

The Fairfax County  
**FEDERATION**  
of Citizens Associations *Established 1940*

November 2013

**THE BULLETIN**

Volume 63, Number 3

**Federation Membership Meeting**

**Thursday, November 21, 2013**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Mason Government Center**

6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003

**Topic: Update on Police Issues**  
**Chief of Police Ed Roessler**

**Also: Final Vote on Legislative Package**



**Federation Board Meeting**

December 5, 2013, at 6:30 p.m.

Hokkaido Seafood Buffet  
5900 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church

**New at the Federation Website**

**Land Use:** Revised Residential Studio Units and Fairfax Forward texts, showing links to public hearings and public-comment sites.

**Twitter**

If any of the district councils or member organizations have twitter accounts, the Federation wants to follow them. We suggest that they also follow the Federation. For example, @SullyDistrict is following @TheFCFCA.

**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.

***President's Message***

Greetings: Federation Members, Officers, and Board Members

My goodness, it's November already. It seems as if it was June, and the new team of Federation officers had just been sworn into office by Supervisor Penny Gross. But when I stepped outside this morning, it sure did not feel like June.

Your elected leaders and Federation members have been busy with a number of issues that are important to the homeowners of Fairfax County. We established a Special Committee on Library Changes, chaired by Kathy Kaplan. At our last board meeting, we were informed the County has put the proposed major changes to the libraries on hold, pending more community outreach and (hopefully) a lot more listening to residents. That is good news. We are awaiting the final report from our library committee, which will address: 1) impact of changes on users; 2) changing uses of libraries; and 3) financial impact on the County.

The Federation has adopted a resolution on Residential Studio Units (RSU, affordable efficiency apartments), which proposes a number of changes to ensure the viability of this housing option, while protecting established neighborhoods. We do not believe the existing proposal properly meets this balance, but are committed to work to find a plan that does. A number of district councils and member associations have also approved their own resolutions. On October 28, I testified to the Planning Commission's RSU Committee. Federation members are working with affordable housing advocates to hold a second meeting to listen to each other's concerns and identify common ground.

We were unable to finalize our 2014 legislative program at our October membership meeting. At our November membership meeting, after listening to our new police chief, Col. Edwin C. Roessler, Jr., we will select ten priority items for our legislative program. We will use multiple weighted votes to select these items. Members will identify their priorities by voting 5, 3, and 1 for each item (times each association's authorized number of delegates) until we select the top ten. The meeting will be on Thursday, November 21, 2013, at 7:30 PM, at the Mason Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003. Members, please attend this important meeting.

Finally, on behalf of all my colleagues on the Federation Board of Directors, I salute the Mason District for its lead in our membership drive.

Thank you,  
Rob Jackson, President

P.S. Have a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving with your family and friends.

FCFCA Calendar 2013-2014				
Membership Meeting			Board Mtg	
Date	Program	Location	Date	Location
2013				
Jul	no meeting	—	—	—
Aug	no meeting	—	22-Aug	Braddock Hall
19-Sep	Membership discussion and vote on Federation resolutions	Mason Governmental Center, Main Conference Room (MCR)	26-Sep	Braddock Hall
17-Oct	Legislative Package	Mason Governmental Center, Large Conference Room (LCR)	24-Oct	Braddock Hall
21-Nov	Public Safety—New Police Chief; Final vote on Legislative Package	Mason Governmental Center (MCR)	—	—
Dec	no meeting	—	5-Dec	Hokkaido Seafood Buffet
2014				
23-Jan	School Budget (or Feb or Mar)	Mason Governmental Center (LCR)	30-Jan	Hidden Oaks Nature Center
20-Feb	Environment	Braddock Hall	27-Feb	Hidden Oaks Nature Center
27-Mar	County Budget	Mason Governmental Center (MCR)	20-Mar	Hidden Oaks Nature Center
10-Apr	Report from Richmond	Mason Governmental Center (MCR)	24-Apr	Hidden Oaks Nature Center
15-May	Annual Meeting; Election of Officers	Mason Governmental Center (MCR)	22-May	Hidden Oaks Nature Center
19-Jun	Picnic, Installation of Officers, State of Fairfax	Annandale Community Park	26-Jun	TBD

- Braddock Hall is at 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke
- All meetings start at 7:30 pm, except the picnic, which starts at 6:30 pm.

