

**Donaldson Run Walking Town Meeting  
June 23, 2009**

Walking Tour Stop	Neighborhood Topics/Issues	Initial County Response
<p><b>Starting Point:</b> 26<sup>th</sup> Street Leaf Storage Site: 4700 North 26<sup>th</sup> Street (opposite of Marymount University). Parking is available at the Leaf Storage Site. <b>Note:</b> In the event of rain or inclement weather, the meeting will be held inside Zachary Taylor School in the Multi Purpose Room located at 2600 North Stuart Street.</p>		
<p>1. <b><u>Marymount Construction Project and Traffic Impacts on the Neighborhood</u></b></p>	<p>Residents will discuss the frustration they have experienced with the Marymount Construction project and the impact of a large construction project has had on a residential area. Neighbors would like to see staff take a more proactive role in working with them when documents are submitted to the County for approval. The Neighborhood Relations Committee that was formed to help with project communication has had limited success because some members have not brought issues to the committee for discussion before taking action. The relocation of a transformer and construction worker parking at sites in the neighborhood are two examples.</p>	<p>Since the start of construction, residents living in the neighborhood surrounding the construction site have voiced numerous concerns regarding various issues relating to construction activities. County Inspection staff is working with Marymount, the General Contractor, and residents to address and mitigate these issues. Staff has attended seven (7) monthly meetings of the Neighborhood Relations Committee (meetings held by Marymount University with representatives of the surrounding communities). Staff has been present to provide clarifying information on County processes.</p> <p>Staff will continue to attend Neighborhood Relations Committee meetings, and serve as an information resource for County procedures and processes.</p> <p>The point of contact is <b>Matt Pfeiffer</b> who can be reached at 703-228-0097 or <a href="mailto:mpfeiffer@arlingtonva.us">mpfeiffer@arlingtonva.us</a>.</p>

**Donaldson Run Walking Town Meeting  
June 23, 2009**

Walking Tour Stop	Neighborhood Topics/Issues	Initial County Response
<p>1. <b><u>Continued</u></b></p>	<p>Residents will reiterate their desire to be part of any planned uses of the mulch pile site and in master planning activity for this area. Recent activities there—the demolition of the Smith and Harlan properties and the storage of recycling carts at the mulch pile—have caused frustration and negative traffic impacts.</p> <p>Residents will highlight how communication could be improved. Residents will point out that a traffic signal at 26<sup>th</sup> Street and Old Dominion—approved by the County in 2005—has not been installed because of easements and other issues. Federal funding has now been approved and residents would like the County to help move this project forward as quickly as possible.</p>	<p>The Use Permit for the Leaf Storage site is up for renewal this fall. County staff will reach out to the civic association and engage affected neighbors of the site well in advance of the renewal date to address concerns regarding the use of the site.</p> <p>The staff contact is <b>Mike Clem</b> who can be reached at 703-228-6491 or <a href="mailto:mclen@arlingtonva.us">mclen@arlingtonva.us</a>.</p> <p>The construction of the traffic signal has been delayed because the funding vehicle changed from a State-funding resource to a Federal-funding resource. Now that Federal funding has been identified as a viable alternative to fund the cost of this signal and the associated intersection upgrades, specific procedures to secure this funding are required. County staff along with the Virginia Department of Transportation are working to complete the necessary documentation (environmental clearances, bid documents, etc.) to move this project to construction as soon as possible.</p> <p>The staff contact for this project is <b>Valerie Lee</b> who can be reached at 703-228-3722 or <a href="mailto:vlee@arlingtonva.us">vlee@arlingtonva.us</a>.</p>

