

The Fairfax County FEDERATION

of Citizens Associations *Established 1940*

January 2012

THE BULLETIN

Volume 61, Number 5

Federation Membership Meeting

Thursday, January 19, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Note New (Temporary) Location

**FCPS Administrative Offices
Room 5055 (fifth floor)**

8115 Gatehouse Road
Falls Church, VA 22042

Note: The Gatehouse garage is located on the east side of the building, and entry closes at 8 p.m. Anyone arriving after that time will need to call someone at the meeting to be let in at the front door on the west side of the building.

Topic: Fairfax County Public School Budget

**Presented by: Mrs. Kristen Michael
Director of Budget,
Fairfax County Public Schools**



Next Federation Board Meeting

**January 26, 2012 (Fourth Thursday)
7:30 p.m.**

**The Packard Center
4022 Hummer Road
Annandale, VA 22003**

Citizen of the Year

The Federation is now soliciting nominations for the 2011 Fairfax County Citizen of the Year. Nominations will close January 31, 2012. The nomination form is posted at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/COY/COYApplication.html>.

New at the Federation Website

Transportation: Five presentations of interest: Tysons, BRT to Loudoun, I-66, Dulles Toll Road financing, Columbia Pike transit

Citizens Association Services: Nine common issues faced by citizen associations

Land Use: Letter to Board of Supervisors concerning rezoning from R to PDH for the purpose of increasing density

President's Message

Greetings Friends and Neighbors:

We wish you and your community best wishes for the New Year. Although we are halfway through the 2011-2012 year, a New Year typically signals renewed energy and engagement for the Federation. We thank you for staying connected, sharing information from your community, and promoting discussions.

Our signature event, the Citizen of the Year Banquet, is right around the corner. Please join us on Sunday, March 25 at the Tysons Corner Crowne Plaza to celebrate the 2011 Citizen of the Year. However, have you nominated anyone yet? This is a great opportunity to highlight and recognize a well deserving volunteer in our community. More nomination information is available on our website <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/index.htm>. If you have any questions or need more information, please kindly contact Jeff Parnes at fed-coy2012@fairfaxfederation.org.

Next on the Federation's agenda is the county's budget cycle. Our budget committee is lining up the troops, being led by our Budget Chairs Charlie Hall and Carey Campbell. The community can provide feedback to this important process by emailing to the committee at FedbudgetChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org. Your input to our budget process is invaluable and we thank you for your participation. To continue on the budget path, we will be hosting Kristen Michael, Director of Budget, Fairfax County Public Schools, at our January membership meeting. Please note that our meeting will be held at the Gatehouse Building – Room 5055, 8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, VA 22042.

On behalf of the Federation, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Peter Otteni, Vice President of Development for Boston Properties. We had an informative and engaging evening of debunking myths on development, understanding a developer's approach, and exchanging information.

The Federation submitted its 2012 Legislative Program to the Fairfax Legislative Delegation at their public meeting on Saturday, January 6, 2012. For more information, see our website at www.fairfaxfederation.org. We will update you throughout the General Assembly session on our legislative activities.

On that note, we are off to finish the rest of our year with our commitment and dedication to making your voice an important voice in the community. Thank you for staying connected to the Federation. Happy New Year!

Tania Hossain
President

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Directions to Gatehouse

Take I-495 (Capital Beltway) to Route 50 (Arlington Blvd, Exit 50, going west)

go west 0.1 miles toward Gallows Road/Rt 650/Merrifield

Turn right at traffic signal onto Gallows Road.

