Storck, Supervisor Mount Vernon District

James R. Walkinshaw, Supervisor Braddock District

John W. Foust, Supervisor Dranesville District

Walter L. Alcorn, Supervisor Hunter Mill District

Rodney L. Lusk, Supervisor Franconia District

Dalia A. Palchik, Supervisor Providence District

Pat Herrity, Supervisor Springfield District

Kathy L. Smith, Supervisor Sully District

Subject: Utility Undergrounding in Fairfax County

To the Members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors::

Your actions in recent years have been invaluable in assisting Fairfax County's rapid transformation from a suburban and rural past to an increasingly urban environment. Some of the county is up-to-date and modern, some areas will and should remain comfortably suburban, and some of it looks like it is stuck in the mid-1900s and desperately needs renovation. In our part of the county, the Embark plan for Richmond Highway offers a dramatic opportunity to transform one of the oldest highways in the county into what the Comprehensive Plan describes as our "Main Street" with modern housing, businesses, abundant trees, and an efficient transportation system. The transformation and revitalization

Continued on page 11

Letter to the BOS on Undergrounding

Continued from page 10

of the Richmond Highway Corridor is an exciting plan and will serve as a model for updating other old corridors in Fairfax County as we move to our common future.

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) which represents some 15,000 households has long advocated for the transformation of Richmond Highway and strongly backs the Embark plan. We are joined in this effort by the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation and the Chamber of Commerce. The Fairfax Federation also supports this effort as part of a county-wide approach to revitalization. We are deeply worried, however, that key parts of the plan may not be implemented, leaving us a disappointing billion dollar project that does not live up its potential for attracting development and setting a bad precedent for similar efforts in the rest of the county.

A crucial issue before the Board is whether the utilities along Richmond Highway will be undergrounded as part of the Richmond Highway widening and Bus Rapid Transit project or whether the unsightly and vulnerable utility poles, wires, and cables that now help mark the highway as one of the ugliest roads in the county will remain. It is a well-known fact that developers, residents, and business people move to areas that are pleasant to the eye as well as near to urban centers. Undergrounding is key to raising the valuation of the properties, businesses, and residential units that in turn attracts more and better investment. It will be a vital factor in whether or not this and other ambitious renovation efforts in the county attract new residents and business. Prince William County concluded that the cost of putting utilities underground as they rebuilt Richmond Highway would pay for itself in additional taxes in twenty years.

The value of undergrounding utilities goes beyond aesthetic issues and its attraction to development. Power lines are tree killers. There is a growing understanding in the United States that mature trees along highways and elsewhere in urban areas are crucial to reducing the heat island effect of the roads and support the county's Cool County initiative created years ago. The wires and cables can be put underground in areas that allow the trees to prosper. Undergrounding will also ensure the security of the power and communications grid from natural or manmade disasters along this critical corridor between Washington and Fort Belvoir

There is also an equity, "One Fairfax" issue involved in carrying out undergrounding as part of this and other county road projects in older communities. We admire the undergrounding included in recent projects in some more prosperous areas of Fairfax County and completely laud the effort. In fact, all new development projects in the county should have the benefits of hidden utility wires and cables. But undergrounding should be the policy across the county, not just in a few areas. Undergrounding on Richmond Highway will establish the precedent and set an example for renovation of older roads across the county in all of your neighborhoods.

Failure to do the undergrounding at this time would be an obvious false economy. The poles and wires will have to be removed and replaced in any case, the roadway will already be torn up, and it would be much cheaper to have the same contractor put in the conduit while the road is being redone as they did in Prince William County.

We do not accept the argument being put forward by some of the county staff and VDOT that there is no time to carry out the necessary studies and preparations to do the undergrounding simultaneously with the rest of the construction. We believe undergrounding can and should be simultaneously accomplished with the rest of the construction. It has already been four years since the Comprehensive Plan amendment calling for undergrounding that the Board of Supervisors passed on March 20, 2018. Undoubtedly there will be some slippage in a project of this magnitude, and we are confident they will have sufficient time to make undergrounding a reality.