**The Bulletin (our newsletter) is distributed one week before the Membership Meeting.  
The deadline for submissions to *The Bulletin* is the first day of the month of the Membership Meeting.**

### **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, listed below, using the following email addresses:

Budget: Linda Boone & Rob Jackson .....	<a href="mailto:FedBudgetChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org">FedBudgetChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Citizen Association Services: Don Hinman .....	<a href="mailto:FedAssociationServicesChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org">FedAssociationServicesChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Education: Ed Saperstein & Tim Thompson ..	<a href="mailto:FedEducationChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org">FedEducationChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Environment: Flint Webb .....	<a href="mailto:FedEnvironmentChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org">FedEnvironmentChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Human Services: Cherie Tripp Lejeune & Morgan Jameson.....	<a href="mailto:FedHumanServicesChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org">FedHumanServicesChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Land Use: Fred Costello & Matthew Bell.....	<a href="mailto:FedLandUseChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org">FedLandUseChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Legislation: Frank Anderson & Bill Barfield.....	<a href="mailto:FedLegislationChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org">FedLegislationChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Membership: Tania Hossain.....	<a href="mailto:FedMembershipChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org">FedMembershipChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Public Safety: Daniela Cockayne .....	<a href="mailto:FedPublicSafetyChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org">FedPublicSafetyChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Resolutions: Bill Hanks .....	<a href="mailto:FedResolutionsChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org">FedResolutionsChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Transportation: Karen Camplin & Jeff Parnes.....	<a href="mailto:FedTransportationChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org">FedTransportationChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org</a>

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!

### **Reston Phase I Re-Plan Finished**

On October 29, the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force completed its work of re-planning the development of Reston along the Dulles Toll Road. After four years of work, the Task Force voted to accept the latest Staff Report, which can be seen at:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/comprehensiveplan/planamendments.htm>

Two issues remained only partially resolved: activity fields (baseball, soccer, etc.) and the jobs-to-household ratio. In a November 6 meeting, there was further work on activity fields that could lead to modifications after the plan is adopted by the Board of Supervisors. No further work is planned on the jobs-to-household ratio. Although the Plan specifies the intensity of commercial and residential development near the stations, it does not do so for other areas along the Toll Road; therefore, the overall jobs-to-household ratio resulting from development is not limited by the Plan. A ratio of jobs-to-households greater than 1.6 leads to greater traffic.

### **Fairfax Forward — Re-planning Fairfax**

On July 9, 2013 the Board of Supervisors adopted the Fairfax Forward Comprehensive Plan review process as a replacement to the Area Plans Review (APR) process, the process used to change the Comprehensive Plan. As part of the action, the Board asked staff to evaluate the new process two years after the authorization.

Draft evaluation criteria for Fairfax Forward are available at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/fairfaxforward>. Click on "draft evaluation criteria", which is highlighted in blue. Public comments will be collected via email from October 7, 2013, through November 25, 2013. See also the Federation website at:

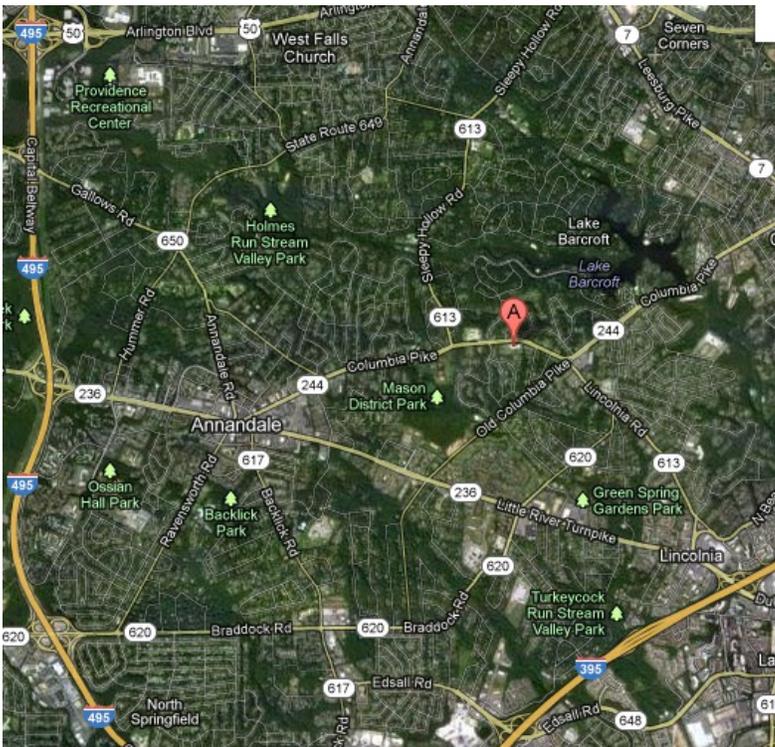
<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/landuse1.htm>