Go 0.2 miles, turning right onto Gatehouse Road

Go 0.1 miles and turn right onto road on east side of building

Make first right into underground garage

Park on any level, but the level at which you enter the garage is P2 (the elevators are in the middle of 1st and 2nd row at each level)

Take the elevator to the 5th floor and go to the northeast corner – other doors are locked

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

4022 Hummer Road, Annandale VA 22003

www.fairfaxfederation.org

2011-2012 President: Tania Hossain

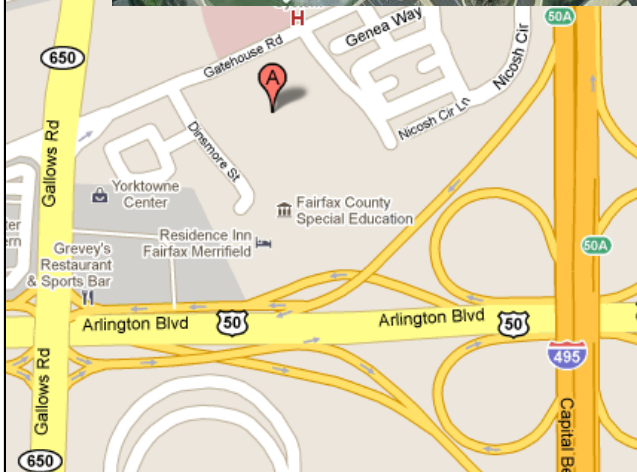
Newsletter Editor: Frederick A. Costello

The Bulletin is the newsletter of the Federation. It is usually published monthly, except in August. The purpose is to provide information to member communities, federal, state, and local officials, and other interested persons. 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 Fred Costello with newsletter name and email address changes, comments, or suggestions at FedBulletinEditor2012@fairfaxfederation.org or 703-620-4942.

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, for more information, you can call 703-620-4942.



FCFCA Calendar 2011-2012			
Date	Membership Meetings	Board Mtg	Newsletter Deadline
	Topic		
2011			
Aug	No meeting	25-Aug	25-Aug
15-Sep	Conservation: Backyard to Community (Environmental Committee)	22-Sep	29-Sep
20-Oct	Living Well in the Silver Years (Human Services Committee)	27-Oct	27-Oct
17-Nov	Federation's Legislative Program Presentation (Legislation Committee)	8-Dec	24-Nov
15-Dec	Land Use presentation	8-Dec	29-Dec
2012			
19-Jan	Review of County's School Budget (meets at Gatehouse, see note below)	26-Jan	2-Feb
23-Feb	Review of County Budget	16-Feb	22-Feb
15-Mar	Public Safety presentation	22-Mar	29-Mar
19-Apr	Association Services presentation	26-Apr	26-Apr
17-May	Report from Richmond	24-May	31-May
21-Jun	Federation Annual Picnic	28-Jun	5-Jul

All meetings are at the Packard Center starting at 7:30 pm, except the January 19 Membership Meeting, the June 21 Picnic, and the Board dinner on December 8. The January 19 meeting will be held in Room 5055 of the Gatehouse Education Administrative Center, Merrifield, VA

Additional events:

- 25-Mar Citizen of the Year Banquet (on Sunday)
- 21-Jun Annual Federation Picnic (on Thursday)

Visit us at
www.FairfaxFederation.org

See us also on Facebook: Search for "Fairfax Federation", click on "See more results", and select "Fairfax Federation" with the Packard Center sign (as logo) from the list of alternatives.

Do you want to have an impact?

The Federation is as strong as its voice, and the Federation's many committees make up its collective voice. If you are interested in serving on any of the committees that make up the backbone of the Federation please contact the committee chairs using the following email addresses:

Budget: Carey Campbell and Charles Hall	FedBudgetChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Citizen Association Services: Don Hinman	FedAssociationServicesChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Education: Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein and Tim Thompson	FedEducationChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Environment: Roger Diedrich and Flint Webb	FedEnvironmentChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Human Services: Cherie Lejeune	FedHumanServicesChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Land Use: Fred Costello	FedLandUseChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Legislation: Frank Anderson and Jason Ha.....	FedLegislationChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Membership: open	FedMembershipChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Public Safety: As'ad D.P. Hess-Linckost	FedPublicSafetyChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Resolutions: Bill Hanks	FedResolutionsChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Transportation: Carey Campbell and Jeff Parnes	FedTransportationChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org

The committees conduct the bulk of their business by email and formulate positions and suggest actions for consideration by the Board and by the Federation members. They also provide inputs to the Federation's legislation and budget presentations. Here's a chance to make a mark in an area of your interest. Join us in making our County a better place to live!