We therefore strongly support Supervisor Storck's recommendations for financing the undergrounding of utilities on this project and hope you will also support them. There is too much at stake for Fairfax County to not get this right.

Thank you.

Katherine Ward

Katherine Ward
CoChair
MVCCA

B. Lynn Pascoe

B. Lynn Pascoe
CoChair
MVCCA

Pete Sitnik

Peter Sitnik
Transportation Chair
MVCCA

----- Treasurers Report -----

Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, Inc. Treasurer's Report, Current Month and Fiscal Year Compared to Budget Periods Ending June 30, 2022

	June	Total July 1 to June 30	2021-2022 Annual Budget	Budget Variance To spend or Favorable (Unfavorable)
<u>Cash Receipts (including deposits in-transit):</u>				
Dues - Current Members	\$ -	\$ 4,320	\$ 3,016	
Money Market Interest	-	1	2	
Total Cash Receipts	-	4,321	3,018	\$ 1,303
<u>Cash Disbursements (including outstanding checks):</u>				
Administrative	-	340	250	(90)
Insurance Premium	-	762	930	168
Outreach/Town Hall Meets	-	-	250	250
"Record" Production	140	1,630	1,240	(390)
Web Site	28	1,782	1,400	(382)
Total Cash Disbursements	168	4,513	4,070	(444)
Net Budget - Receipts in Excess(less than) Disbursements:	(168)	(192)	(1,052)	\$ 859

Other Sources/Changes in Cash:

Cash at Beginning of Period	8,180	8,205	8,205	
Total Cash at End of Period	\$ 8,012	\$ 8,012	\$ 7,153	

End of Period Cash Balances by Account (adjusted for outstanding items):

Burke & Herbert - Checking	\$ 1,851			
Burke & Herbert - Money Market	6,161			
Total Cash	\$ 8,012			

Respectfully Submitted,
William J Kane, Treasurer
July 1, 2022

Notes:

- 1 This financial statement uses the cash basis of accounting except as noted on the face of the statement.
- 2 Amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar
- 3 Does not include \$1,255 dues for 2022-2023 collected in June 2022 which will appear as Receipts in the July 2022 report.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, July 27, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Virtual

AGENDA

- Call to order
- 7:15 p.m. VDOT/FCDOT Guest speaker:
Rt. 1 Speed Study
- Minutes Approved
- Committee Reports
- Treasurer Report
- Co-chairs Report
- Resolutions
- Members Time
- Adjourn

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

MVCCA Council—July 27, 7:00 p.m., Virtual
MVCCA Board—September 13, 7:00 p.m., Virtual

Comm	Date	Time	Place	Chair
BUDG	TBD	7:00	Virtual	open
EDU	9/7	7:30	Virtual	Hosek
E&R	9/7	7:00	Virtual	Morgan
PL/Z	8/29	7:00	Virtual	Walzl
PS	8/29*	7:00	Virtual	Zaragoza
TRAN	8/29*	7:00	Virtual	Sitnik
MSCS	TBD	7:00	Virtual	Milanowski

*Joint meeting

*The Record is published monthly except August by the
Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, P.O. Box 203,
Mount Vernon, VA 22121-0203.*



**Richmond Highway (Route 1) Speed Limit Study
Public Information Meeting
July 20, 2022**

About this Study This study is assessing the 45 MPH speed limit on about eight miles of Richmond Highway (Route 1) between Belvoir Road/Meade Road and I-95/I-495 (Capital Beltway) to improve safety for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, drivers, and transit users.

Meeting Details Join the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and Fairfax County to learn about the recommendations for the posted speed limit along this section of Richmond Highway.
Wednesday, July 20, 2022, 7 p.m.
Presentation will begin promptly at 7 p.m.
The meeting will be held as a **virtual/online** meeting. Information for accessing and participating in the virtual meeting is available at <https://www.virginiadot.org/Route1SpeedLimitStudy>

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT's Civil Rights at 703-259-1775 or TTY/TDD 711.