### **Keep Your Association Information Up-to-Date**

Fairfax County lists approximately 2500 Community Associations (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/internet/assoc.htm>). Be sure your association keeps its contact information up to date, using <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/houpdate.htm>.

### **Directions to the Mason Government Center**

From I-495 (the Beltway), Take the Little River Turnpike East towards Annandale exit. Follow Little River Turnpike into Downtown Annandale. Turn LEFT at the traffic light at John Marr Drive. At the next traffic light, turn RIGHT onto Columbia Pike. Follow Columbia Pike past the Mason District Park (on your right). The Mason Governmental Center is on your right, 0.5 miles past the park entrance (in the same building as the Police Station).



### **Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations**

P.O. Box 3913, Merrifield, VA 22116-3913

[www.fairfaxfederation.org](http://www.fairfaxfederation.org)

**2013-2014 President:** Rob Jackson

**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 [FedBulletinEditor2014@fairfaxfederation.org](mailto:FedBulletinEditor2014@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](http://www.fairfaxfederation.org) or, for more information, you can call 703-620-4942.

### **Apartment Buildings next to Your House?**

The Fairfax County government's Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ) is considering a change to the Zoning Ordinance that will permit "Residential Studios" in all residential areas under "Special Exception" rules. These 200-to-500-sq.ft. rental units would provide affordable housing for households earning less than approximately \$65,000 (i.e., 60% of the area median income). Any single-family home in the county could be converted to multi-family residences containing Residential-Studio units. For example, a 2000-square-foot home could be converted to between four and ten apartments. The proposed ordinance can be found at:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/zoningordinance/proposed/residentialstudioinputmemo.pdf>.

Investors will be especially interested in such conversions because the rent for apartments, per square foot of floor space, is approximately two times what it is for a single-family residence.

DPZ is obtaining more information on studio units in other jurisdictions and conducting additional outreach to the community in preparation for the public hearing to be held before the Board. The additional outreach meetings, all at 7:00 pm, are scheduled as follows:

11/20/2013: Herry Building, Conference Rooms 106-107  
 12/9/2013: Government Center, Conference Rooms 4-5  
 1/6/2014: Government Center, Conference Rooms 4-5  
 1/22/2014: Government Center, Conference Rooms 2-3

The Board and Planning Commission hearings have yet to be scheduled.

At the September 19 meeting of the Federation Membership, the Federation member organizations passed a resolution calling for significant restrictions on the locations of these small residences. See <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/resolutions/ResolutionResidentialStudiosBoardApproved20130919.pdf>.

Federation President Rob Jackson was quoted extensively in the Fairfax Times on this issue. See: <http://www.fairfaxtimes.com/article/20131003/EWS/131009600/1064/news&source=RSS&template=fairfaxTimes>.

### **Current Federation Members**

The Federation welcomes all citizens associations in Fairfax County to join in membership in our collective effort to be an effective voice on behalf of residents to local, state, and federal officials. For your convenience, our membership application is located on the last page of this newsletter and online at [www.fairfaxfederation.org/membership1.htm](http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/membership1.htm).

