

Remarks to Arlington County Board July 13 2010—Crystal City Sector Plan Request to Advertise

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Good evening, my name is Kit Whitely. I am a 30 year resident of 22202 (lived in Aurora Highlands, CC and Arlington Ridge). I've also worked in Crystal City offices for the majority of my career. Arlington has been my home and place of employment for my entire adult life and I have truly loved living and working here.

Tonight, I am here in my position as Secretary of the Arlington Ridge Community Association, representing my neighbors. In verbage taken from the Vision Plan, we are "the single family neighborhoods to the west" – ARCA AND AHCA.

I feel comfortable in that representation, as ARCA has conducted a major revitalization effort to reach out to all of the voices in our community — we've established bimonthly newsletters, a listserv, website and like our sister organization, have greatly expanded our membership activism. I am a product of that outreach as are a number of other residents. We have become actively involved in our associations. We are proud of our neighborhood.

As part of the 22202 zipcode, both of our associations have taken an active interest in this development from its inception, attending many of the 81 meetings, including long range planning, working with staff and we even had reps on the CC task force. We were all encouraged to see that when the seven plan goals were developed, #6 was to "maintain the integrity of the single family neighborhood to the west". With our new energy, over 75 neighbors met with staff on 5/14 of last year and held a spirited discussion where numbers of potential impacts were identified. Out of that was formed a joint ARCA/ACHA committee. I would like to read you the letter that was forwarded as a result of countless hours committees effort

<http://www.arcaonline.org/docs/ARCA-AHCA.CC.Comments.Cover.Letter.08.17.09final.pdf>

To date, we have received no response to our effort. We naively believed a response to our hardwork would be forthcoming. We were dismayed by the lack of feedback to your constituents and a planning process that set out a goal that has so clearly not been met.

Since the letter, several things have occurred. The fiscal environment has deteriorated and BRAC has NOT decimated CC but the CIP was approved with an estimated \$250M infrastructure costs. The plan was changed from a vision plan to a sector plan (?) and the only nod to the neighborhood concerns in the implementation section of the plan were instructions to use the NC Process.

In addition, Potomac Yard development plans have been approved which bring even greater concern about congestion and impacts beyond those we stated last year. Alexandria, however and in stark contrast, includes in their plan a provision that "requires the developers to provide a monetary contribution for the preparation and

implementation of the comprehensive traffic calming program...whose implementation will be proactive and phased with development.”

Our associations includes a diverse population which holds a myriad of opinions but I stand here tonight to tell you that we are united in the fact that the impacts to our community have not been fully addressed and go beyond the scope of NC Plan process.

Because of this we do not support the request to advertise. You have not met one of the 7 stated goals and objectives. We strongly encourage you to revisit the development approach by reconsidering our Comments & Recommendations. It is unclear to us how you can move forward in this fiscal environment with a stated objective unmet and no money allocated to address unidentified impacts.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak.