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October 11, 2012

COUNTY BOARD OFFICE
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The Arlington County Board
2100 Clarendon Boulevard
Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22201

Re: Rocky Run Park Redesign

Dear Arlington County Board Members,

Thank you to Ms. Hynes and Mr. Tejada for your visit to the Williamsburg Condominium on August 15th to discuss the plans for Rocky Run Park. It was a very informative session, and we appreciate your time and consideration on this issue. We understand from this meeting that the current plan calls for the lights on the sports fields to be turned off by 10:00 p.m., that the skating feature will not occur during Phase I construction, and that there will be no leagues playing in the park. If our understanding is not correct, please let us know.

We continue to be concerned about the increased noise and decreased green space associated with the plan. The addition of two more sporting features, along with the lighting of all three sports fields/courts until 10:00 p.m., will increase the noise levels beyond those expected in a residential area. It is possible with this plan that 60 to 70 sports players at a time would be in this one square block park, which has no off-street parking.

The movement of the basketball court from its current location on Barton Street to the center of the park, and the addition of another basketball/multi-use court in the same area, will result in the noise from all three courts transmitting directly across a narrow side street to our residential building, increasing noise in general, and impacting a greater percentage of our 266 unit owners than the current configuration.

As we, along the other communities abutting the park, are a residential community, we would have preferred features more compatible with a park than an outdoor sporting facility. In this respect, the plan neglects the needs of a significant portion of the neighborhood population. For example, a quiet, passive green area to sit, read, walk or contemplate would be

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more compatible with a residential area. While Phase II is scheduled to add more park-like features, the space for Phase II appears to be located between the electric substation and Barton Street, a busy road.

If we had known of these draft plans earlier, we would have had significant recommendations (i.e., consolidate the children's play areas away from the busy road, vice near it). Given where these plans now are in the process, our current recommendations are to eliminate the skating feature and the additional sporting court, and to turn the lights off by 9:00 p.m. each evening.

We would have preferred to concur with the park plans, and to look forward to the results of a lengthy, expensive, inconvenient construction project in our small neighborhood park. Based on the current plan, we look forward to neither the construction, nor the outcome.

Should there be an opportunity for discussions on modifying this plan, we would be happy to contribute to those discussions.

Sincerely,

(Neil Stamplowski)

Clara DeNino

Robert B. Nagy

Board of Directors
The Williamsburg Condominium