



Together we make a difference

Founded in 1969

Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations

Record

Volume LV, No. 8, September 2022

FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

1. Our Guest Speaker is Supervisor Lusk from Franconia District (Previously Lee District) to talk about their New Community Center.
2. Our October General Council will have a presentation from the County Planning Staff on the new Site Specific Plan Amendment Process (SSPA)
3. Please remember that your current Co-chairs will be no longer be able to run for office under the updated bylaws you approved. Please speak to Ellen Young or Judy Harbeck if you are interested in being a Co-chair for starting our 2023 term. We need 3 Co-chairs.

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 July 27, 2022

Attendees: Belle Haven Terrace; Belle Haven CA; Belle View Condo; Collingwood Springs; Collingwood on the Potomac; Hollin Hall; Hybla Valley Farms; Mason Hill; Montebello; Mount Vee Manor; Mount Vernon Manor CA; Mount Zephyr; New Gum Springs; Riverside Estates; Wellington Civic; Wessynton; Williamsburg Manor North;
 Transportation Committee Members: Wellington Heights; Westgrove; Mount Vernon CA; Stratford Landing;
 FCDOT: Neil Freschman; Tom Burke;
 VDOT: Michelle Cavucci; Gil Chlewicki; Erika Christ; Jessica Paris;
 Consultants: Jenny Goldschmidt; John Albonetti;
 Supervisor Storck's Office: Nick Rinehart;
 Several interested citizens.

Call to order at 7:02 p.m. by Co-Chair Pascoe.

VDOT made a presentation on the Richmond Highway speed limit study, which can be viewed at Virginia https://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/route_1_speed_limit_study.asp.

Committee Reports:

Transportation: no meeting;
 Stormwater: as published;
 Education: no meeting;
 P&Z: no meeting;
 SFDC: as published;
 E&R: as published;
 Treasurer's Report: as published.

Co-Chairs' Report: We received a letter from the Friends of Dyke Marsh regarding the flood wall in the Belleview/Belle Haven area. The hoped for under-grounding along Richmond Highway is not looking like it has enough support on the BOS.

----- Council Minutes ----- Committee Reports -----

Resolution: In support of HB 739 (as published). Passed unanimously.
Ratification of a letter in support of Undergrounding, passed unanimously.
Ratification of a letter on the Ft Belvoir study, passed unanimously.
Letter in support of the Richmond Highway Speed Study Recommendations, passed unanimously.

Supervisor's Report, by Nick Rinehart:

- It's continuing to be a challenge getting support for undergrounding, with cost the main concern.
- There will be a public hearing on December 6, on funding of Phase 1 of the Huntington Club redevelopment.
- The office is still looking into how the Evergreen Homes development got permission to locate driveway accesses in a turn lane on Ft Hunt Rd.
- The Infill Task Force is currently looking at stormwater and tree preservation issues.
- Supervisor Storck has contacted the NPS, and demanded that they get involved with the proposed USACE Flood Wall project.
- Modifications to the SSPA process were approved, and the new 2-year, County-wide period begins in October.
- Re zoning for the Old Mount Vernon HS was approved.
- The Manufactured Homes Task Force has finalized their recommendations, and their report will be before the BOD by the end of the year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45.

Budget & Finance

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

Education

MVCCA Education Meeting – September 7, 2022

6 members present Guest Speaker Evangeline Petrich Executive Principal, ESSER III Grant Administration

ESSER Funding streams

ESSER I II and III – also set aside grants for specific programs like after school middle school programs

ESSER I 21.7 M grant - CARES – those are the same thing became available since March 2020 and must be spent by Sept 2022

More targeted and restrictive – hourly funding to support students support and for PPE which was necessary at the start of the pandemic as there were no vaccines

Technology classroom cameras and increased bandwidth to deliver virtual instruction with start up money

STATUS – was reviewed in January to spend it down and there is a plan to spend it on PPE

