



# FAIRFAX COUNTY

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September 22, 2014

Dear Mason District Resident:

After more than two years of work and many public meetings, the Seven Corners Land Use and Transportation Task Force (Task Force) is about to conclude its work and offer recommendations for possible Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan) amendments to be considered by the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors. The Task Force was created in 2012 after a series of well-attended public workshops (more than 150 people participated) that, essentially, performed a SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) for the Seven Corners/Willston area. I assembled the workshops and obtained county funding for this study in response to demands from local residents desiring revitalization, improved transportation, and quality of life in the Seven Corners/Willston area. Workshop attendees were invited to complete a participation form from which I selected members to serve on the Task Force, as well as two shorter-term workgroups, Connectivity and Quality of Life. In selecting Task Force members, I tried to balance both residential members, who represented immediately abutting neighborhoods, and owners or agents of the area's significant commercial properties.

The Task Force was charged with creating long-term (the next 20 to 40 years) land use recommendations for the future of Seven Corners. As noted above, the parameters of this planning effort include two years of study and community input to develop the planning vision for Seven Corners/Willston. At my request, the original study period and meeting schedule was extended to offer continued community input and Task Force deliberation on the new planning vision. While this extension allowed for additional community input, consensus amongst the Task Force members and in the community for the recommendations of Opportunity Area C, more commonly called the Sears site, has not yet been reached.

The Task Force's work will conclude at its October 1 meeting, and I am authorizing additional study of the Sears site to be performed by community representatives and county staff. I am asking the residential members of the Task Force to serve on this special committee, and I also will ask the presidents of several nearby civic associations to serve on the panel. The presidents may defer to an already existing Task Force member, or may appoint one person to represent their civic association on the panel. I have asked Martin Faga, a 30-year resident of Ravenwood, a member of the Task Force, and former CEO of the MITRE Corporation, to chair the group. The special committee will spend the next three months reviewing the Task Force work on the Sears site, and make its own recommendations that can be incorporated into the Task Force report. The membership and meeting schedule is still in development, and I anticipate that the meetings will continue to be held on Tuesday evenings at the Mason District

Governmental Center, following the process used by the Task Force. Notices of their meetings will be included on the Mason District Supervisor's website.

The Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors public hearing dates for the Seven Corners/Willston Comprehensive Plan amendment, originally scheduled for November and December, have been deferred until 2015. I want to thank the members of the Task Force who put in so much time and effort to address the issues identified in the Comp Plan amendment process. Their work sets the stage for the special committee's examination of Opportunity Area C, and I look forward to the results that will envision the future of Seven Corners/Willston as a vibrant place to live, work, play, worship, and grow old.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Penelope A. Gross". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Penelope A. Gross  
Mason District Supervisor