As of November 1, 2013, current members, having voting rights at Federation meetings, are:

#### **Braddock**

Country Club View Civic Association  
 Middleridge Civic Association  
 North Springfield Civic Association  
 Oak Hill Citizens Association<sup>1,2</sup>  
 Ravensworth-Bristow Civic Association  
 Red Fox Forest Civic Association  
 Stone Haven Civic Association  
 Truro Homes Association

#### **Dranesville**

Colvin's Glen/Colvin's Forest Citizens' Association<sup>1</sup>  
 Glen Haven Farms Homeowners Association  
 Marlborough Nantucket Community Association  
 McLean Citizens Association  
 McLean Hamlet Citizens, Inc  
 Pimmit Hills Citizens Association<sup>1</sup>  
 Potomac Hills Citizens Association

#### **Hunter Mill**

Fox Mill Estates Homes Association  
 Reston Citizens Association  
 Townes of Coppermill Property Owners Association  
 Woodside at Holly Oak

#### **Lee**

Amerliegh Homeowners Association  
 Groveton, Virginia, Civic Association  
 Hayfield Citizens Association  
 Huntington Grove II Homeowners Association  
 Jefferson Manor Citizens Association<sup>1</sup>

#### **Mason**

Adams Walk Homeowners Association<sup>1</sup>  
 Annandale Acres Civic Association  
 Barcroft Square Homeowners Association<sup>1</sup>  
 Bel Air Civic Association<sup>1</sup>  
 Hillbrook-Tall Oaks Civic Association<sup>1</sup>  
 Lafayette Village Community Association  
 Lincolnia Park Civic Association  
 Parklawn Civic Association  
 Ravenwood Park Citizens Association  
 Skyline House Unit Owners Association<sup>1,2</sup>  
 Sleepy Hollow Citizens Association  
 Sleepy Hollow Woods Civic Association  
 Sunset Manor Civic Association  
 Wilburdale Civic Association<sup>1</sup>

#### **Mount Vernon**

Huntington Community Association  
 Montebello Condominium Unit Owners Association  
 Stratford on the Potomac Section IV Homeowners' Association  
 Waynewood Citizens Association

#### **Providence**

Holmes Run Acres Civic Association<sup>1</sup>  
 Mantua Citizens Association  
 Tysons Manor Homeowners Association<sup>1</sup>  
 Walnut Hill Homeowners Association<sup>1</sup>

#### **Springfield**

Innisfree Community Association  
 Middle Run Estates Homeowners Association  
 West Springfield Village, Civic Association of

#### **Sully**

Chantilly Farm Homeowners Association  
 Chantilly Highlands Homes Association  
 Oakwood Estates at Manderley<sup>1</sup>  
 Virginia Run Community Association

#### **Notes:**

1. Voting rights are based on the association's 2012-2013 membership that expired on June 30, 2013. A voting rights grace period extends through December 2013. Renew now for the 2013-2014 membership year!

## Membership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 17, 2013

[Draft to be submitted for approval on 11/21/2013](#)

The October meeting of the membership of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order by President Rob Jackson at 7:38 p.m. at Mason District Government Center. There was a meeting quorum

### Administrative Matters

**Approval of Board Meeting Minutes:** Previously the May Membership minutes had not been approved. They were approved unanimously as amended and filed for the record. The September Membership minutes as amended were approved unanimously and filed for the record.

There was no other urgent business for the membership.

### Membership Programming

Frank Anderson, co-chair of the Legislative Committee, introduced items for consideration of the membership regarding legislative priorities.

**Education**—there are three initiatives from the Education Committee.

1. Public School calendar: Kings Dominion rule—This legislation was originally enacted to support tourism in the state, however, many tourism states start school before Labor Day. Fairfax County students lose valuable time to prepare for tests because of the delay in opening school. 120 of the 130 school districts in Virginia support repeal of the rule. This calendar change has been proposed several years in a row by the Federation. Does Education Committee agree to use existing legislative proposal? Yes. Mr. Anderson moved approval of this item and it was seconded. Discussion included such items: the reasons to retain the current calendar include state makes lots of sales tax revenue over Labor Day and many families travel the last two weeks in August. However, Senator Howell has stated that starting school earlier would not cost the state anything really. It was suggested that the Federation ask only for a study of the calendar change in order to obtain real data about the economic impacts. President Jackson will sign a letter to Senator Saslaw and others supporting this change and asking legislators to enact it. Education Committee co-chairs will review the letter. This proposal/current legislative proposal was approved by a vote of 15 yes, 2 No, 0 abstentions.

2. Early Childhood Education: Motion to include in legislative package was made by Mr. Saperstein and was seconded by Mr. Wuehrmann. After a brief discussion the motion passed 12 Yes, 5 No, 0 abstentions.