Membership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 15, 2011

[Draft to be submitted for approval on 1/19/2011](#)

The December 2011 meeting of the Membership of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order by President Tania Hossain at 7:30 p.m. in the Packard Center, Annandale. The attendance list is attached to the file copy of the minutes.

Program

Development from a Developer's Point of View—Peter Otteni, Vice President of Development of Boston Properties—Mr. Otteni discussed the steps in development of a property as a developer sees it. He began with the eight steps in the development process and the developer's evaluation of potential risk and reward. Mr. Otteni recommended the book: *Real Estate Development Principles and Process* by Mike Miles. Mr. Otteni noted that, if not for the hope of a reasonable profit, no one would place funds at risk and there would be no development. He made the theoretical concrete as he described the principles applied in a specific project in the Reston Urban Core. In a lively Q&A he described proffers as strictly voluntary but a part of the negotiation process. He confirmed one question: By law, may funds provided in a proffer be only used for its stated purpose even if the situation changes? Answer: yes.

Administrative Topics

The Bulletin (Newsletter): Fred Costello—Newsletter articles are due to the editor by December 28.

Minutes: Ed Wyse—The membership approved the minutes of the November 17 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Scott Schlegel—Scott provided a handout of the financial situation and briefed on recent and key developments.

Membership: Don Hinman—Welcome to the Oak Hill Citizens Association as our newest member for the 2011-2012 year.

2011 Citizen of the Year (COY) Award: Chair, Jeff Parnes—The nomination period for the 2011 Citizen of the Year award is open until January 31. Please share the press release with members of the community.

Call for Volunteers to Serve as Federation Liaisons and Representatives to Other Countywide Organizations: Three candidates are under consideration to fill the current vacancy as representative to the Engineering Standards Review Committee. Other representative positions will be opening soon as some representatives are reaching the end of their terms. A list of positions is available at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/contactus1.htm>. Individuals interested in serving as a Federation representative should contact 2nd Vice President Joe Gibson, email: Fed2ndVP2012@fairfaxfederation.org.

Old Business — none

New and Miscellaneous Business—none

Board & Committee Reports

Budget—Carey Campbell and Charlie Hall—Tania noted that

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our annual Budget Position development process will start soon and then be an intense 6-week effort. Member organizations are invited to participate.

Citizen Association Services—Don Hinman—Issues related to governance of homeowners associations and civic associations will be addressed by the program of the April membership meeting. If you have issues you would like explored in this meeting, send them to Don.

Education—Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein, & Tim Thompson—Charlie Dane reported. The Education Committee meets January 10. The superintendent releases his budget proposal on January 12. The January 19 Federation membership meeting will be held at Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Administration Building (8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, VA 22042) with Kristen Michael, Director, Office of Budget Services, FCPS, who will explain the FCPS budget proposal. [Not reported in the meeting but worth knowing: two committee members attended the recent all day retreat of the incoming school board members.]

Environment—Roger Diedrich and Flint Webb—Flint asked members to send the committee their concerns related to countywide environmental issues. He also invited members to join the committee. Flint reported on the following committee activities. More detailed information will be published in January's *The Bulletin*.

On November 9th Roger and I attended the Environmental Quality Advisory Committee (EQAC). The main topic was District Energy.

On November 12th Roger and I attended the Green Breakfast. The issue was urban Stormwater management.

I also attended the NOVA Climate Action Network meeting.

On November 21st Roger and I attended the Great Falls Sierra Club meeting presentation by Mary Rafferty about Uranium Mining in Virginia.

On November 29th Roger and I attended a meeting of environmental activists in the County to discuss smart growth legislative issues affecting the county.

On November 30th I attended a meeting about the status of the watershed management plans.

On December 5th Roger and I attended a reorganizing meeting of Friends of Accotink Creek (<http://www.accotink.org/>).

Human Services—Cherie Tripp Lejeune—Tania noted that Cherie was not present tonight because she hosted a tea for 200 seniors today. Several weeks ago Cherie arranged a Thanksgiving meal for about 100 seniors.

Land Use—Fred Costello—Fred introduced a proposed letter and resolution, which the board had approved last week, which requests that re-zoning from R to P-type housing be denied for infill projects unless three conditions cited in the resolution are met. The membership voted unanimously to approve the resolution and its cover letter.

Legislation—Frank Anderson—Tania stated that the Federation will support the positions in its newly developed Legislative Program and will inform the membership of developments related to our positions. She noted that the county is already following one of our recommendations: opposing a lifting of the

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moratorium on uranium mining in Virginia.

Public Safety—As'ad Hess-Linckost—Tania reported that Federation is working with the Franconia Police Station and Citizens Advisory Committee to collaborate on neighborhood outreach, specifically ways to inform the community of current crime situations.

Resolutions—Bill Hanks—no report other than the Land Use resolution passed at this meeting

Transportation—Carey Campbell and Jeff Parnes—Tania reported that the committee is drafting a letter on the topic of devolution of Commonwealth responsibility for highway maintenance.

Website—Jeff Parnes—no report

District Council Reports

Seven supervisor districts have councils of citizens associations; Dranesville & Hunter Mill districts do not.

Lee—Don Hinman—A summary report was given during the meeting; this fuller report is published via these minutes. The annual Lee District banquet was held Wednesday December 8 at the Springfield Hilton. Two local historians who are volunteers at the Franconia Museum—Don Hakenson and Carl Sell—gave an excellent historical presentation on Civil War events in the area.

The Lee District Citizen of the Year is Suzette Kern, who has chaired the Lee District Budget Advisory Committee for several years. The Distinguished Public Service Professional Award went to Lloyd Tucker, a Regional Manager in the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, who is well known for his work with children and teens. The Distinguished Public Service Professional Award went to outgoing county executive Tony Griffin.

Mason—John Birch—The Mason District Council meets tonight.

Providence—Flint Webb—Flint Webb was awarded Community Service Award by the Providence District Council. The district council's holiday party was December 7; Tanya attended representing the Federation.

Sully—Jeff Parnes—The Sully District Council holds its annual meeting and party tonight.

There was no report tonight from the representatives from the other district councils: Braddock—Art Wells, Mount Vernon—Karen Pohorylo, and Springfield—Mike Thompson.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Next Meetings

The next membership meeting is Thursday, January 19, 2012, 7:30 p.m., on the topic of the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Budget. Please note that this membership meeting will be held at the FCPS Administration Building (8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, VA 22042) and that the parking garage doors close for inbound traffic at 8 p.m. (To gain automobile entry after 8 p.m., you would have to contact someone already in the meeting via their cell phone and ask that person to come open the door for you.)

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The next board meeting is Thursday, January 26, 2012, at the Packard Center.

Minutes written by Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary

Ten Reasons to Join the Federation

1. You will belong to the only non-partisan, volunteer, and non-profit County-wide organization representing the concerns of homeowner and community associations.
2. You will be introduced to those who make decisions in Fairfax County, the region, and the state.
3. You can meet your neighboring associations and across the County.
4. You can be part of the solution to today's concerns about transportation, the environment, schools, taxes and other issues.
5. Your association's problems and solutions can be objectively evaluated relative to past experience.
6. You will be kept abreast of the issues.
7. You will be part of an organization that has more than 70 years of local, state, and regional experience and influence.
8. You will have a seat at the table. When County Supervisors ask for citizen recommendations on any subject, they ask the Federation.
9. You will be part of a large group of voters.
10. You will be represented by a great number of voters at public hearings, in written public statements, in task forces and commissions, and in the media.

Become a Federation Representative on Fairfax County Boards and Commissions

The Federation has representatives on many of the County boards, authorities, commissions, committees, task forces, and councils.