ESSER II

84 M managed centrally – Spend by Sept 2023

Supported Summer school 2021 – teachers instructional supplies, etc

HVAC replacement and upgrades some schools were more extensive

Also looking at this and figuring out how to spend down these funds as well

Funding on one time costs as opposed to recurring costs -

ESSER III

188 M (total amount – first year was around 97 80 and then 12 in the last year) 29 different projects – some are one year, two year and 3 year

1 year project – ESOL staffing Project 28 Line item for 1M for 2022 it has been picked up in the operating fund standard of accreditation

Most goes to student wellness and academic intervention (close gaps)

Division goal is to make sure students are making progress – also to feel safe school plans are put on the FCPS website plans live now are from last spring. Schools revised their plans over summer and August which includes their revised spending. It goes through 2 approvals 209 school plans

Funds are allocated on enrollment and testing data – data was 2 years old Attendance rates behavior rates etc. so it was difficult to calculate the real need.

This year approach was refined – no single data measured, but on a school based allocation. Evidence based practiced and uses. Move the system from I think it is working to I know it is working.

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

Question: Evidence based practices – how are these being shared across the division and is someone at central figuring out how to deal with learning loss. ORSI charge is to get us to that point – XYZ have the most impact on reducing gaps – the reality to understand is there were gaps before the pandemic as well so how do we accelerate learning.

Research tells us that an adult that can work with small groups for targeted support works best

AD Math Recovery opportunity for students to accelerate learning

Billingham teacher development to learn ways of coding of words across K-12

Instructional services coordinator are providing that leadership for the school leaders

23 M for social emotional learning – school based allocations to hire social workers or counselors for address the student wellness needs Guidance documents message is these should not be one time things – needs to be part of a comprehensive wellness plans.

Question: Is there a way to break down the way money was spent specifically? When you access the school plan you will see the aggregate spending – such as hourly teacher or instructional supplies. Recognizing that we have to be responsible fiscal agents what controls are in place to ensure that we have some auditing procedures.

Question: Can you speak to the auditing process? There is an external audit and the office of auditor general. External auditor – Cherry Beckert also auditing FFX CO Also the need to update the public on what is going on. There is also a grant manager after the plans are formed.

Procurement threshold – ensuring that we are not creating an over-reliance on any particular thing – if we need to keep it and it is working, how can we can work it into the operating budget.

Progress monitoring – assigning students to what they are receiving – the system has to evolve since this is such a quick process – looking at the return on investment.

Reports are available from the Auditor General – first reporting structure at the SB audit committee. Then it becomes available to the public. Cherry Beckert is due around November.

The public doesn't understand where this money is going – what is being targeted and why? We would love to have this information amplified in an understandable format.

Mount Vernon area needs more counselors – ESSER funds could have been used for this. Many schools planned for hourly

support – retired teachers etc. Those staff are paid a higher hourly rate

Follow ups office of auditor general report ORSI report – The feedback from the reports are helping to improve the work. Jan 13 school board report.

Question: The need for spending on technology ramped up. The budget is hard to see specifics on technology spending – what are recurring costs? Is that data being captured?

There were ESSER categories of spending – the current amount is about 3% and software is about 4% hourly teacher 48%

Other school based academic – wellness and project 27 – coded monitor funding when we had the social distancing requirement. Feedback from principals showed that there was a need. It was only funded FY 22, not FY 23. Redirection can not exceed 100,000. COVID case managers are part of that amount SB voted to allocate that amount. This one is strictly per pupil.

Office of research and school improvement ORSI is tasked with studying and reporting what is working.

52 central positions funded – weighing long term vs. immediate need. Some positions may need to stay.

Collecting data to make that decision – those positions are posted as one year ESSER positions

All ESSER III funds must be spent by 2024.

