

The Fairfax County FEDERATION of Citizens Associations

Established 1940

February 2008

THE BULLETIN

Volume 57, Number 6

General Membership Meeting



Thursday, February 21, 2008

7:30 p.m.

**Packard Center Main Conference Room
4022 Hummer Road, Annandale**

Topic: Fairfax County Transportation Update

Guest Speakers:

Nick Nicholson and Roger Booth
(Virginia Department of Transportation)

Ho Chang (ATCS)

Hot Lanes Project, Project Level and Regional Efforts
for Mega-projects

Rick Stevens
(Fairfax County Office of Transportation)

Dulles Rail Project

Mark Canale
(Fairfax County Office of Transportation)

BRAC Impacts

Jay Guy
(Fairfax County Office of Transportation)

The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority



Upcoming Membership Meetings

March 27, 2008 7:30 p.m.

(Please note this is the fourth Thursday of the month.)

The Fairfax County Fiscal Year 2009 Budget

April 17, 2008 May 15, 2008

June 19, 2008



2008 Federation Board Meetings

Packard Center Main Conference Room 7:30 p.m.

**March 6
May 22**

**April 24
June 26**



President's Message

At our February membership meeting, we have two presentations planned. First, we will have a short presentation by Dominion Power on their rationale for why they believe an additional power line is needed for the Northern Virginia region, and our regularly scheduled meeting on transportation.

If you recall, in November Dominion Power had originally asked to speak to the Federation; to ensure we heard from both sides, we also invited Virginia's Commitment to attend and speak on why the power line wasn't needed. For scheduling reasons Dominion Power wasn't able to attend, and we heard only from Virginia's Commitment. I've previously written about that experience, and am now looking forward to hearing the other side of the story.

With the Virginia General Assembly revamping the transportation funding they adopted last year in a mad rush to remove the abuser fees, we will hear from the most important legislative result from last year's session – the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority or NVTA. Through all the funding that was jerry-rigged for the Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads areas, the NVTA was empowered to fund transportation improvements here in Northern Virginia. There are restrictions on how the NVTA votes to approve the items they fund, including the percentage of voting parties as well as the percentage of population represented by the voters. We will hear more at our presentation with NVTA, Fairfax County Office of Transportation, and Virginia Department of Transportation representatives. Personally, I think the key factor is that, like the 800-pound gorilla in the room, if Fairfax doesn't vote for an item, it probably won't be passed.

Coming up next month is the Federation's most important event of the season, the annual Citizen of the Year banquet. This year's recipient, John Horesji, is especially worthy. John has worked tirelessly, not only here in Fairfax County, but statewide, including spending time in Richmond, dedicated to helping those most in need. For many years he has assisted within Fairfax County government, in his service on the County's Advisory Social Services Board, within church charitable activities, such as Catholic Charities, and in general advocacy, through the Fairfax Alliance for Human Services.

At the banquet, we will be treated by a well-known duo of guest speakers. You've heard them speak individually, now hear them in unison. The Honorable Thomas M. Davis III, Congressman of the 11th District of Virginia, and The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, will share the podium. The banquet is scheduled for Sunday, March 9, 2008 at the Tyson's Corner Crown Plaza Hotel. Additional details can be found in this *Bulletin*. Hope to see you there!

Jeffrey Parnes, President

FedPres2007@FairfaxFederation.org

703-424-2956

Approval of Membership Meeting Minutes

Because the Federation's January 17, 2008 membership meeting was canceled due to inclement weather, the minutes of the December 13, 2007 membership meeting will be approved at the Thursday, February 21, 2008 meeting. Those minutes were already published in the January 2008 *Bulletin*, and are available on the Federation website: www.fairfaxfederation.org. The Federation thanks Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Jack Dale for accepting our invitation to speak at the January meeting; unfortunately at this time, we will be unable to reschedule him for a later date.

Countywide Park Planning Workshops

Nearly 80% of all Fairfax County residents visit our county parks each year. If you believe preserving, protecting and planning parks to serve coming generations is important, please join the Fairfax County Park Authority at district-wide park planning workshops. Those attending will help plan and strategize how to protect and preserve our natural and cultural resources and ensure quality places for the next generations to play and thrive.