The complete list of the county's Boards, Authorities, and Commissions (BACs) is found at the following website: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bacs/>. The Federation has representation on eight of these: (1) Engineering Standards Review Committee, (2) Citizen Corps Council, (3) Criminal Justice Advisory Board, (4) Community Revitalization and Reinvestment Advisory Group, (5) Information Technology Policy Advisory Committee, (6) Trails and Sidewalks Committee, (7) Community Action Advisory Board, and (8) Airports Advisory Committee.

The complete list of School Board advisory committees is found at <http://www.fcps.edu/schlbld/advisory.htm>. The Federation has representation on three of these (Advanced Academic Programs, Human Relations, and Students with Disabilities), as well as the Superintendent's Business and Community Advisory Council.

Interested? Contact Joe Gibson, Federation 2nd Vice President at fed2ndvp2012@fairfaxfederation.org.

Current Federation Membership (2011-2012)

The Federation is honored to be joined by the growing number of citizens association and currently includes the following associations. The Federation welcomes all citizens associations in Fairfax County to join in membership in our common efforts to be an effective voice in our advocacy on behalf of residents to local, state and federal officials. To find out how the Federation can be of service to our community, please see our membership details available on our website at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/membership1.htm>.

Adams Walk HOA
 Chantilly Farm HOA
 Chantilly Highlands Homes Association
 Civic Association of West Springfield Village
 Colvin Glen Citizens Association
 Country Club View Civic Association
 Fox Mill Estates
 Greenbriar Civic Association
 Groveton Va Civic Association
 Hayfield Citizens Association
 Holmes Run Acres Civic Association
 Huntington Grove II HOA
 Innisfree Community Association
 Lafayette Village Community Association
 Mantua Citizens Association
 McLean Citizens Association
 McLean Hamlet Citizens Association
 Montebello Condominium Unit Owners Association
 North Springfield Civic Association
 Oak Hill Citizens Association
 Sleepy Hollow Citizens Association
 Stone Haven Civic Association
 Stratford on the Potomac Sect Four Corp
 Sunset Manor Civic Association
 Truro Homes Association
 Walnut Hill HOA
 Waynewood Citizens Association
 Wolf Run Estates Association

Around the County

The **Braddock** Beacon has much information of Countywide importance. You can sign up for it at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock/>

Annandale: The Federation's rezoning Resolution was the topic of the Annandale blog: <http://annandaleva.blogspot.com/search?q=fairfax+federation>

Mason District: On Tuesday, January 17, 2012, at 7:30 pm - the Mason District Council will consider Neighborhood Stabilization & Infill Development in the Fellowship Hall of Peace Lutheran Church. The rezoning of land lots in established communities can change the character of older neighborhoods, increase demand on storm water systems, and increase traffic. How would your community handle this? Invited guest speakers: Wilberdale Civic Association, Jefferson Green Home Owners Association, and Ravenwood Park Civic Association. See flier at <http://www.masondistrict.org/Events.html>. All are welcome.

Increasing the Number of Dwelling Units in an Existing Neighborhood

The Federation passed the following resolution to limit infill development such that existing neighborhoods are protected. The resolution was sent to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The cover letter, which explains the reasoning behind the resolution, can be found at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/letters/Letter20111219RezoningfromRtoPassentoBOS.pdf>

RESOLUTION

RE-ZONING FROM R- TO P-TYPE ZONING FOR INFILL PROPERTIES

(Approved by the Federation's General Membership on December 15, 2011)

WHEREAS existing neighborhoods might consist of a majority of property owners who value the character and ambiance of their neighborhoods and therefore desire to keep the neighborhoods stable,

WHEREAS there might be a desire of a minority of property owners in a neighborhood to profit by increasing the number of dwelling units on their properties,

WHEREAS such increase in the number of dwelling units can denigrate the character and ambiance of an existing neighborhood,

WHEREAS re-zoning from R-type to P-type zones, including PDH, does not sufficiently protect the stability of existing neighborhoods,

BE IT RESOLVED that re-zoning from R to P-type zoning, including PDH, be denied for all infill projects, if not approved by the majority of neighbors, unless (1) the property can be otherwise developed to the same number of dwelling units "by right" under the current zoning; (2) the re-zoning to P-type zoning would not cause an increase in the yield of allowable dwelling units on the subject property; and (3) the resulting lot widths would be no less than 75% of the minimum lot width requirement of the current zoning.

Should County Take Responsibility for Roads?

On page 13, Item 14a, of our recently passed legislation resolution (<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/resolutions/ResolutionLegislativeProgram2012.pdf>), the Federation stated that the legislature should support state legislation to grant counties the same taxing authority as cities and towns but oppose requiring counties to assume responsibility for construction and maintenance of roads.

Recently, Governor McDonnell stated that he will not shift road responsibilities without funding. See http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/virginia-politics/post/mcdonnell-does-not-support-shifting-transportation-costs-to-localities/2011/12/22/gIQA190oIP_blog.html?wprss=virginia-politics.

Flint Webb's Environmental Committee Report

On November 9th I attended the Environmental Quality Advisory Committee (EQAC) meeting. The main topic was **District Energy**. The idea would be to have natural gas turbines in high density parts of the county such as Tysons Corner and then use the waste heat from the gas turbine to heat water that is then used to heat surrounding buildings. The Danes contend that it is because of this that they are able to have one of the smallest greenhouse gas footprints in the developed world. From a thermodynamics perspective it makes a lot of sense; not only does it mean that you can get an overall thermodynamic efficiency out of every cubic foot of natural gas generated, but you can also cut down on the distribution losses. From a legal perspective it gets complicated because electricity generation is a legal monopoly in Virginia so much of the discussion centered on ways to deal with the legal issues. Of course all the legal issues go away if Dominion is a partner in the project. The other issue is the environmental permitting but there are ways to deal with these issues as well.

On November 12th I attended the **Green Breakfast**. The issue was urban stormwater management. The recent adoption of a flow limiting Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) standard for Accotink Creek makes it even more important that the County does all that it can to control stormwater runoff in the County.

I also attended the NOVA **Climate Action Network** meeting. There were presentations about:

1. The interaction between air quality and climate change,
2. The Sierra Club's beyond coal campaign which has centered on developing a renewable portfolio standard but will focus on removing some of the loopholes in the current voluntary portfolio standard this year,
3. The prospects for off-shore wind energy in Virginia
4. Clean water issues coming up in the General Assembly this year, and
5. Uranium mining.

Ken Plum discussed the issues he faces when dealing with delegates from other parts of the state and how important it is for Northern Virginia environmental activists to partner with activists in other parts of the State.

The week of November 14th through 18th I participated in two workshops, one on **preparing greenhouse gas inventories** and one on **downscaling global warming models** to understand what is likely to affect local communities, and attended the Air & Waste Management Association's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Strategies in a Changing Climate conference in San Francisco. The downscaling workshop was taught by the lead author of the chapter on water atmospheric balance in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change assessment 5 (IPCC5) which will be going through the internal review process soon and will be going public next year. The conference was very good. Of most interest to the Federation would probably be the papers presented on local government programs to reduce greenhouse gas footprints. There was also a very good panel that discussed adaptation issues. It is now obvious to me that we will not be able to escape the impacts of climate change by reducing our greenhouse gas emissions so along with continuing to work on reducing our emissions we will also need to work on adapting to the inevitable effects such as increased intensities of storms, rising sea levels, and increase photochemical air

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pollution (ozone smog and fine particulates).

On November 21st I attended the Great Falls Sierra Club meeting presentation by Mary Rafferty about Uranium Mining in Virginia. It appears that the **Uranium mining** interests have entered into contracts with just about all the lobbyists in Richmond so this will be a big fight this year. The issue is that Uranium mining is banned in Virginia and with the promise of bringing jobs to the state there are people that would like to bring uranium mining to the state in a big way. There are several studies looking at the economic impacts of uranium mining, but none are really looking at the environmental issues. The environmental issues are that there is a risk that uranium or other highly toxic materials could reach drinking water sources including the Occoquan since there is a potential mining site in the upper Occoquan basin. With increased storm intensity predicted by climate change it will be harder to ensure that the holding areas for the mine spoils will not leach out into the environment. The impetus for developing uranium sources is driven by the spike in uranium that occurred when it looked like there would be a crash program to build nuclear power plants to minimize our GHG emissions. The Federation has taken a position opposing the lifting of the ban, and Delegates Ken Plum and Mark Keam have both taken positions opposing lifting the ban as well. Delegate Chap Petersen is apparently on the fence. For more information check out www.Keeptheban.org.

