FAIRFAX COUNTY

FAIRFAX COUNTY
REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING
AUTHORITY

3700 Pender Drive, Suite 300
Fairfax, Virginia 22030-7444

V I R G I N I A

Telephone: (703) 246-5010 ♦ Fax: (703) 246-511:
TTY: (703) 385-3578

June 20, 2012

Mr. Peter F. Murphy, Jr.
Chairman
Fairfax County Planning Commission
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 330
Fairfax, VA 22035

Dear Mr. Murphy:

As Chair and Vice Chair of the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority (FCRHA), we are writing to express our concerns regarding the Planning Commission Tysons Committee's "strawman" recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. Specifically, we object to the lack of commitment for a specific timeframe on moving forward with extending the Tysons Plan's non-residential contribution to affordable housing countywide. We implore you to move consideration of the Affordable Housing Policy, referenced as "Follow on Motion #17a" on lines 522-528 of the recommendations, to the forefront, with a timeline that has the Planning Commission making a recommendation to the Board of by the end of this calendar year.

Our needs are too great to wait for a 'better time' to consider expanding the Policy Plan to incorporate a countywide non-residential contribution to affordable housing, similar to that found in the Tysons Plan. Fairfax County's Housing Blueprint for Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013 specifically calls for the adoption of such a countywide policy. Our future economic growth as a county requires the provision of housing affordable to a variety of incomes countywide.

Therefore, we propose the following language to replace the existing statement on Follow on Motion #17a-Affordable Housing Policy:

"This motion asked that the Planning Commission examine modifying the Policy Plan to incorporate a policy supporting a non-residential contribution to affordable housing similar to the recommendation in the Tysons Plan. Since this proposed policy is called for in the Housing Blueprint, will be applicable countywide and will contribute an important component in the provision of affordable housing throughout the County, time is of the essence in implementing this policy countywide. To this end, the County will undertake extensive public outreach within the next three months, with a recommendation by the Planning Commission to the Board of Supervisors within six months, or the end of the calendar year - 2012."

The timing of the release of the strawman document, unfortunately, did not allow for formal action by the FCRHA; therefore, the opinions expressed here are our own. However, we thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this very important issue and urge you to consider our recommendations.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Lardner
Chairman

Richard C. Sullivan, Jr.
Vice Chairman