**Donaldson Run Walking Town Meeting  
June 23, 2009**

Walking Tour Stop	Neighborhood Topics/Issues	Initial County Response
<b>Route: Travel north down 26<sup>th</sup> Street.</b>		
<p><b>2. <u>Intersection of 26<sup>th</sup> &amp; Wakefield Streets: Traffic Concerns</u></b></p>	<p>Residents will highlight a stop sign installed at this intersection five years ago and will express appreciation for speed enforcement that occurs throughout the neighborhood by both the Police and Sheriff Offices. Many drivers regularly ignore the Wakefield Street stop sign; residents would like to see as much enforcement as possible at this intersection.</p> <p>Residents will point out the speeding problem on smaller residential streets, several of which have met the criteria for the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program (NTC). Residents will express concern that elimination of program funding will mean that these problems will not be addressed in the near future.</p> <p>The new county-installed sidewalk along this stretch of 26<sup>th</sup> Street will be highlighted. Residents will note that a section of the sidewalk—near the service entrance to the country club—has significant broken concrete. This area of sidewalk has already been replaced once, and was damaged again. Residents ask that the County work with the country club to fix this problem.</p>	<p>The Police Department will continue to conduct periodic enforcement efforts for speeding and the stop sign at the intersection. The point of contact is <b>Captain Frantz Desamour</b> who can be reached at 703-228-4062 or <a href="mailto:fdesamour@arlingtonva.us">fdesamour@arlingtonva.us</a>.</p> <p>There are currently three streets in Donaldson Run which are on the NTC problem severity ranking list. These are Vacation Lane (Vermont to Taylor), Taylor Street (Vacation to Utah) and Vermont Street (Old Dominion to Vernon). While the problem severity scores are low, reduced funding for the program will mean that it will be much longer until traffic calming assistance can be offered. The point of contact is <b>Jeff Sikes</b> who can be reached at 703-229-3696 or <a href="mailto:jsikes@arlingtonva.us">jsikes@arlingtonva.us</a>.</p> <p>The County will work with Washington Golf and County Club to fix the problem. The point of contact is <b>Dave Donahue</b> who can be reached at 703-228-3653 or <a href="mailto:ddonahue@arlingtonva.us">ddonahue@arlingtonva.us</a>.</p>

**Donaldson Run Walking Town Meeting  
June 23, 2009**

Walking Tour Stop	Neighborhood Topics/Issues	Initial County Response
<b>Route: Continue north along 26<sup>th</sup> Street.</b>		
<p><b>3. <u>Intersection of 26<sup>th</sup> St. &amp; N Vermont: Street Improvements and Traffic Concerns</u></b></p>	<p>Residents will highlight a County-installed curb, gutter, sidewalk project, street narrowing, and new drains, which have corrected a number of issues at this intersection (and addressed flooding problems for several homeowners). The improvements slowed traffic here, but residents remain concerned that drivers still travel too fast given the terrain. Even though speeds might not reach the 35 mph level that triggers enforcement, residents would like to see enforcement at levels below 35 mph.</p>	<p>The Police Department will continue to monitor the intersection and have a visible presence to deter speeding. The point of contact is <b>Captain Frantz Desamour</b> who can be reached at 703-228-4062 or <a href="mailto:fdesamour@arlingtonva.us">fdesamour@arlingtonva.us</a>.</p>
<p><b>4. <u>Intersection of North Vernon and North Vermont Streets: Pedestrian Safety, Park Improvements and Tree Preservation</u></b></p>	<p>Residents want to highlight recent curb/gutter/sidewalk/street narrowing improvements made by the County to enhance pedestrian and vehicular safety. Residents also want to highlight the County-installed kiosks and the new way finder maps made possible by a Park Enhancement Grant.</p>	<p>The County is pleased to have the new way finding maps in place surrounding Donaldson Run. It helps create a connection to the surrounding community and provides a useful navigational tool. Questions about the process can be directed to <b>Diane Probus</b> who can be reached at 703-228-0787 or <a href="mailto:dprobus@arlingtonva.us">dprobus@arlingtonva.us</a>.</p>

**Donaldson Run Walking Town Meeting  
June 23, 2009**

Walking Tour Stop	Neighborhood Topics/Issues	Initial County Response
<p><b>4. <u>Continued</u></b></p>	<p>Residents want to find ways to preserve mature trees in construction projects. This area also provides several examples of the problem of invasive plants in both yards and parkland. With respect to yard invasives, residents would like to see a more effective outreach/education program. On parkland invasives, residents will make the point that managing park invasives is a major challenge and one that justifies the continuation of the County's invasive removal program at its current level (and expansion when funds are available).</p>	<p>The County supports exploring additional ways to protect mature trees both during and after construction. In some cases, large footprint homes permitted under the Zoning Ordinance make it difficult to protect mature trees with large root zones that extend across much of the property.</p> <p>Public education and outreach are essential components of the County's invasive plant control program. Information on controlling invasive plants on private property and discouraging the planting of invasive species will help prevent their spread into wooded parklands. Staff is currently developing new brochures for the public and is available to provide presentations and training upon request.</p> <p>Contact <b>Jenn Truong</b> at 703-228-7636 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:jtruong@vt.edu">jtruong@vt.edu</a> to schedule a community presentation and training.</p>
<p><b>Route: Enter Zachary Taylor Park via the Vermont Street entrance.</b></p>		
<p><b>5. <u>Reforestation Project</u></b></p>	<p>Residents want to highlight that several years ago; a Park Enhancement Grant was used to replant a small area of the park. Volunteers cleared kudzu and planted trees, which are doing well (though the kudzu is making a comeback, illustrating again the importance of invasive control).</p>	<p>Ongoing monitoring and control efforts are necessary for successful removal of invasive plants. Staff is available to provide training on removal techniques.</p> <p>Contact <b>Jenn Truong</b> at 703-228-7636 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:jtruong@vt.edu">jtruong@vt.edu</a>.</p>