Follow up Information from Evangaline Petrich:

1. Answer to the question of \$32 million for 3 days of professional development (slide 10) from a [January 13 School Board meeting](#). After reviewing that material, this \$32 million wasn't coming from ESSER. The presentation was Dr. Brabrand's [Proposed FY 23 \(Operating\) Budget](#). Through the Budget process in the spring, this was reduced to 2 days of professional development and the School Board [approved 2 days of professional development on May 26](#).
2. Office of Auditor General (OAG) – first [ESSER Continuous Monitoring Report](#) shared at the June 22 School Board Audit Committee and the approved [FY23 OAG Monitoring Plan](#) (ESSER description on page 11)
3. School Board Work Session on February 22, 2022 – [ESSER Updates](#) (can access the ORSI report, Spending Plan (to see all 29 projects within ESSER III), and Slide Deck)

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

4. [School Plans from Spring 2022](#) (will be updated when Fall 2022 plans are reviewed and approved)

Our next meeting will be on Monday October 3 from 6:30 – 7:30 at Mount Vernon High School. We will be attending the new Superintendent’s Listening Tour.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Environment & Recreation

E&R Meeting Minutes September 7, 2022

- Roll Call
- E&R Calendar
 - No updates
- Guest Speaker, Dean Naujoks from the Potomac Riverkeeper Network Inc. to discuss an issue in Alexandria City affecting the Potomac.
 - Jurisdiction is Harpers Ferry to Chesapeake Bay
 - Protect and defend Potomac
 - Use citizen provisions to enforce laws like Clean Water Act
 - Provide compelling visual evidence, sampling data, must be ongoing source of pollution, regulatory agencies must fail to act
 - In case of Alexandria, VA dept. Of water quality has done almost nothing for 50 years
 - Win or settle 95% of cases because science or law is on our side
 - Alexandria Outfall 001 Combined Sewage & Stormwater Overflows
 - Alexandria Gasworks History
 - City operated for 100 years
 - 1975 5' stormwater pipe installed under Oronoco Street to carry stormwater to the Potomac
 - Coast guard and EPA applied pressure in 1979
 - 2000 city of Alexandria entered into voluntary regulation program
 - 2016-17 Potomac Riverkeeper investigation and sampling shows ongoing discharges and riverbed contamination
 - 2018 City dredges contaminated sediment but fails to stop coal tar discharges from pipe
 - 2019 Potomac Riverkeeper files Notice of Intent to Sue against City for violations
 - Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons
 - Most are carcinogens
 - Alexandria has been doing this for nearly 50 years now
 - Want source of contamination to be addressed
 - Spent 10 million dollars but still an issue with no timeframe to address

- Lawsuit is Clean Water Act and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
- Sidley Austin is representing PRK
- 6 years in the making and feel they have a strong case
- Next steps
 - Preparation for evidentiary court hearing
 - Documentation of ongoing issues
 - In settlement discussions now
- How to get involved
 - Push Alexandria Mayor Wilson to stop the pollution
 - Why spend money on lawyers?
- Christopher Morgan
 - Has the city stipulated to the source?
 - Yes
- Kevin Knappmiller
 - What have the consultants done?
 - Band aid fixes
- Katherine Ward
 - What are they doing with contaminated soil dredging?
 - Dredged back in 2017 and took it to a hazardous waste facility. Still haven't dredged under the pier.
 - What about dogs that run in that part of the park?
 - Have had concerns about public notice. State should issue fish consumption advisory, but would take more research and funding.
 - Trying to let community know why we are taking these actions
 - Any data on what is running down the river?
 - City has done their own testing
 - Contamination extends under the pier and beyond the boom area
- Larry Zaragoza
 - If there is a storm, water can mobilize contaminants
 - You can petition ATSDR to do a health assessment
 - Voluntary programs across most states tend to have sites that sit for a long time and the clean up doesn't really happen. Need to understand where the contamination is. Some contaminants will travel with that sheen (sp) and some will not.
 - Pursuing under RCRA is a surprise to me because it is usually for active facilities. Under Superfund, it will have a lot more teeth.
 - Superfund in bankrupt now. Only sites getting on it now are the ones that are the absolute most dangerous. A lot of sites are going through RCRA process now. Was identified as one of the top 340 sites in VA that warranted clean up.
- Katherine
 - What is drop dead date for a letter?
 - Sooner the better
- Active Committee Items
- Floodwall GW Parkway
 - Ellen Young: No update. Everyone including Don Beyer has sent letters to the Corps to say.