Acerca del estudio Este estudio evalúa la velocidad máxima de 45 MPH en la autopista de Richmond (Ruta 1) entre Belvoir Road/Meade Road y la I-95/I-495 (Capital Beltway) para mejorar la seguridad de todos los usuarios, incluyendo peatones, ciclistas, conductores y usuarios de transporte público.

Detalles de la reunión Únete al Departamento de Transporte de Virginia (VDOT) y al condado de Fairfax para aprender sobre las recomendaciones de límites de velocidad señalizados a lo largo de esta sección en la autopista de Richmond.
Miércoles, 20 de julio de 2022, 7 p.m.
La presentación comenzará a las 7 p.m. en punto.
La reunión se llevará a cabo de forma **virtual/en línea**. Para ver cómo acceder a la reunión virtual y cómo participar ingrese a: <https://www.virginiadot.org/Route1SpeedLimitStudy>

El Departamento de Transporte de Virginia garantiza la no discriminación y la igualdad de oportunidades laborales en todos los programas y actividades, todo conforme lo dispuesto en los Títulos VI y VII de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964. Para obtener más información o asistencia especial para personas con discapacidades o dominio limitado del idioma inglés, comunicarse con la Dirección de Derechos Civiles del Departamento de Transporte de Virginia al 703-259-1775 o al 711 (sistema TTY/TDD para sordomudos).

연구에 대하여 본 연구는 보행자, 자전거 운전자 및 운송 사용자를 포함한 모든 사용자의 안전을 개선하기 위해 Belvoir Road/Meade Road 및 I-95/I-495 (Capital Beltway) 사이의 약 8 마일 길이의 Richmond Highway (Route 1)에서 45 MPH의 기존 속도 제한을 평가하는 연구입니다.

회의 세부 정보 버지니아 교통부(VDOT)와 페어팩스 카운티와 함께 리치먼드 고속도로의 이 구간을 따라 게시된 제한 속도에 대한 권장 사항을 알아보세요.
2022년 7월 20일 수요일 오후 7시.
발표는 오후 7시에 바로 시작합니다.
회의는 **가상/온라인** 회의로 진행됩니다. 가상 회의 접속 및 참여 정보는 다음 링크에서 확인할 수 있습니다:
<https://www.virginiadot.org/Route1SpeedLimitStudy>

VDOT는 1964년 민권법(Civil Rights Act)의 Title VI 및 Title VII에 따라 모든 프로그램 및 활동에서 차별 금지 및 평등한 고용을 보장합니다. 장애인이나 제한된 영어 실력에 대한 추가 정보 또는 특별 지원이 필요한 경우 VDOT의 민권 담당 부서(Civil Rights) 703-259-1775 또는 TTY/TDD 711로 문의하세요.

**For additional details and ways to provide comments:
<https://www.virginiadot.org/Route1SpeedLimitStudy>**

Pedestrian Dies After Hit-And-Run At Richmond Highway: Police

A pedestrian has died after a Wednesday night (July 6, 2022) crash on Richmond Highway, according to police.



Emily Leayman, Patch Staff

Posted Thu, Jul 7, 2022 at 8:37 am ET| Updated Thu, Jul 7, 2022 at 6:32 pm ET



A pedestrian was hospitalized after a crash on Richmond Highway in the Huntington area Wednesday. (Emily Leayman/Patch)

HUNTINGTON, VA — A pedestrian struck in a hit-and-run crash at Richmond Highway Wednesday night has died, according to Fairfax County Police.

Around 10:20 p.m., officers responded to a crash at Richmond Highway and Huntington Avenue. Police say a southbound 2007 dark-green Toyota Camry struck the pedestrian near Huntington Avenue. According to police investigation, the pedestrian was outside a crosswalk in a dimly-lit area.

The pedestrian was taken to the hospital with life-threatening injuries. She died of her injuries Thursday morning. The pedestrian was identified as Doris Anita McPhail, 56, of Alexandria.

The striking vehicle initially left the scene, according to police. However, the driver notified dispatchers as detectives were investigating. Police do not initially believe speed or alcohol were factors in the crash.

The driver has not been publicly identified or charged. Detectives will present investigation results to the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney for potential charges.