**Donaldson Run Walking Town Meeting  
June 23, 2009**

Walking Tour Stop	Neighborhood Topics/Issues	Initial County Response
<p>5. <u>Continued</u></p>	<p>Residents want to express concern about an area above the reforestation project where homeowners have dumped leaves. Residents will express support for continued curbside pickup of grass cuttings and for outreach/education efforts, both of which could help dissuade residents from dumping yard waste into parks.</p>	<p>Staff agrees that additional outreach needs to occur to reduce illegal dumping of yard waste. As a follow up, offending property owners will be contacted about the appropriate method of waste removal.</p> <p>Brush pick up and leaf clean up can be requested by our <b>Department of Environmental Services</b> by calling 703-228-6570 or 703-228-6565.</p>
<p><b>Route: Continue along the stream trail.</b></p>		
<p>6. <u>Erosion along Tributary B of Donaldson Run Stream</u></p>	<p>Residents want to point out Tributary B's erosion problems, which have degraded water quality in the stream and have resulted in large amounts of soil being carried into the Potomac. Tributary B will be restored soon with County funding; residents want to highlight this project and express their appreciation.</p> <p>Residents also will make the point that many trees bordering the park are actually on private property. Many homeowners have chosen to keep their trees, but one nearby yard (just beyond the Resource Protection Area) was recently cleared. Residents would like to explore ways to protect mature trees not covered by existing ordinances.</p>	<p>The Tributary B stream restoration project is currently in the preliminary design phase, with construction anticipated to occur during 2010. Funding will come from both the Neighborhood Conservation Program and the Storm Water Fund.</p> <p>Arlington County will continue to explore additional ways to protect mature trees both during and after construction.</p>

**Donaldson Run Walking Town Meeting  
June 23, 2009**

Walking Tour Stop	Neighborhood Topics/Issues	Initial County Response
<p><b>6. <u>Wooden Bridge</u></b></p>	<p>Residents want to highlight and express appreciation for the wooden bridge rebuilding project. County staff accommodated the wishes of residents that the bridge be rebuilt on site to avoid tree damage.</p>	<p>There were a couple options to choose from regarding the replacement of the bridge. On site assembly and prefabricated bridges were available. The condition of the framework of the existing bridge allowed the County to refurbish it and minimize environmental impacts. Questions about construction may be directed to <b>Tunji Akiwowo</b> at 703-228-7926 or <a href="mailto:takiwowo@arlingtonva.us">takiwowo@arlingtonva.us</a>.</p>
<p><b>Route: Continue along the trail.</b></p>		
<p><b>7. <u>Stream Restoration Project</u></b></p>	<p>Residents want to highlight the stream restoration project. The neighborhood took the initiative by asking for this project, and implementation included close cooperation between County staff and residents over an extended period. This included outreach to the neighborhood to explain why stream restoration was needed. Residents will point out some of the 400 trees (which are doing well) that were planted to reforest the area along the restored stream.</p> <p>Residents also want to point out two new memorial benches which were paid for by the families of the late Sherwin Landfield and the late Kathleen Barry.</p>	<p>Stream restoration is a core component of the County's watershed management program. The Tributary B stream restoration project received \$350,000 in NC funding in 2008 for design and a portion of construction with DES funding the balance of construction costs as the association's number one priority NC project. This project will involve restoration of approximately 1,800 linear feet of stream channel using 'natural channel design' principles to improve habitat and aesthetics, and protect nearby infrastructure, including a trail and sanitary sewer lines. When completed, this project will enhance the stream restoration work completed in Zachary Taylor Park in 2006. The current project is in the preliminary design phase, with construction anticipated to occur in 2010.</p>

