



## ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

<p><b>County Board Agenda Item Meeting of June 17, 2008</b></p>
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**DATE:** June 17, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Memorial Plaque and Bench

**C. M. RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the dedication of a plaque and bench at Maury Park memorializing William L. Hughes, as recommended by the Park and Recreation Commission.

**ISSUES:** In compliance with the County Plaque Policy, the County Board is requested to approve the placement of a memorial plaque as recommended by the Park and Recreation Commission.

**SUMMARY:** The Park and Recreation Commission recommends that a plaque be dedicated to William L. Hughes in Maury Park. As required by the County's Policy on Placement of Memorial or Recognition Plaques, the Park and Recreation Commission solicited the opinions of the Historical Affairs and Landmark Review Board ("HARLB"), Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee ("NCAC") and the appropriate neighborhood civic association(s). HARLB, NCAC and Ashton Heights Civic Association all support the proposed plaque and bench. Staff agrees that the proposed William L. Hughes plaque meets the County Board's adopted plaque policy guidelines.

**BACKGROUND:** On July 10, 1999 the County Board adopted a revised policy for placement of memorial or recognition plaques (Attachment 1). The policy specifies that plaques must honor an individual whom the requesting organization/individual can demonstrate contributed significantly to the community through participation in community activities or other relevant state or national service. The policy charges the Park and Recreation Commission with making recommendations to the County Board concerning proposed memorial or recognition plaques. As part of the consultation and recommendation process, the Commission must seek comments from the Historical Affairs and Landmark Review Board, Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee and the appropriate neighborhood civic association(s).

On September 20, 2007, Gary W. Kirkbride sent a letter requesting the approval of a memorial plaque and bench for William L. Hughes to the Historic Affairs Landmark Review Board, the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee, Ashton Heights Civic Association, and the

<p>County Manager: _____</p>
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<p>County Attorney: _____</p>
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<p>Staff:</p>
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Park and Recreation Commission (Attachment 2). Mr. Hughes was a long time employee of Arlington County who was instrumental in the planning and growth of the County infrastructure for more than 30 years.

**DISCUSSION:** The HALRB voted unanimously to support the Hughes memorial plaque and requested the plaque include one or two sentences about Mr. Hughes' contributions. The Ashton Heights Civic Association supports the request, as long as the bench and plaque are appropriately placed in the park. NCAC has no objection to the memorial plaque and bench in Maury Park. The recommended bronze plaque will be inscribed "In Honor of William L. Hughes – He Loved Children." The proposed Hughes Memorial Plaque would be placed on a new bench in Maury Park, at the rear of the Arlington Art Center.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** There is no fiscal impact to the County. All costs associated with the fabrication of the bronze memorial plaque and the new bench is the responsibility of the individual/ community organization making the request. The plaque and bench will be funded from a gift provided by the Hughes Fund. Minimal County staff time is required to install the plaque and bench at Maury Park.