



Laurel Hill
Project Advisory Committee

Gerry Connolly, Chairman
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors
12000 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, Va. 22035

August 14, 2007

Dear Chairman Connolly,

During the July 9, 2007 meeting of the Laurel Hill Project Advisory Committee, the members of the committee voted to recommend support of the planned engineering study of the Penitentiary wall and guard towers. The study will be conducted by the County's Facilities Management Department. The Project Advisory Committee believes the study will provide useful cost and engineering information when considering future adaptive reuse scenarios.

The Project Advisory Committee also approved a motion to re-emphasize the original Task Force recommendation of workforce housing at the Reformatory-Penitentiary site. Recent news reports have once again highlighted the difficulties for many County employees to live in the county where they work (*Washington Examiner*, August 6, 2007, "Half of Fairfax Employees Live Outside County"). The Task Force recommendation, as adopted by the Board of Supervisors, called for "magnet housing" to support police, teachers and firefighters. Their workforce housing units would be ancillary to nearby facilities, such as the South County Secondary School, the proposed middle school, nearby fire stations and a future police substation.

As described in the Task Force recommendations,

"Magnet housing units would be designed to attract residents who want to participate in a focused living and learning environment that features affordable, attractive housing in a condominium or loft style setting, intermixed with a variety of educational opportunities and associated with a sponsoring employer. Magnet housing should be used in support of an education or other scenario at the penitentiary or in support of public employees such as school teachers, firefighter and police trainees."

- Page 57, *Recommendations: Laurel Hill Adaptive Reuse Citizens Advisory Committee, Nov. 2004*

As always, please feel free to contact members of the Project Advisory Committee with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Timothy J. Sargeant". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Tim Sargeant, Chair
Laurel Hill Project Advisory Committee

cc: Fairfax County Board of Supervisors
Tony Griffin, County Executive
Jim Zook, Director, Department of Planning and Zoning
Chris Caperton, Laurel Hill Project Coordinator
Bob Cosgriff, Laurel Hill Project Advisory Committee
Doug Wrenn, Laurel Hill Project Advisory Committee