3. Local Composite Index: Motion to update LCI and include item in legislative package was made by Mr. Saperstein and it was seconded by Mr. Wuehrmann. Federation may want to readdress this based upon the “hold harmless” effort from 2009 to get a recalculation of the index. Fairfax County only gets 20% of its funding from the state. Need to rework the resolution statement about how to re-calculate the LCI. The motion was approved 17 Yes, 0 No, 2 Abstentions.

**Citizen Association Services Committee:** HOAs cannot impose fines unless their documents allow it. Motion to allow all HOAs to impose fines against homeowners who violate HOA

rules was made by Dr. Dane and seconded by Mr. Saperstein. Discussion included several questions about what the resolution would change. President Jackson called Don Hinman to address the questions. The purpose of the proposal was to restore the ability of HOAs to fine members for rules violations without changing Covenants or Declarations but just by amending the By-laws. The proposal would change the Commonwealth statute to give this power to HOAs. The motion passed 19 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

**Land Use:** Moved by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Costello to include the proposal about transferring authority to make zoning changes from the Board of Supervisors to community residents. Discussion involved whether this had been done in other locations; whether eminent domain rulings affect zoning; special exceptions are different from a change in zoning; is it a zoning or density item; and that the “mcmansion” issue is more of a problem than this one. Many members suggested that additional study was needed on the proposal. Mr. Thompson withdrew his motion. The item was tabled unanimously until next month.

**Public Safety:** Mr. Saperstein moved and it was seconded by Mr. Thompson to include the proposal to make it a primary violation to use hand-held cell phones while operating a moving vehicle. Hands free devices should be required. Currently 18 year olds and above can use cell phones while driving. The motion passed 19 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

**Resolutions Committee:** offered two initiatives.

1. Use Common Core learning standards: Mr. Wyse moved and it was seconded by Ms. Cockayne. 46 of 50 states have adopted this standard already. Commonwealth SOL standards were revamped last year and may be stronger than these. New FCPS Superintendent is looking at standards also. Education Committee would like to defer until this proposal until that work has been done and to table it for now. Mr. Wyse withdrew his proposal.

2. Better Governance: --Mr. Wyse moved and Mr. Thompson seconded the motion to consider the Iowa Plan for reapportionment of legislative redistricting. The motion passed with a vote of 17 Yes, 0 No, 2 Abstentions

**Transportation Committee**—Ms. Camplin proposed to add four new Transportation items:

1. Support of rail to Centreville;

2. Mass transit systems on Route 1 (land use and bicycle lanes must be included);

3. Centralizing the Transportation authorities into a regional one; and

4. Accessibility for elderly and disabled residents to transportation. Legislation may not be the way to effect these changes. Ms. Camplin will submit the items that should be considered in the Legislative Package to the Membership at the November meeting.

The Legislative Package will be considered at the November meeting. Members should review the resolutions and determine which to include in the multi-voting planned for the next meeting. The Federation wants to submit no more than 10 items to the legislators. Any remaining items may be sent in the

*(Continued on page 6)*

(Continued from page 5)

package, or at a later time, as items of interest to the Federation and its members.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

### **Next Meetings**

**Membership meeting:** November 21, 7:30 p.m., at Mason Governmental Center. The program will be presented by Chief of Police Ed Roessler. Our second agenda item is to make final decisions on our legislative resolution.

**Board meeting:** October 24, 7:30 p.m., at Braddock Hall

*Minutes prepared by Linda Boone, Recording Secretary*

### **Key Legislative Issue for HOAs and Condo Associations: Rules Violation Enforcement**

The October 2013 Bulletin featured an article about the bill restoring late fee authority for community associations that was passed by the 2013 General Assembly and took effect on July 1, 2013. Late fee authority was a Federation legislative priority, and 2014 provides an opportunity to build on that success.

The ability of HOAs and condo associations to enforce their own rules has been diminished by court rulings in recent years, but restoring that authority can be achieved through state legislation. Court rulings have said that an association may assess monetary charges for rules violations by residents only if the declaration (covenants) explicitly provides such authority. A number of associations lack that explicit authority, and this judicial interpretation greatly hampers the ability of associations to govern themselves.

VALAC-CAI (Virginia Legislative Action Committee of the Community Associations Institute) is preparing a legislative proposal that would restore authority to assess monetary charges for rules violations to those associations whose governing documents are silent on that issue. Support for this proposal will be considered for inclusion in the Federation's legislative package for the upcoming General Assembly session.

