



The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, Inc.
P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-9998 <http://www.mvcca.org>

01 Apr 2013

MVCCA Resolution: COAF-2013-01

Supervisor Gerald Hyland
Mount Vernon Magisterial District
2511 Parkers Lane
Alexandria, VA 22306

Dear Supervisor Hyland:

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA) forwards Resolution COAF-2013-01 (approved 27 March 2013, by a vote of 17-0) for your action on the Mount Vernon Farmers Market (MVFM). The MVCCA supports each of the below:

1. The resolution requests the Mount Vernon Supervisor find a new location. Details are in the attached resolution.
2. While not formally part of the resolution, the below impact success of the MVFM:
 - After the MVCCA adopted this resolution, we were advised that the Belle View Shopping Center (BVSC) Merchants Association Manager contacted you regarding their interest in possibly hosting the Market at their Center.
 - There is a Park Authority trial period extension to the MVFM season at its current location and a need to obtain stakeholder feedback about the extension and the MVFM relocation.

MVCCA requests that prior to MVFM relocation, appropriate discussion occur among (1) Mount Vernon Magisterial District Supervisor, (2) the BVSC merchants association, (3) the MVCCA Consumer Affairs Committee, and (4) the Northern Virginia Park Authority Commissioner (Linwood Gorham).

For questions concerning the resolution, please contact the MVCCA Consumer Affairs Committee Chair. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

/ Christopher Low / 
MVCCA Co-Chair

CC: Linwood Gorham, NV Park Authority
Gretchen Walzl, MVCCA Co-Chair
James Davis, MVCCA Co-Chair
Queenie Cox, MVCCA Chair Consumer Affairs
Carol Coyle, MVCCA Secretary

Attachment: COAF-2913-01

Created: 01 Apr 2013

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Attachment: Text of COAF 2013-01

COAF-2013-01 Resolution on Mount Vernon Farmers Market

1. WHEREAS the Mount Vernon Farmers Market (MVFM) was originally located at the Mount Vernon Government Center (MVGC) until the MVGC underwent an extensive renovation and moved along with the Mount Vernon Supervisor to the Sherwood Hall Regional Library (Library); and
 2. WHEREAS the Library's operating hours are 10:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Wednesdays; and
 3. WHEREAS the MVFM season is April through November with operating hours of 8:00 a.m. until noon on Wednesdays in the parking lot of the Library; and
 4. WHEREAS the produce and items sold at the MVFM are grown locally, within 125-miles; and
 5. WHEREAS COAF held public meetings during June 2012; December 2012 and February 2013 to discuss options such as extending the season and moving the location; and
 6. WHEREAS the Consumer Affairs (COAF) committee surveyed all 12-vendors at the MVFM during the 2012 season; and
 7. WHEREAS the results of the vendors survey preferred to extend/change the hours; and
 8. WHEREAS COAF initiated a survey on January 30, 2013 to solicit comments from the Mount Vernon community to obtain their thoughts concerning the MVFM; and
 9. WHEREAS based on zip codes, there were 263 Mount Vernon residents and 6 zip codes outside the Mount Vernon District who responded to the survey before it closed on February 20, 2013; and
 10. WHEREAS approximately 54% of the survey respondents supported a change in hours to accommodate working people; and
 11. WHEREAS the MVFM is not a winter market; and
 12. WHEREAS parking was the most commented concern not only for parking spaces but also vehicle and pedestrian safety, approximately 67% of the survey respondents support moving the MVFM from the Library's parking lot to another location for the MVFM to extend its season; and
 13. WHEREAS the survey generated additional viable locations—a) Fort Hunt Park; b) Hollin Hall Senior Center; c) George Washington RecCenter; d) Grist Mill Park; and c) INOVA Mount Vernon grounds; and
 14. WHEREAS COAF identified the Mount Vernon RecCenter as a viable location for the MVFM to co-exist with another Fairfax County entity whose hours may be more compatible and has ample available parking; and
 15. WHEREAS approximately 67% of survey respondents would support the MVFM moving to a more friendly parking location.
- A. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) fully supports the Mount Vernon Farmers Market in the Mount Vernon District.
 - B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the MVCCA requests that the Mount Vernon Supervisor move the Mount Vernon Farmers Market from its current location (Sherwood Hall Library) to Mt. Vernon Recreation Center.
 - C. BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Fairfax County Park Authority initiate a formal survey such as the one initiated by the MVCCA Consumer Affairs Committee to obtain feedback from Mount Vernon residents in order to determine whether or not a winter farmers market is feasible.

Resolution Passed in General Council Meeting of MVCCA on March 27, 2013