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Board Matter

July 28, 2015

Madam Chairman — The renovation of the Murraygate Apartments by the Fairfax County Housing and Community Development Department has generated a time sensitive and unique partnering opportunity with the adjoining community to provide a public athletic field facility in this underserved area of the Route 1 corridor. This rare opportunity to build a strategically located, public use field will benefit not only the families in HCD housing but all residents in the surrounding communities.

Today, the residential area surrounding Murraygate has a projected deficit of 11.5 rectangular athletic fields. In addition, Richmond Highway is a barrier for these communities that depend on pedestrian access to public facilities. Installing an athletic field in the community will support the tremendous needs of the neighborhoods in the Hybla Valley area. This area, dominated by high density apartments, trailers, and many low income families with limited access to recreational amenities, has been targeted by the Partnership for Healthier Fairfax to provide ways for children to recreate and lead healthy lives.

After consultation with staff from Housing, the Park Authority, Neighborhood and Community Services, and Deputy County Executive Rob Stalzer, we believe funding is needed for a parking analysis, feasibility study, and preliminary design for a community athletic field.

Therefore, Madam Chairman, I move that the Board direct staff to add a \$100,000 consideration item for this request to the Carryover package.