HOA and condo association leaders in Fairfax County can contribute to another successful legislative outcome. Communication with our elected officials will play a critical role. For more information, please contact Don Hinman at [FedAssociationServicesChr2014@fairfaxfederation.gov](mailto:FedAssociationServicesChr2014@fairfaxfederation.gov). Don is Chair of the Federation's Citizen Association Services Committee and is also a board member of VALAC-CAI.

### **Free Education for HOA Leaders**

The 2013 Common Interest Community Education Seminar, designed for HOA officials, will be replayed on Channel 16, the Fairfax County Cable Channel, on Wednesday, November 13, at 9 am; and again on Monday, November 18 at 5 pm. The program will provide an update to the Virginia legislation and regulations concerning civic associations.

### **Countywide Transportation Public Meetings**

Last fall, Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) led a public information campaign regarding the state of transportation funding in Fairfax County. In spring 2013, Governor McDonnell and the General Assembly approved funding for new transportation projects directed at regional and local transportation agencies.

FCDOT is initiating a new round of discussions to seek comments from the public regarding the transportation project selection and prioritization. Information will be provided about new roadway, transit, pedestrian and bicycle projects throughout Fairfax County.

It is very important that citizens and communities provide input for this process. There will be two more public meetings and an online engagement component. The meeting information is listed below:

Tuesday, November 12: Fairfax Co. Government Center  
rooms 2/3, 12000 Govt. Center Pkwy, Fairfax Connector  
Routes 605, 621, 623

Wednesday, November 13: Forest Edge Elementary cafeteria,  
1501 Becontree Lane, Reston Connector Routes  
RIBS 1, RIBS 3, 552

A formal presentation will start at 7:00 p.m., but FCDOT staff will offer an open house starting at 6:30 p.m.

An interactive map for viewing the possible projects is available at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/cdot/map.htm>; however, the project descriptions listed at [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/pdf/cdot/cdot\\_all.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/pdf/cdot/cdot_all.pdf) have maps and descriptions that are more useful.

### **County Maintenance of Stormwater Facilities**

Last month, the Federation passed a resolution recommending to the county that the county should take over maintenance of the approximately 600 HOA stormwater facilities that it currently does not maintain. Compliance will thus be assured and the HOA's will be relieved of this cost.

The county staff is in agreement with the Federation resolution. The issue is working its way through the Planning Commission and should get to the Board of Supervisors in about 2 months.

### **Government Transparency**

Fairfax County has instituted a system by which residents can access the county's detailed financial data using the Internet. The main page is <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transparency/>. Some data, such as the budget documents and financial reports, has been on the Internet for many years; however, data is now more easily found using this web page. Data not previously accessible is also available. For example, clicking on [Search County Government Vendor Payments and Expenditures](#) opens a page by which the user can find the amounts that the county has paid to any vendor during any selected month in FY2014.

The County public school system offers similar transparency at <http://www.fcps.edu/fs/transparency/index.shtml>.

### **Health Plan Workshop for Federal Employees/Retirees**

Congressman Gerry Connolly will hold his annual Open Season Workshop to assist federal employees and retirees in navigating through the many changes in the 2014 Federal Employees Health Benefits Plans (FEHBP), dental and vision insurance programs, and flexible spending accounts. The federal government's Open Season for federal employees and retirees to change their health plans runs from November 11 to December 9.

Connolly's Open Season Workshop will take place at the Fairfax County Government Center on Saturday, November 23, 2013, from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm. The Government Center is located at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035.

This year's event will once again feature FEHBP expert Walt Francis, author of CHECKBOOKS's Guide to Health Plans for Federal Employees. Representatives of the Office of Personnel Management, the various FEHB plans, and Medicare will be available to answer questions discuss their programs with participants.

"Most FEHB plans have benefit and rate changes for 2014 so it is important that federal employees and retirees know the details on how their current plans are changing and whether or not there is another option that better suits their needs," Connolly said. "With these possible changes, it is important that every federal employee and retiree review the status of their current coverage." Connolly urged every federal employee and retiree, as well as survivor and former spouse annuitants to make sure they review their FEHB plan coverage and other benefits before Open Season ends on December 9. "Federal employees, retirees, and annuitants who have questions or want to make sure that they have the coverage they need are welcome to attend my Open Season Workshop on November 23rd" he said.