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

- Verizon Popkins Lane
 - Katherine: Need to continue to watch this.
- Stormwater Coordination
 - Larry: Need another conversation with Leo
 - Katherine: Should talk with P&Z re: new development
- Quander/Fairchild Properties
 - Kevin: No update. Had lengthy email discussion with Martin Tillet trying to do a hands on walk through and look at specific issues. Big thing that will impact us is the big apartment they are building right next to this. Was a county trail system and now the trees that fell down on it.
 - Katherine: There are proffers there to do something. \$500k.
- CECAP
 - Presentation before county board in July and EQAC had a discussion
 - Specific plans due to be announced this fall
 - County going to put together presentation
- John Noto
 - Homeowner in Collingwood Springs
 - Planned development of church property that abuts my home at 1509 Collingwood Road
 - Stream of Little Hunting Creek that runs through property
 - Apply political pressure on Fairfax County to conduct a survey of creek re: designation as an RPA
 - Katherine
 - Someone on street came to Dan Storck's infill development task force (John's wife).
 - Need to bring it up again because it is an infill even though it is by-right.
 - Not just stream, but also the trees. Don't want them clear cutting.
 - Action: Change attitudes of county staff with regard to infill projects.
 - If stream is designated RPA, could result in a park.
 - Christopher
 - Have you spoken to property owners about extending their parcels?
 - Church is getting tired of process and best deal on table is from the developer

Planning & Zoning

Planning & Zoning MVCCA Planning & Zoning Minutes
August 29, 2022

Attendees:
Bellevue Condominiums,
CA of Hollin Hills,
Holland Court Property Owners Assn,
Hollin Hall Village CA,
Huntington CA,
Montebello Condominiums,
Riverwood HOA,
Southwood CA,
Stratford Landing CA
Sulgrave Manor Civic Association
Tauxemont CA
Wellington Civic Association

Guests: Nick Over and Matt Alexander of Potomac Development Group (PDG), MVCCA Chairs, MVCCA Public Safety Chair

Meeting started at 7:07pm

There was a presentation regarding 5928 Richmond Highway by Nick Over of Potomac Development Group ("PDG"). PDG is a real estate development, investment and consulting firm based in Chantilly, VA who specialize in mixed-use projects and buildings. While Mr. Over was unable to divulge the name of his client he did inform the committee that they were a national brand.

PDG is planning an upscale and "amenitized" convenience store with "made-to-order" food for both on and off site consumption. The location would also have EV charging stations and outdoor seating arrangements. If the store is considered a convenience store, a special exception would be required.

The committee discussed issues with a retention pond behind the property, LEED certification, how long the lease would be for and access points to the location. Mr. Over said that he will come back to the committee with more details and elevations within the next 60 days.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm. The next meeting for the P&Z committee will be Monday, October 3, 2022 at 7pm via Zoom.

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

Public Safety

The Public Safety Committee did not meet in July. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 4 at 7 p.m.

Transportation

MVCCA Transportation Committee
"Report" in Lieu of Minutes

We canceled our August 29, 2022 meeting and instead asked Transportation Committee members, friends, and interested citizens to instead attend 1) an important public meeting with the GWMP on Safety Improvements at the Belle Haven and Belle View Intersections (virtual/online & in-person) on Sept 15, 2022, and/or 2) the MVCCA Planning & Zoning meeting on August 29.