Great Parks, Great Communities is an exciting new planning process initiated to get your ideas for balancing Fairfax County's future park needs and resources within each district of the County. Be a part of the process by guiding the Park Authority towards a balanced park system in your community and ultimately across the County. The following district meetings are still upcoming; each begin at 7:00 p.m.:

Tuesday, February 26, 2008 - Lee District
Garfield Elementary School

Wednesday, March 5, 2008 - Mason District
Mason District Governmental Center

Tuesday, March 11, 2008 - Providence District
Luther Jackson Middle School

Tuesday, March 25, 2008 - Mount Vernon District
Newington Forest Elementary School

Thursday, March 27, 2008 - Mount Vernon District
Walt Whitman Middle School

Tuesday, April 8, 2008 - Dranesville District
Langley High School

Tuesday, April 22, 2008 - Springfield District
West Springfield High School

Please plan to attend one of these kick-off meetings at which the planning process will be introduced and baseline information about the existing park system presented. You will have the opportunity to learn more about the parks in your district, ask questions of park staff, and share ideas on how we can strengthen our park system for the future. If you can't attend, or if your district has already held its initial meeting, you can share your thoughts online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/greatparks.htm. You will find an overview of the countywide **Great Parks, Great Communities** initiative, informative maps and district-specific information, and opportunities to provide feedback.

For more information, please contact the Park Authority's Planning and Development Office at 703-324-8741. If you love parks, can envision the protection of natural and cultural resources and believe that quality of life is enhanced by a healthy environment, please take some time to share your opinions, great ideas, and enthusiasm!

Tysons Land Use Task Force Update

As the Fairfax County Federation Representative to the Tysons Land Use Task Force, I wanted to relay the dates of upcoming workshops that will explore community choices for the future of Tysons Corner. The workshops are open to the public and will be held on the following:

February 27, 2008 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Marshall High School

February 28, 2008 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
McLean Community Center

February 28, 2008 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Westbriar Elementary School

RSVP's may be made by calling 703-324-1344 or emailing tysonscornerspecialstudy@fairfaxcounty.gov. All three workshops will be the same.

The Task Force was created in 2005 to consider the impacts of Metrorail stations and create a vision of what Tysons Corner may look like in 30 years. The Task Force has held over 50 public meetings, identified areas of consensus, and followed a set of guiding principles based on public input. The principles were used to develop two prototypes to explore how growth will be accommodated and transportation improved. Details may be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/tysons.

My mantra as the Federation representative is to protect the integrity of neighborhoods and schools, increase green space and recreation, and encourage economic vitality, all to maintain and improve our quality of life now and in the future. As always, feel free to contact me with questions or if you would like additional information.

John Jennison

703-591-5586 or jennisonjohn@aol.com

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

4022 Hummer Road, Annandale VA 22003

www.fairfaxfederation.org

2007-2008 President: Jeffrey M. Parnes

Newsletter Editor: Carol A. Hawn

The Bulletin is the newsletter of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations. It is usually published monthly, with the exception of July and August. The purpose is to provide information to member communities, federal, state, and local officials, and other interested persons in Fairfax County. Articles reflect the view of their author and may be reprinted with the use of the following citation: "The Bulletin of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations".

Please contact Carol Hawn at 703-266-6872 or cahawn@verizon.net with newsletter name and address changes, comments, or suggestions.

Federation Meeting Cancellation Policy

If either Fairfax County Government or Schools are closed after 12:00 noon the day of a Federation membership meeting, or if it is announced that Fairfax County Government or Schools will be closed the day after a scheduled Federation membership meeting due to inclement weather or other emergency, the Federation will not hold that event. This does not pertain to regularly scheduled closures. Membership meetings will not be rescheduled, although speakers may be asked to attend an upcoming meeting. We will make every attempt to post the cancellation on www.fairfaxfederation.org or you can call 703-266-6872 for more information.

The Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

and

The Washington Post

request the pleasure of your company at the

Fifty-eighth Annual Awards Banquet

honoring the

2007 Fairfax County Citizen of the Year

John Horesji

Special Recognition

The Honorable Joan M. DuBois
The Honorable Dana Kauffman
The Honorable Elaine McConnell

Guest Speakers

The Honorable Thomas M. Davis, III
U. S. Representative, Eleventh District

The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly
Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Sunday, the Ninth of March

at the

Crown Plaza Hotel

1960 Chain Bridge Road · McLean, Virginia

Reception 6:30 p.m. Dinner 7:30 p.m.

\$65 per person Cash Bar

RSVP by March 3, 2008

Tickets will be held at the door.

For more information, please call Sally Ormsby,
Banquet Chair, at 703-273-2048.

Make checks payable to "FCFCA" and send to:

The Federation
4022 Hummer Road, Annandale VA 22003

Please include: Name(s), Company/Association,
Address, Telephone, and Email

Volunteer Mobilization Center Regional Exercise

Next month, Volunteer Fairfax will participate in a Volunteer Mobilization Center Regional Exercise to practice managing, mobilizing and disbursing volunteers in response to support recovery efforts after "Tropical Storm Zodiac" passes through the National Capital Region.

As part of this exercise, Volunteer Fairfax will stand up its Volunteer Mobilization Center and practice processing spontaneous volunteers. During the exercise, real-life challenges will help participants focus on special scenarios that often occur during disaster situations.

As an organization that will be integrally involved in the recovery efforts after a disaster, it is important to understand the process that spontaneous volunteers would go through, and how they can be used in recovery efforts. We invite you to experience this for yourself during our exercise, which will be held:

Tuesday, March 18, 2008

Massey Building Conference Room
4100 Chain Bridge Road · Fairfax, VA
9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

We are asking participants to play the role of spontaneous volunteers and walk through the Volunteer Mobilization Center. Participants will then break into working groups to discuss issues pertinent to their role in the recovery process, including identification, communication, volunteer opportunities and placement. At 2:00 p.m., we are asking partner agencies to remain so that we can further clarify how Volunteer Fairfax will work with the nonprofit community in the event of an emergency, and how agencies can secure volunteer resources during times of disaster through the volunteer center.

So that we may provide you with a script and agenda for the day, please R.S.V.P. no later than Friday, February 22, to Ann Marie Gould at agould@volunteerfairfax.org. A light lunch will be provided for all participants. For additional information, visit www.volunteerfairfax.org and click on "Emergency Response." Should you have any questions about this exercise or participating, please contact Ann Marie directly at the e-mail above or 703-246-3709. We look forward to your participation on March 18, 2008.

Fairfax County Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Timeline

On Monday, February 25th, at 10:00 a.m., County Executive Tony Griffin will present his Fiscal Year 2009 proposed budget plan.

Public hearings on the budget are set for March 31 and April 1 - 2, all beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Auditorium at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway. To register to speak at any of the hearings, please contact the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors at 703-324-3151.

County staff is available to speak to community groups and civic and homeowner associations regarding the proposed budget plan; to schedule a speaker, contact the Department of Management and Budget at DMBinfo@fairfaxcounty.gov or at 703-324-2391.

Fairfax County
FEDERATION
of Citizens Associations

4022 Hummer Road
Annandale, VA 22003

Membership
Meeting

Thursday,
February 21, 2008
7:30 p.m.

The Packard Center
4022 Hummer Road, Annandale

***Topic: Fairfax County
Transportation Update***

<i>Contents of this Issue</i>	
<i>President's Message / Announcement of February 21, 2008 Meeting</i>	1
<i>Park Planning Workshops / Tyson's Corner Task Force Update</i>	2
<i>Citizen of the Year Banquet Information - Plan to Attend!</i>	3

Directions to the

Packard Center, located in Annandale Community Park

Take I-495 (Capital Beltway) to Little River Turnpike
(Route 236 - Exit 52B);
go east toward Annandale.

Turn left at the first stop light onto Hummer Road.

Go 200 yards to the entrance of Annandale Community Park on the left.

Keep right to the large parking lot.

Please use the left entrance into the Packard Center Building.

www.fairfaxfederation.org