Congressman Connolly's Open Season workshop will feature:

10:00 am – 11:00 am in the Government Center Board Room

- Panel Discussion featuring experts on FEHB programs and available health plan options, including FEHBP expert Walt Francis, author of CHECKBOOKS's Guide to Health Plans for Federal Employees

11:00 am – 1:00 pm in adjoining conference rooms

- Representatives of various FEHB health plans and Medicare will be available to provide information and answer questions concerning plan offerings for 2014

11:00 am – 1:00 pm in adjoining conference room

- Flu Shots will be provided by the Fairfax County Health Department. The cost is \$25 and Medicare Part B is accepted. To ensure adequate supply of vaccines available, please register with Connolly's District Office at (703)256-3071.

Federal employees seeking further information about FEHB plans can visit OPM's FEHB Open Season website at: <http://www.opm.gov/insure/openseason/>, which includes links to frequently asked questions and other information that federal employees and retirees might need to help them make decisions about their current and future coverage.

### **Revamping the County Libraries**

The county has been revamping the county libraries according to what is called the Beta plan. Under the plan, which has since been put on hold, the libraries would become community centers, with meeting spaces and mostly eBooks. Thanks for the work of Kathy Kaplan, Chairman of the Federation's Ad Hoc Committee on Public Libraries, the county is re-considering the future of the libraries.

The Fairfax County Library Board of Trustees Ad Hoc Communication and Evaluation Committee met on November 1, 2013, to discuss the revamping. They concluded:

- The mission of the library should be education.
- Reject Beta Plan and reject reclassification of library staff positions.
- Continue to employ professional librarians, especially children's and reference librarians.
- Fill vacant library staff positions that are currently funded (45 positions).
- More coordination with branch managers to make floating of the collection successful.
- Restoration of funds to restore depleted collections.
- Digital books should not supplant print books, premature to transition to new technology.
- Recommend creative partnerships to bring in additional revenue; make clear to Fairfax County Board of Supervisors the impact of reduced funding levels on library service.
- Broader outreach including surveys to reach all demographics.

The Trustees will meet on November 13 at the George Mason Library on Little River Turnpike at 7 pm to vote on the wording of the report to the County Board of Supervisors. Call 703-324-8324 to sign up to speak at one of the ten slots available. The report will be presented to the County Board of Supervisors on November 19.

Keep up with the issue at:

<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/library1.htm>.

**Return this form to Membership Vice President at address shown below.**

**Please tell us who is submitting this form: and your email address:**

**Federation Membership Application/Renewal for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 (starts July 1, 2013)**  
 Print this form in landscape mode and submit by mailing with a check to address shown below.  
 You may also complete this form on line at [www.fairfaxfederation.org/memberappl.htm](http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/memberappl.htm)

<b>Association Name:</b>		<b>and address:</b>		<b>Date:</b>																
<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone/FAX (XXX.XXX.XXXX)</b>	<b>E-mail see note #2</b>																
<b>President</b>																				
<b>Treasurer</b>																				
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Delegate</b>																				
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Delegate</b>																				
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Delegate</b>																				
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Delegate</b>																				
<b>Please indicate person and address above to send future membership renewals:</b>		<b>District?</b>	<b>Association Type?</b>																	
<b>Association Size/Federation Dues:</b>		<b>Organization's web site:</b>																		
1. Number of votes is based on association size. Dues are based on association size and number of mailed bulletins (see chart below): 2. 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 3. 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 <a href="mailto:fedtreas2014@fairfaxfederation.org">fedtreas2014@fairfaxfederation.org</a> 4. Mail application form and check, payable to "Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations" or simply "FCFCA", to: <div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px auto; width: fit-content;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>THE FEDERATION</b>                      Attention: Membership Vice President                      P.O. Box 3913                      Merrifield, VA 22116-3913</p> </div>																				
		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th># of Residences</th> <th>Dues</th> <th>Voting Delegates</th> <th>Bulletins (emailed) One per delegate</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 (emailed) One per delegate	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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<b>Please print this page landscape mode using the properties box</b>																				

**Future membership renewals:** 1. Submitter, 2. Association Address, 3. President, 4. Treasurer, 5. 1<sup>st</sup> Delegate, 6. 2<sup>nd</sup> Delegate, 7. 3<sup>rd</sup> Delegate, 8. 4<sup>th</sup> 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