On November 29th Roger and I attended a meeting of environmental activists in the County to discuss **smart growth legislative issues** affecting the county. Much of the discussion centered around the buildup of Tysons corner but there were also discussions about the I-95 corridor and affordable housing. The issue with affordable housing is that the Federal funding is going away and in the past all the County's funding has been from the Federal Government. The link with smart growth is that the lower income retail workers need to have affordable housing near where they work.

On December 30th I attended a meeting about the status of the **watershed management plans**. The upshot is that the 1 cent stormwater management tax is a good step to meeting the County's obligations as required by the Accotink TMDL (and probably other TMDLs coming down the pike) but will not be sufficient and the County will need to increase the tax each year for several years as they build up their program. Local communities can help by taking ownership of stormwater management improvements in their area. The plan is to work from the headwaters down.

On December 5th Roger and I both attended a **reorganizing meeting of Friends of Accotink Creek** (<http://www.accotink.org/>). Accotink Creek runs from just south of Tysons corner area in the east and the city of Fairfax in the west and flows into the Potomac river near Fort Belvoir. The FAC is going through a transition where they need to have new leadership, just as the importance of such groups is increasing. I mentioned earlier that the EPA has recently approved a new TMDL for Accotink Creek. Among other things it limits the water volume as a way to minimize the damages cause by high sediment loading. Limiting volume is particularly difficult in such a built-up area of the county. The FAC has been coordinating stream cleanups for years and was also very active in pointing out the sediment issues associated with the building of the I-495 HOT lanes. It is fitting that FAC is the first

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group to get organized now because of the TMDL. At the meeting there were a lot of plans discussed including holding a summit of similar groups to share lessons learned, which the Federation will be supporting as plans develop. Other areas of interest were outreach to the surrounding communities to encourage the use of rain barrels and rain gardens, coordinating stream improvement projects with local scouting organizations, and documenting illegal dumping activities in the basin. I have taken on the task of drafting up bylaws for a more formal organization. I feel developing a more formal organizational structure will be key to helping the organization grow and be sustained. I encourage anyone in the basin to participate.

Flint Webb, Federation Member, Honored

Flint Webb recently received the Providence District Council's 2011 Community Service Award. He serves the Federation as the Co-Chair of the Environmental Committee and representative of the Providence District Council. The Oakton Patch covered this in their December 15, 2011 article. <http://oakton.patch.com/articles/providence-district-council-honors-citizen-with-service-award>

Pictured below, from the award ceremony, are, from left to right, Delegate Mark Keam (35th District), Tania Hossain (Federation President), Flint Webb (Providence District Council recipient of the 2011 Community Service Award, commendation from the Virginia General Assembly and letters of congratulations from the community), Denise Rogers (Chair of the Providence District Council) and Becky Cate (Past Chair of the Providence District Council).



Free Transportation Information Website for Older Adults and People with Disabilities

In ongoing efforts to improve access to transportation information in the Washington metropolitan region, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) has launched Reach A Ride, a new transportation information source for travelers with special needs in the region. The Reach A Ride web site, www.ReachARide.org, and toll-free hotline, 855-732-2427, provide information about specialized transportation options for people with disabilities, older

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adults, those with limited English proficiency, and low-income commuters, with information in English and Spanish, along with links to programs and services. This is the first website of its kind that makes information about specialized transportation options available in one place for D.C., Northern Virginia, and Suburban Maryland.

"In this region alone, there are approximately 550,000 persons with a disability; 520,000 over the age of 65; 510,000 with limited English proficiency; and 810,000 living in low-income earning households," said District of Columbia Councilmember Muriel Bowser, who serves as TPB Chair. "Reach A Ride will provide these individuals, considered transportation disadvantaged, with improved access to the transportation information they need to get to work, school, medical appointments or shopping."

