



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

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

DATE: October 17, 2008

SUBJECT: Barcroft Neighborhood Conservation Plan Update.

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the attached resolution to accept the Barcroft Neighborhood Conservation Plan Update with staff comments specified in the plan.

ISSUE: This is a review of the Barcroft Neighborhood Conservation Plan Update and no issues have been identified.

SUMMARY: The Barcroft Civic Association began work on this plan update in 2006. A written survey was distributed to every household in the neighborhood. Neighborhood Conservation (NC) staff worked extensively with volunteer plan writers to complete and review this plan update, which was approved by the Association in May of 2008. The Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee reviewed the plan update on October 9, 2008, and recommended it be forwarded to the Planning Commission and County Board for acceptance. Therefore it is recommended that the County Board accept the plan update with staff comments specified in this report.

BACKGROUND: The Barcroft neighborhood is located in South Arlington just south of Arlington Boulevard, which makes up its northern boundary. George Mason Drive makes up the eastern boundary, Columbia Pike serves as the southern boundary and Abingdon Street and the Washington and Old Dominion Bike Trail comprise the western boundary. Alcova Heights, Buckingham, Arlington Forest, Glencarlyn, Columbia Heights West and Douglass Park all surround the neighborhood. The neighborhood consists of mostly single family homes, but does contain some small apartment buildings. It is also home to the Historic Barcroft Community House, which was built during the summer of 1908 by church members to house the Methodist Episcopal Church of Barcroft. The house also served as the school for the neighborhood from 1908 to 1925.

In 2006, over 800 surveys were distributed to single family homes and townhomes throughout the neighborhood. Surveys were also distributed to each of the apartments in the neighborhood. The survey response for the neighborhood was 33 percent, which is well above the average

County Manager: _____

County Attorney: _____

Staff: Tim McIntosh, CPHD, ONS

response rate of 10 percent for Civic Associations in Arlington. In May of 2007, the Civic Association voted to adopt the plan update. On October 9, 2008, the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) reviewed and approved the Barcroft Neighborhood Conservation Plan Update and recommended that the Planning Commission and the County Board accept this plan update.

Staff has provided comments on a number of recommendations to clarify issues and provide additional information. Staff generally supports the Arlington Heights Neighborhood Conservation Plan Update and recommends County Board acceptance of the plan update, subject to staff comments attached to this report.

DISCUSSION: The Barcroft Neighborhood Conservation Plan Update contains over 100 recommendations covering a broad spectrum of topics. County staff will work to implement the community projects as initiated by the neighborhood, subject to funding availability and NCAC approval. For non-capital recommendations, NC staff will act as a liaison between the community and other County agencies. Attached is the plan update, along with staff comments, organized around various sections in the Barcroft Neighborhood Conservation Plan Update. This report and staff comments will be printed and bound with the Neighborhood Conservation Plan Update when it is published.

FISCAL IMPACT: The acceptance of the Barcroft Neighborhood Conservation Plan Update does not have any immediate fiscal impact upon County operations. If recommendations from this plan requiring funding or staff resources outside of the NC bond allocation are brought forward for implementation, they will each be analyzed as part of the County budget process.