

RESOLUTION ON PARK LAND ACQUISITION AND CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDING

WHEREAS, in July of 2009, as part of the front-end construction cost funding for the Cultural Center at the old Newseum site in Rosslyn, the Arlington County Board moved \$5.6M of PRCR capital projects out of PAYG funding and into bond funding, in order to free up PAYG funding for the Cultural Center; and

WHEREAS, \$4.445M of the bond funding utilized for those capital projects had been originally identified in the County Capital Improvement Program ("CIP") for FY07-FY12 as being for park land acquisition; and

WHEREAS, based upon the FY07-FY12 CIP and other available bond explanations, voters who approved the 2006 Local Parks & Recreation Bond reasonably believed that they were approving \$8.0M for strategic park acquisition, which \$8.0M has now been substantially reduced by \$4.445M to \$3.555M by this use of bond funds for a different purpose; and

WHEREAS, this reduction severely impairs the County's ability to take advantage of future opportunities to acquire land and expand our park system; and

WHEREAS, Arlington County Park and Recreation Commission and Friends of Arlington Parks sent letters to the County Board disagreeing with the County's diversion of parks bond funds to non-parkland acquisition; and

WHEREAS, the Arlington Civic Federation feels that voters should be able to rely on the underlying CIP documentation and other bond explanatory materials for descriptions of the purposes for which the related bonds they are voting on will be actually used for.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- (1) the Arlington County Civic Federation calls upon the County Board to use funds approved by the voters for park land acquisition and other capital projects, for only the purposes described in the adopted CIP; and further
- (2) The Civic Federation urges the County Board to make park land acquisition a priority for bond funding in the FY11-FY16 CIP, to be adopted in the summer of 2010, so that the ability to make strategic land acquisitions is not impaired.