College Park Councilmember Patrick Wojahn, who serves as TPB Human Service Transportation Task Force Chair, said, "As a disability rights advocate, I know there is a great need for a 'one-click' or 'one-call' transportation information resource. Reach A Ride was developed to serve those with visual, physical, and cognitive disabilities as well as those who speak English as a second language. We are proud that it has earned a seal of approval from the American Foundation for the Blind's Accessibility Assurance program."

From public transit curb-to-curb service to private taxi service, Reach A Ride's website and hotline database includes information on public and private transportation providers that accommodate specialized needs including wheelchairs, gurneys, and escorted travel for people with severe mobility or cognitive limitations.

"Access to transportation information is opportunity's linchpin," said Nicholas Ramfos, Director of Commute Alternatives at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. "There is a solution for every transportation challenge, and together we will continue to work to improve access to transportation information in the region."

Reach A Ride also provides an important resource for social service agencies, friends, family members, clergy, healthcare providers, and case managers seeking information on transportation options for transportation disadvantaged individuals. Information is easily accessed online or by phone.

"Reach A Ride will be a great resource for those seeking specialized transportation options, options that provide greater mobility and choices than MetroAccess. Reach a Ride complements the goals we have at Metro to ensure that highest level of independence for our customers with disabilities which is why Metro helped fund this critical information resource," said Glenn Millis, Metro's Director of ADA Programs.

Reach A Ride is a program of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG).

COG is a nonprofit association of 21 local governments in the National Capital Region. Its website is: www.mwcog.org.

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Federation Membership Application/Renewal for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 (starts July 1, 2011)

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Association Name:		Address:		Date:
Position	Name	Address	Phone/FAX (XXX.XXX.XXXX)	E-mail see note #2
President				
Treasurer				
1st Delegate				
2nd Delegate				
3rd Delegate				
4th Delegate				

Please indicate person and address above to send future membership renewals: **District?** **Association Type?**
Association Size/Federation Dues: **Organization's web site:** **Month new officers installed:**

- Number of votes is based on association size. Dues are based on association size and number of mailed bulletins (see chart below):
- Bulletin notices are distributed by e-mail at no cost. Mailed Bulletins are \$10 per subscription. Unless otherwise noted, email addresses provided above will be added to the Federation's email list for distribution of Federation notices
- Membership dues are from July 1 to June 30 of the following year. Separate invoices may not be mailed. To determine whether your association's membership is current check with the Federation Treasurer at fedtreas2012 (a) fairfaxfederation.org
- Mail application form and check, payable to "Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations" or simply "FCFCA", to:

THE FEDERATION Attention: Membership Vice President 4022 Hummer Road Annandale, VA 22003	Dues, Delegates, & Bulletins <table border="1" style="margin: 0 auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th># of Residences</th> <th>Dues</th> <th>Voting Delegates</th> <th>Bulletins</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Under 100</td> <td>\$20</td> <td>1</td> <td>+ \$10 per each mailed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100-1000</td> <td>\$40</td> <td>2</td> <td>+ \$10 per each mailed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over 1000</td> <td>\$60</td> <td>3</td> <td>+ \$10 per each mailed</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	# of Residences	Dues	Voting Delegates	Bulletins	Under 100	\$20	1	+ \$10 per each mailed	100-1000	\$40	2	+ \$10 per each mailed	Over 1000	\$60	3	+ \$10 per each mailed
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Future membership renewals: 1. Submitter, 2. Association Address, 3. President, 4. Treasurer, 5. 1st Delegate, 6. 2nd Delegate, 7. 3rd Delegate, 8. 4th Delegate
District: B. Braddock, D. Dranesville, H. Hunter Mill, L. Lee, M. Mason, MtV. Mount Vernon, P. Providence, Sp. Springfield, Su. Sully
Association type: Civic, Coop, Condo, Homeowner
Association Size/Federation Dues: For example: 90/\$20