Committee attendance to the GWMP public meeting - Safety Improvements at the Belle Haven and Belle View Intersections - was highly encouraged and well attended, especially in light of the continuing safety concerns where these roads intersect the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP). Many nearby members & citizens who live and drive these intersections on a daily basis joined Congressman Don Beyer's District Director, Noah Simon, at this important meeting. Note: It is important to emphasize that this meeting was focused on the area at and around Belle View and Belle Haven intersections and not the entire parkway. The goal was to find some near-term fixes while studies are done, and money is secured.

Want more information, details of concerns, and suggested possible improvements? See: "Excerpts from the New Alexandria Citizens Association Newsletter" reprinted starting on page 10 of this Record.

Public Meeting: Safety Improvements at the Belle Haven and Belle View Intersections
Was hosted by: Rep Don Beyer's District Director, Noah Simon
Was held on: Thursday, September 15th from 7:00-8:15
Was: IN PERSON at Belle View Elementary School
Was: Also on ZOOM (Note: Zoom participants questions were put in chat.)

For more information:

Documents: **See pages 10-13 of this Record**
1. Excerpts from the New Alexandria Citizens Association August 2022 Newsletter for details of concerns and suggested possible improvements.

Announcements

Future Transportation Committee Meetings:
The next Transportation Committee Meeting will take place on October 3, 2022. Until further notice, all meetings will be held remotely. Subsequent meetings are scheduled for Nov 7 and Dec 5.

Fairfax Federation

No report this month.

SFDC

No SFDC report this month.

Special Committee on Stormwater Management

No report this month.

Committee Resolutions

PROPOSED MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS'
ASSOCIATIONS RESOLUTION
Environment and Recreation Committee
(MVCCA) E&R 2022-06

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ADDRESSING THE
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS, ESPECIALLY COAL TAR,
FROM THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA'S MUNICIPAL
SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM [MS4]

WHEREAS, the release of materials from the MS4 system that contains toxic materials, including coal tar, that should not be released into the Potomac River and will impact downstream Mount Vernon communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MVCCA urges the City of Alexandria to undertake the work needed to stop the uncontrolled release of toxic materials into the Potomac River immediately.

END PROPOSED RESOLUTION: E&R-2022-06

Action Required by General Council

MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS
(MVCCA) RESOLUTION 2022-E&R-05

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

1. **WHEREAS**, on January 26, and July 27, 2022 the MVCCA adopted resolutions in support of House Bill 739 on Living Shorelines, which supports grandfathering of existing shoreline stabilization structures to address the concerns of property owners with respect to the 2020 living shorelines law update.
2. **WHEREAS**, upon hearing concerns of property owners whose shoreline stabilization structures were installed in accordance with the laws in existence at the time of construction, Supervisor Storck requested that the Wetlands Board work with the Office of the County Attorney to revise the existing policy/guidance document on Living Shorelines to address multiple factors, and the August draft of the policy/guidance document stated that the Wetlands Board may consider these factors but provided no information as to how and when these factors would be considered.
3. **WHEREAS**, the draft policy/guidance is inconsistent in its description of the jurisdiction of the Wetlands Board, omits reference to the 1984 Attorney General opinion^[1] (which has been used to guide wetlands board decisions in tidal Virginia) and does not describe the Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences 2020 decision support tool, which states that a bulkhead in a residential canal in need of replacement should be replaced with a bulkhead^[2].
4. **WHEREAS**, comments by the various parties interpreting the 2020 law vary from "well maintained controls can continue to be maintained and repaired as needed" to "any new permit application will require a living shoreline unless best available science shows that living shorelines are not suitable," the latter comment differing from other state statutes because it provides for no consideration of impacts to the property owner and can result in impacts to the property owner of well over \$100K.
5. **WHEREAS**, the August draft Wetlands Board Guidance fails to aid the applicant or guide the Wetlands Board in determining where living shorelines are not suitable and 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

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

about how they can comply, and, as such, it establishes a legal vulnerability for enacting arbitrary and capricious policy;

