



## ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item  
Meeting of November 15, 2008**

**DATE:** October 31, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Request to Advertise public hearings by the Planning Commission and County Board to be held on December 1, 2008 and December 13, 2008, respectively, to enact the proposed amendment to the Arlington County Comprehensive Plan to Revise the Official Map of the County's Recycling Facilities

**C. M. RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt the attached resolution to advertise the proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Plan to update the attached map (Exhibit A) showing publicly operated recycling facilities in Arlington County.

**ISSUES:** As part of the regular process, the County Board is being requested to authorize the advertisement of a future public hearing.

**SUMMARY:** A recycling center on N. Quincy Street is being closed in December 2008 due to the Founders Square redevelopment project, which was approved by the County Board earlier this year. To replace this center, County staff is proposing two smaller recycling centers under Use Permits to be considered at the December Board meeting (Use Permit #U-2309-08-1 and #U-3210-08-1). The Comprehensive Plan contains a Recycling Facilities Map that shows the location of all current and proposed recycling centers. The proposed amendment of the Comprehensive Plan's Recycling Facilities Map would make the map consistent with the County's plan to relocate the recycling facilities as proposed in the associated Use Permits.

**BACKGROUND:** The recycling center located at 530 North Quincy Street is being closed December 31, 2008 due to private redevelopment. The Department of Environmental Services (DES) is proposing two replacement recycling centers to be located at 1021 N. Quincy Street (Quincy Park) and at 1501 N. Lincoln Street (at the rear of the property on the access drive of the Kirkwood Drive Water Pollution Control Bureau Pumping Station). Under Section 15.2-2223 of the Virginia Code, the County must show the location of existing or proposed recycling facilities as an element of its Comprehensive Plan. To comply with this requirement, The County Board adopted the Recycling Program Implementation Plan and a map showing the location of existing or proposed recycling centers as an element of the Comprehensive Plan in December 1990. On December 13, 2008, the County Board will also be considering a request for two Special

County Manager: \_\_\_\_\_

County Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff: Michael Clem

Exceptions (Use Permit #U-2309-08-1 and #U-3210-08-1) by the DES related to the operation of two proposed recycling centers.

The official recycling center map was last amended August 5, 2000 (Exhibit A). The revised Comprehensive Plan map is attached showing the location of all existing and proposed County recycling facilities (Exhibit B), including:

- 1) The existing recycling center at Columbia Pike and South Four Mile Run Drive. This center is located in a commuter parking lot and operates under the terms of Use Permit U-2698-91-1. This multi-material recycling center currently accepts newspaper, cans, glass, plastic beverage containers, mixed paper, and cardboard.
- 2) A proposed recycling center to be located in the northwest corner of Quincy Park in a gravel parking lot near the intersection of N. Quincy Street and Washington Boulevard and operated under Use Permit U-2309-08-1 (to be considered by the County Board on December 13, 2008). The site will contain up to three 30 cubic yard (approximate) roll-off containers and will accept newspaper, cans, glass, plastic containers, mixed paper, and cardboard.
- 3) A proposed recycling center to be located on Kirkwood Drive between Lee Highway and Washington Boulevard on the access driveway to Arlington County's Water Pollution Control Bureau pumping station and operated under Use Permit U-3210-08-1 (to be considered by the County Board on December 13, 2008). The site will contain up to two 30 cubic yard (approximate) roll-off containers and will accept newspaper, cans, glass, plastic containers, mixed paper, and cardboard.
- 4) The North 26<sup>th</sup> Street leaf mulch storage and distribution center. This facility provides a temporary storage site for leaves during the leaf collection season (November-January). During this time, leaf collection trucks operating in North Arlington deposit leaves here, rather than driving all the way to the County Trades Center leaf mulch processing site, to increase efficiency of the program. The leaves are ground-up and used as mulch throughout the County's parks and by its residents. This productive use is eligible for credit towards the State recycling goals the County is required to meet. During the remainder of the year (February-October), small quantities of leaf mulch and wood chips are made available at the site for residents to use for gardening and landscaping, free of charge.
- 5) The County Trades Center leaf mulch and earth products processing and distribution center, located at 4300 South 29<sup>th</sup> Street. At this site, the County's Solid Waste Division operates a processing center for leaf mulch, wood chips, and clean fill-dirt. Although the processing area is not open to the public for safety reasons, small quantities of these materials are available to the public in storage bays near the site.

It should be noted that this revision of the Recycling Center Map removes the recycling center located at 530 North Quincy Street. Refer to Exhibit A, the current map, showing existing sites. Refer to Exhibit B, the updated map, which includes the two proposed sites and the removal of the Quincy Street site.

**DISCUSSION:** At the July 17, 2008 Board Meeting, the County Board approved the private redevelopment of a parcel of land bounded by N. Quincy Street, Wilson Boulevard and N. Randolph Street (Founders Square). A County owned Recycling Center currently sits on this parcel of land, and the County's Department of Environmental Services has agreed to vacate this site as part of the redevelopment. Because the County's two recycling centers are an integral part of the County's Solid Waste Management Plan, staff initiated a search in May, 2008 for a replacement site. More than twenty sites were evaluated with regard to their proximity to the site's users, operational feasibility, and impact on nearby residents and properties. Because staff was unable to locate any acceptable site of the same operational capacity as the site to be closed, staff determined that two smaller recycling centers might pose less negative impact than a single large center and be more acceptable to nearby residents. The two locations described in item #2 and #3 above are the two sites that staff has evaluated as a satisfactory replacement for the loss of the Quincy Street Recycling Center. Staff will provide a more detailed discussion in a December Board Report pertaining to a request for a Special Exception to establish these two proposed recycling centers.

**CONCLUSION:** Staff, therefore, recommends authorization to advertise public hearings by the Planning Commission and County Board to be held on December 1, 2008 and December 13, 2008, respectively, to enact the proposed amendment to the Arlington County Comprehensive Plan to Revise the Official Map of the County's Recycling Facilities

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None, this is a technical requirement for consideration of the Use Permits. The fiscal impact of opening two recycling centers will be described in the Board Reports associated with the Use Permits for the two recycling centers.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ADVERTISEMENT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND COUNTY BOARD TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 1, 2008 AND DECEMBER 13, 2008, RESPECTIVELY, TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO UPDATE THE RECYCLING CENTER MAP**

The County Board of Arlington County hereby resolves to authorize the advertisement of public hearings by the Planning Commission and the County Board to be held on December 1, 2008 and December 13, 2008, respectively to consider the proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Plan to update the attached Recycling Center Map (See Exhibits A).