

# Arlington County Civic Federation Resolution on Accessory Dwellings

Passed by the Civic Federation at the 6/3/08 Civic Federation Meeting

## Family Suites

WHEREAS the Arlington County Civic Federation has addressed proposals to amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow Accessory Dwellings (ADs) at three meetings and surveyed its members on many aspects of various AD proposals; and

WHEREAS 76% of the Arlington County Civic Federation delegates responding support amending the Zoning Ordinance to enable caregivers to live in Family Suites, which currently may be occupied only by 1-2 relatives [Survey Item 1]; and

WHEREAS 82% of delegates responding support the goal of enabling live-in eldercare and 80% of delegates surveyed support the goal of enabling live-in caregivers providing support services (e.g., au pairs, cooks, drivers) [Survey Item 2];

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Arlington County Civic Federation conveys to Arlington County staff and the Arlington County Board:

- That the Civic Federation supports amending the Zoning Ordinance provisions for Family Suites to enable up to two live-in persons who are not related to the homeowner, one of whom is a caregiver.

## Accessory Dwellings

WHEREAS 73% of delegates responding expressed concern about the County's willingness and/or ability to enforce AD rules, 62% expressed concern about changing the character of single-family neighborhoods and encouraging more intense development of single-family lots, and 61% expressed concern about making parking and maneuvering out of driveways more difficult [Survey Item 3]; and

WHEREAS 50% of delegates responding support amending the Zoning Ordinance to enable Interior ADs and 11% support amending the Zoning Ordinance to enable Exterior ADs [Survey Item 1];

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Arlington County Civic Federation conveys to Arlington County staff and the Arlington County Board:

- That there is only minimal support for Exterior ADs and while support for Interior ADs is mixed, there is insufficient support to amend the Zoning Ordinance to enable any form of AD at this time.

## Enforcement

WHEREAS 70% of the delegates surveyed indicated that the Civic Federation should address current Code Enforcement in this resolution [Survey Item 12];

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Arlington County Civic Federation conveys to Arlington County staff and the Arlington County Board:

- That the County demonstrate that it has legal and practical methods for enforcing the current Zoning Ordinance and Building Code rules related to dwellings and occupancy.