6. **WHEREAS**, in the absence of guidance to state where living shorelines are not suitable, there will be an expectation of employing living shorelines along all shorelines except for those that have been excluded from the requirement of this law, such as government properties, which include parks, various facilities and stormwater outflows.
7. **WHEREAS**, when property rights are acquired for the public good under the 5th and 14th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution, the property owner is compensated for an easement or outright purchase, but the 2020 law provides no compensation for the property owner and imposes significant costs and a loss of property value to the property owner.
8. **WHEREAS**, the Chesapeake Bay Agreement and associated documents signed by Virginia do not call for the level of creation of living shorelines that the 2020 law seeks.
9. **WHEREAS**, the draft guidance and 2020 law provide for the taking of property without compensation, which is in violation of the 5th and 14th amendments to the U.S. Constitution.
10. **WHEREAS**, while the MVCCA is supportive of the appropriate use of living shorelines to create habitat and improve water quality, the MVCCA is concerned that the legal vulnerabilities and the unfair burden placed on private waterfront property owners by the 2020 law will alienate property owners and deter them from efforts to improve the environment, fuel legal battles, be inconsistent with the One Fairfax policy, and slow progress in supporting environmental causes.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MVCCA concludes that the proposed Wetlands Board guidance creates legal vulnerabilities resulting from 1) an arbitrary and capricious policy and 2) takings without compensation, which is in violation of the 5th and 14th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MVCCA finds that the guidance, and associated 2020 legislation, unreasonably place the burden of creating living shorelines on private property owners whose shoreline stabilization structures were constructed in accordance with the laws at the time of construction, which is in contrast to other environmental programs that either place responsibility for cleanup on polluting entities or share the responsibility for addressing environmental problems among the population through taxes that fund those programs.

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 so that it will 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 concluded "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."
^[2] Replace bulkhead with revetment landward of bulkhead. If navigation or infrastructure limits available space, replace bulkhead in the same alignment or landward. Enhance vegetation buffers where possible. See: <https://cmap2.vims.edu/LivingShoreline/DecisionSupportTool/ShorelineDST.html>

END RESOLUTION: E&R-2022-05

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

Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, Inc.

Treasurer's Report, Current Month and Fiscal Year to Date Compared to Annual Budget
Period Ending August 31, 2022

	August	Total 1 July to 31-Aug	2022-2023 Annual Budget	Budget Variance To spend or Favorable (Unfavorable)
Cash Receipts (including deposits in-transit):				
Dues - Current Members	\$ 670	\$ 3,095	\$ 4,370	
Money Market Interest	0	0	2	
Total Cash Receipts	670	3,095	4,372	\$ (1,277)
Cash Disbursements (including outstanding checks):				
Administrative	226	226	385	159
Insurance Premium	-	-	687	687
Outreach/Town Hall Meets	-	-	250	250
"Record" Production	-	110	1,400	1,290
Web Site	61	109	2,425	2,316
Total Cash Disbursements	287	445	5,147	4,702
Net Budget - Receipts in Excess(less than) Disbursements:	383	2,650	(775)	3,425

Other Sources/Changes in Cash:

Cash at Beginning of Period	10,279	8,012	8,012
Total Cash at End of Period	\$ 10,663	\$ 10,663	\$ 7,237

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

Burke & Herbert - Checking	\$ 4,502
Burke & Herbert - Money Market	6,161
Total Cash	\$ 10,663

Respectfully Submitted,
William J Kane, Treasurer
September 4, 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.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, September 28, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Virtual

AGENDA

- Call to order
- Guest speaker: Supervisor Lusk from Franconia District (Previously Lee District) to talk about their New Community Center
- Minutes Approved
- Committee Reports
- Treasurer Report
- Co-chairs Report
- Resolutions
- Members Time
- Adjourn

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

MVCCA Council—September 28, 7:00 p.m., Virtual
MVCCA Board—October 11, 7:00 p.m., Virtual