**Donaldson Run Walking Town Meeting  
June 23, 2009**

Walking Tour Stop	Neighborhood Topics/Issues	Initial County Response
<b>Route: Continue along trail to 2504 North Upland Street.</b>		
<p><b>8. <u>Backyard at 2504 North Upland Street</u></b></p>	<p>This wooded property, which borders Zachary Taylor Park, is protected by a conservation easement with the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust (NVCT). Residents want to express appreciation to the County for its support of NVCT efforts to preserve natural areas. Residents want to point out that the homeowner has removed a large stand of bamboo from this property. The homeowner also has planted Neighborhood Day trees for the past several years, and some are visible from the trail. Residents appreciate the tree distribution program, which results in the planting of a significant number of trees in the neighborhood each year.</p>	<p>The County is very supportive of efforts to preserve natural areas and of the efforts of residents to eliminate invasive plants such as bamboo from their properties. The County plans to continue to provide small trees for residents to plant on private property through their annual Neighborhood Day tree distribution program. Neighborhood groups may also apply for tree planting grants through a County partnership with Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment (ACE). Details and application procedures for the Tree Canopy Fund Grant Program can be found at <a href="http://www.arlingtonenvironment.org/">http://www.arlingtonenvironment.org/</a>.</p> <p>The two new benches are a beautiful addition to the park. Thanks to the Lanfield and Barry families. The benches other stone benches have been relocated to other areas of the park and provide more areas to relax and enjoy Zachary Taylor Park. Questions about the benches or installation can be directed to <b>Aaron Wohler</b> who can be reached at 703-228-7928 or <a href="mailto:awohler@arlingtonva.us">awohler@arlingtonva.us</a>.</p>
<b>Route: Continue along the trail.</b>		

**Donaldson Run Walking Town Meeting  
June 23, 2009**

Walking Tour Stop	Neighborhood Topics/Issues	Initial County Response
<p><b>9. <u>Military Road Park Entrance Area, Pedestrian Safety</u></b></p>	<p>Residents want to highlight recently installed traffic calming measures (rubber curbing, asphalt medians) to decrease speed along Military Road. Residents will point that the process was not always a smooth one; neighbors strongly supported a pedestrian-activated light near Taylor School that had been proposed by County consultants, but staff withdrew the option, deeming it confusing because it was near a flashing school zone light. Residents were disappointed with this decision and an alternative solution—a new crosswalk—took 9 months to develop.</p> <p>Despite considerable neighborhood input, the nubs installed at 26<sup>th</sup> Street met strong resistance and were eventually removed after a number of calls to the County and a neighborhood petition. Residents will point out that effective solutions have been reached when County staff has shown a willingness to listen to concerns and to be flexible in resolving problems.</p>	<p>In response to the community's request for additional pedestrian safety measures on Military Road between 26<sup>th</sup> Road and 26<sup>th</sup> Street North, the Department of Transportation (DOT) is in the process of installing a new crosswalk and rubberized median and nubs at the intersection of Military Road and 26<sup>th</sup> Street North. DOT plans to complete the installation of these measures before July 4.</p> <p>The contact for this item is <b>Bridget Obikoya</b> who can be reached at 703-228-7511 or <a href="mailto:bobikoya@arlingtonva.us">bobikoya@arlingtonva.us</a>.</p>

**Donaldson Run Walking Town Meeting  
June 23, 2009**

Walking Tour Stop	Neighborhood Topics/Issues	Initial County Response
<p><b>9. <u>Continued</u></b></p>	<p>Residents want to express appreciation for the new bridge allowing Donaldson Run to pass under Military Road, which has eliminated flooding problems on the road. Residents will express concern that the bridge design does not permit passage of aquatic and wildlife under the road and suggest consultation with naturalists in future stream and natural area projects. Residents also will express concern about the use of the park entrance as a staging area for bridge construction and the stream restoration projects, which resulted in the loss of several large trees and in the compacting of soil that will make reforestation efforts here difficult. Residents will urge the County to avoid using parkland for construction activities.</p>	<p>Staff will explore the most effective/least impact methods to remove some of the rocks under the bridge that inhibit flow and wildlife/fish passage with the construction contractor to be selected for the Tributary B stream restoration project.</p> <p>Every effort is made to minimize negative impacts on parkland during construction activity. The County will plant replacement trees through its tree planting program.</p> <p>The staff contact for the tree planting programs is <b>Patrick Wegeng</b> who can be reached at 703-228-6521 or <a href="mailto:pwegeng@arlingtonva.us">pwegeng@arlingtonva.us</a>.</p>
<p><b>10. <u>Beechwood Circle: Conservation Easements (optional)</u></b></p>	<p>Residents will point out the impressive tree canopy in this area, and the lack of trees on the property of a home built here several years ago. Residents will highlight two examples of land preservation here. The Northern Virginia Preservation Trust has purchased land within the Circle to prevent future development. In addition, a nearby property was recently put under an NVCT conservation easement. Residents appreciate the County's support of efforts to preserve natural areas on private property.</p>	<p>The County partners with the Northern Virginia Preservation Trust to obtain conservation easements as a vehicle to preserve and open space and mature trees.</p> <p>The staff contact is <b>David C. Miller</b> who can be reached at 703-228-3336 or <a href="mailto:dcmiller@arlingtonva.us">dcmiller@arlingtonva.us</a>.</p>