TO: Marianne Gardner, Fairfax County Planning Staff Earl Flanagan, Planning Commissioner Supervisor Hyland, Board of Supervisors, Mount Vernon

March 22, 2013

Re: Fairfax Forward- MVCCA Comments

Dear Ms Gardner, Mr. Flanagan, and Supervisor Hyland:

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA) Board thank the staff for its previous educational support to the MVCCA during the 2009-2010 Area Plan Review (APR) process.

A holistic planning approach is very welcome and we look forward to participating in future planning exercises. We do feel; however, that there is a need for additional clarification and specificity regarding how citizens will be engaged in the Fairfax Forward process.

Our process during the 2009 APR nomination period enabled the MVCCA to engage the stakeholders (*e. g.*, developers, citizens, staff, and landowners) openly in the development of our nominations. We want to see this open and frank exchange continued during the creation of future changes to the Comprehensive Plan, not just after the fact at Public Hearings.

We look forward to working with you and our public officials in making Fairfax Forward a successful process.

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Christopher Low MVCCA Co-Chair

cc: MVCCA Co-chairs: Gretchen Walzl James Davis