Comm	Date	Time	Place	Chair
BUDG	TBD	7:00	Virtual	open
EDU	10/3	6:30	Virtual	Hosek
E&R	10/5	7:00	Virtual	Morgan
PL/Z	10/3	7:00	Virtual	Mathur
PS	10/4	7:00	Virtual	Zaragoza
TRAN	10/3	7:00	Virtual	Sitnik
MSCS	TBD	7:00	Virtual	Milanowski

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

Extracts from the

NEW ALEXANDRIA CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER – August 2022

Background:

On June 28, 2022, NACA sent a letter to the National Park Service (NPS) asking for immediate changes to reduce the confusion and improve the safety at the Belle Haven intersection before someone gets killed. The letter also went to many of our local and national leaders. Almost immediately, Noah Simon, Rep Don Beyer’s District Director, called the NACA Board and said that their office would take the lead going forward and assured us that they were committed to getting NPS to listen to our concerns and recommendations and to get them to take action to make this portion of the Parkway safer. Noah also wanted to expand the discussion to include the Belle View intersection.

Please note, that NPS will not commit to any changes at this meeting. They will listen to our suggestions and then look at what changes would most improve safety and are viable from an engineering perspective.

The focus of the meeting will be on near-term improvements that DO NOT include physical changes to the existing parkway, such as roundabouts or cutting into the median to create merge lanes. While these proposals are included in the National Park Service Safety Study and may happen in a few years, they all require extensive studies and additional funding so they are not

Continued on next page

Extracts from the New Alexandria Citizens Association Newsletter - cont.

viable short-term fixes. We also know that increased enforcement would help, but the reality is that for now there is only one patrol person assigned to the Parkway from Old Towne Alexandria to the Mount Vernon Mansion. Finally, many think that speed cameras would be helpful. Don Beyer's office agrees and they are working to get some legislative changes that could make speed cameras a reality.

Here is what NACA suggested in our June letter (a copy of the complete letter is at the end of this newsletter): Note these suggestions could also apply to the Belle View intersection.

“There are three possible ways to reduce this confusion and improve the safety at the Belle Haven Road and Parkway intersection:

- 1) Go back to the previous configuration with traffic coming from and going to Belle Haven Road crossing in the median and not in the middle of the southbound lane of the Parkway which is what we have now.
- 2) Remove the “Left Turn Yield to Median Traffic” sign and make this a two-way stop which all drivers know means that they alternate.
- 3) Replace the Stop sign for traffic coming from the Parkway and turning onto Belle Haven with a Yield sign. Yes, people from Belle Haven might have to wait a little longer, but it would be clear who had the right of way.”

In our letter, we also stressed the need to make it safer for cars to merge and stated:

“Finally, but equally important, regardless of the option selected, we must find an immediate solution to provide cars turning north onto the Parkway a safer way to merge into traffic. Cars turning north have extremely poor visibility and no acceleration lane as they merge into northbound Parkway traffic.... **In the interim, we request that northbound Parkway traffic which is continuing on the Parkway in the area of the Belle Haven intersection be restricted to the right lane only. This would allow cars coming from Belle Haven Road to have a dedicated lane in which to safely merge onto the northbound Parkway. This could be accomplished effectively and at a relatively small cost by signage and bollards.**”

Please plan to attend in person or on Zoom (link below). If you have questions or concerns that you would like to voice but can't make the meeting, please send an e-mail to Noah.Simon@mail.house.gov with a copy to jedarrah@aol.com



Continued on next page

**New Alexandria Citizens Association (NACA)
Alexandria, VA 22307**

June 28, 2022

CAPT Joan E. Darrah, USN (Ret)
New Alexandria Citizens Association, President
6422 Wood Haven Road
Alexandria, VA 22307
703-768-5751
jedarra@aol.com

Superintendent Charles Cuvelier
George Washington Memorial Parkway Headquarters
700 George Washington Memorial Parkway
McLean, VA 22101

