

ACCF General Meeting Notice

NORMAL START TIME
Tuesday, November 13, 2007, 7:30 PM
Hazel Conference Center
Virginia Hospital Center – Arlington
1701 North George Mason Drive

1. **7:00pm** - Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence for 9/11 (formal start of meeting)
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes (October 2, 2007)
4. Treasurer's Report
5. **7:40 pm** Committee Reports/Announcements and brief What's My Sign Initiative report
6. **7:50 – 8:55pm** – Code Enforcement Program (*See Page 1*)
7. **8:55 – 9:25pm** – Legislative Program – Part II (*See Page 1*)
8. **9:25 – 9:45pm** – Resolution on Master Transportation Plan Map (*See Page 2*)
9. **9:45 – 9:50** – New Business & Other Announcements
10. **9:50 pm** – Adjournment

Apology for Long Meeting

Originally we planned for a “finish” prior to 9:30 PM. Due to rapid progress on the Master Transportation Plan (MTP) approval, the Transportation, Planning and Zoning and Executive Committee felt the membership needed to consider a resolution on aspects of the MTP.

Code Enforcement Program

The Code Enforcement meeting portion specifics are detailed on the ACCF Web site. We have a 25 minute panel program with presentations from Shahriar Amiri of Inspection Services, Gary Greene of Code Enforcement and Murray Farr and Dave Dailey from the Police. Our Public Service and Planning and Zoning Chairs will follow with a 15 minute set of specific questions. Members will have 25 minutes of Q & A. Please see the ACCF Web site for a memorandum on program details and proposed questions sent to panel participants.

Legislative Program – Part II

All 13 items from Part I had a majority – so are included in the package. This Part II session will consider items presented from the floor:

- 1) Ensure the recommendations in the recently issued JLARC report on licensed psychiatric services are thoroughly evaluated and supported with adequate financial resources.
- 2) Enact legislation to allow workforce housing to be included as part of the construction of state and local government facilities.
- 3) Enact legislation to permit building affordable housing over publicly owned property, such as community centers, interstate and other highways and parking areas.
- 4) The Federation endorses the adoption of Instant Runoff Voting for elections in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Items will be presented by the authors and discussed. A ballot will determine their inclusion in the “final” ACCF Legislative Package.

Questions - School Board Program

Have a question for the School Board or a topic you'd like them to address? Send your suggestions to Jackie Snelling at jts3147@msn.com. The School Board will give their annual presentation to the Civic Federation on December 4. They like to know what topics are uppermost in your mind so they can come prepared to talk about those subjects. Let them know what you want to hear about. Send your questions or topics to Jackie by November 13, 2007 (or give them to her at the meeting)!

Tidbits

New activities or actions, considered or approved, by the Executive Committee since the October meeting are itemized. Unless specifically noted, material has been posted to our Web site. Please refer to that resource for further details where noted:

1. **Appointments** – None this period
2. **Increased Electronic Communication** – Limited response, so Excom decided on Email sign-up sheets.
3. **Master Transportation Plan Activities** – (*see Page 2*)
4. **Banquet** – Banquet dates and location confirmed. Speaker recommendations are solicited from the membership.



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Arlington County Civic Federation
C/o Lawrence R. Mayer
3108 Fourth Street North
Arlington, VA 22201-1614

December Meeting: Tuesday, December 4, 2007

The Major Topic: Arlington School Board Program

December News deadline: November 14, 2007

Master Transportation Plan (MTP) Map Resolution to be Considered

Testimony was made to the County Board (October 13th) asking for deferral of the Advertising the Master Transportation Plan (MTP) map due to inconsistencies. Testimony was subsequent to a memo to Transportation Planning Staff detailing specifics. The Board decided to advertise the MTP for their November 13th meeting. A second letter will be sent asking for hearing deferral (until no earlier than November 27th carryover meeting) due to ACCF meeting action on our resolution. All documents are on the ACCF Web site.

The Transportation, Planning and Zoning and, Executive Committees decided to pursue a Resolution for membership consideration. As of Civic Voice publication date, inconsistencies had not been resolved by County Staff. The resolution text is below (NOTE - whereas clauses provide significant background):

Whereas Arlington County is in the process of adopting a new Master Transportation Plan (MTP), and the plan includes an overview, written plan, and a map;

Whereas the County Board on October 13, 2007, voted to advertise the overview and map and has placed both documents on its meeting agenda for November 13, 2007, for public hearing and possible adoption;

Whereas the new MTP, once adopted, will become part of the County's comprehensive plan, and the elements of the MTP, including the map, will have legal significance and, is expected to guide the County's decision-making and investment in its transportation system over the next 25 years;

Whereas the map shows the location of arterial streets, and designates each of these arterial streets (or portions thereof) as

falling into one of six street categories that purports to reflect the land use of adjacent properties as indicated in the County's General Land Use Plan;

Whereas many of the street category designations on the map do not accurately reflect the current land use designation in the GLUP for properties on one or both sides of the arterial street, and in those cases generally show a higher level of land use than in the GLUP;

Whereas such inaccuracies, if not corrected, may cause developers and other property owners to claim reliance on the map as the most recent County statement of land use policy, and/or cause the map to be interpreted by staff or future County Boards as indicating an intent to up-GLUP the properties at issue should a request be received, creating ambiguities in land use or even new rights, particularly along neighborhood edges where such ambiguities or rights did not previously exist;

Whereas the legend for the map shows street cross sections for each of the six arterial street categories that sometimes reinforces these inaccuracies by depicting building forms and setbacks that are inconsistent with the GLUP for properties that front on the street;

Whereas these concerns have previously been expressed to County staff, but who nonetheless recommended adoption of the advertised map; and

Whereas the proposed cross sections impart an unrealistic rigidity to the plan, such as by indicating that left turn lanes are allowed only on commercial arterial streets, when they may be appropriate on other types of arterial streets, such as next to schools or churches;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Arlington County Civic Federation urges the County Board to simplify the map by (1) renaming the categories and changing relevant text terms (e.g., by renaming the categories with numbers or letters – 1-6 or A-F) so that the arterial street categories no longer directly refer to specific land use designations or use GLUP terms; (2) removing building type, height, and form depictions from the street cross section legend; and (3) allowing for greater flexibility to address safety and other considerations on particular arterial streets.