



The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, Inc.

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

<http://www.mvcca.org>

TESTIMONY

**The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA)
SE 2018-MV-007**

**WOODLAWN/NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION –
WOODLAWN CULTURAL CENTER
8007, 8900, 9000 RICHMOND HIGHWAY**

This written testimony is provided on behalf of the MVCCA. Additionally, the MVCCA's resolution on this SE was previously sent to Supervisor Storck and a copy is attached.

The MVCCA has been working for many years with the National Trust for Historic Preservation regarding their proposed SE to develop a Cultural Center on the Woodlawn Plantation site. They sought our input and our various committees (environmental, land use and transportation) have guided them and assisted them in creating the plans you now have before you. The National Trust's vision for this site encompasses the MVCCA's feedback.

The approval of this SE will allow the National Trust to implement new strategies to support long-term sustainability and significantly increase public participation at Woodlawn while maintaining its historic nature. Additionally, the enhancement proposed by this SE will be a significant step forward towards the revitalization of Richmond Highway. In particular the changes proposed will spark further redevelopment in this portion of the Mount Vernon District that is so desperately needed.

The Planning Commission unanimously approved this SE and the MVCCA encourages you to do the right thing and approve it also. Thank you for your positive action on this SE.