SUBJ: Belle Haven Road and Parkway Intersection is Dangerous - Request for Immediate Changes

Dear Superintendent Cuvelier:

I am writing on behalf of the New Alexandria community to request that you review the recent changes made to the Belle Haven Road and Parkway intersection which have made this intersection more dangerous than ever. This intersection is one of the primary ingress and egress routes for our New Alexandria neighborhood. Since the reconfiguration has been implemented, there have been several serious accidents. Many of our neighbors are now too scared to even use this intersection, so they use Fort Hunt and Route 1 rather than the Parkway to get in and out of our neighborhood.

We believe that the key to improving the safety of this intersection is to reduce the confusion that has been caused by the recent reconfiguration. Confusion, by definition, leads to accidents. Cars coming from Belle Haven Road have a Stop sign and an additional sign telling them "Left Turn Yield to Median Traffic." The problem arises when there are several cars turning from the northbound Parkway onto Belle Haven. If a car is waiting at Belle Haven, the signage says that they have to keep waiting until there are no more cars turning from the Parkway onto Belle Haven. So, they wait as the first car turning onto Belle Haven goes, and they wait as the second car moves forward to the Stop Line and comes to a complete stop and then goes. They keep waiting as the next car moves up and comes to a complete stop at the Stop Line before proceeding. At some point, even the drivers of the cars turning onto Belle Haven realize this isn't equitable and they motion or nod to let the car turning left from Belle Haven, who has been waiting and waiting, go ahead. At that point, everyone is hesitating or simultaneously proceeding since it is not at all clear who has the right of way. This lack of clarity has resulted in several serious accidents and causes additional backup on both Belle Haven Road and the Parkway.

Continued on next page

Extracts from the New Alexandria Citizens Association Newsletter - cont.

There are three possible ways to reduce this confusion and improve the safety at the Belle Haven Road and Parkway intersection:

- 1) Go back to the previous configuration with traffic coming from and going to Belle Haven Road crossing in the median and not in the middle of the southbound lane of the Parkway which is what we have now.
- 2) Remove the “Left Turn Yield to Median Traffic” sign and make this a two-way stop which all drivers know means that they alternate.
- 3) Replace the Stop sign for traffic coming from the Parkway and turning onto Belle Haven with a Yield sign. Yes, people from Belle Haven might have to wait a little longer, but it would be clear who had the right of way.

Finally, but equally important, regardless of the option selected, we must find an immediate solution to provide cars turning north onto the Parkway a safer way to merge into traffic. Cars turning north have extremely poor visibility and no acceleration lane as they merge into northbound Parkway traffic. The safety study recommends that NPS “*Construct Channelization - Constructing channelization in the median will reduce conflicts with northbound left turns and eastbound left turns and provide an acceleration lane for eastbound left turns.*” Unfortunately, the study states that this recommendation is “midterm” and costs about \$350,000. We have also been told by Aaron LaRocca, NPS, that since this modification would require a change in the footprint, that various studies must be completed prior to proceeding. In the interim, we request that northbound Parkway traffic which is continuing on the Parkway in the area of the Belle Haven intersection be restricted to the right lane only. This would allow cars coming from Belle Haven Road to have a dedicated lane in which to safely merge onto the northbound Parkway. This could be accomplished effectively and at a relatively small cost by signage and bollards.

We respectfully urge you to do something immediately to make the intersection at Belle Haven Road and the Parkway safer before someone gets killed.

Thank you for your assistance.

Joan E. Darrah
New Alexandria Citizens Association, President

Copy to:
Representative Don Beyer
Senator Adam Ebbin
Senator Scott A. Surovell
Delegate Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Delegate Paul Krizek
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman, Jeffrey C. McKay
Mount Vernon District Supervisor, Dan Storck
MVCCA Transportation Committee, Chairman Peter Sitnik
Aaron LaRocca, National Park Service
Capt. Jonathan D. Hofflinger, US Park Police