

ARLINGTON RIDGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION 2206 SOUTH KNOLL STREET ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22202

June 16, 2011

Mr. Paul Holland, Park and Recreation Commission Chair c/o PEG – Diane Probus
Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 414
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Mr. Holland:

This "letter of intent" from the Arlington Ridge Civic Association (ARCA) is to notify you of our intention to submit a proposal for a FY 2012 Park Enhancement Grant (PEG).

ARCA requests PEG funding to replace the grass at the I395/So. Arlington Ridge Road intersection with liriope. Even though this area is owned by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), our community has worked with the Arlington County Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources (PRCR) over the years to make improvements to this area. It started as a jungle, with bushes and invasives literally covering the area up to the road. The community removed brush and invasives during volunteer days and PCRC provided tons of dirt to fill it in. The community also purchased and planted a number of trees and bushes to beautify the area. Community volunteers assumed all maintenance responsibilities for the past several years and have always followed through on their commitments. The one section that has been difficult and expensive to maintain is the grass. It needs more routine cutting than can be managed by our volunteer workforce and funding it from ARCA resources has become too expensive. Replacing the grass with liriope would not only reduce the need for mowing it would also be good for the environment, reducing the amount of fertilizers and other chemicals going into the local sewer and drainage systems. It would also result in a significant reduction in yard waste as liriope only needs to be cut once a year. This area is a gateway into the neighborhood and the County Neighborhood Conservation Program has provided a neighborhood sign. This PEG will build upon an ongoing partnership with the County to improve the appearance of this gateway to the community, while reducing the amount of maintenance that is required by volunteers.

Bonnie Flynn will be our main point of contact for purposes of the application. She can be reached at:

1914 So. Arlington Ridge Road, Arlington, VA 22202

Home Phone: 703-920-1157 Cell Phone: 703-989-6171 email: <u>bflynn1914@verizon.net</u>

We would appreciate some feedback on whether or not this PEG request would be considered before moving forward with the total application process. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the PEG program to improve our community.

Sincerely,

Andrew Smith

Vice President, Arlington Ridge Civic Association