

**McLean Citizens Association Resolution
On a Proposed Expansion of Services to a Downtown Location
by the McLean Community Center**

June 6, 2007

WHEREAS, the McLean Community Center Board ("**MCC**") has determined it has a need to expand its facilities to best serve the community, and

WHEREAS, a survey of McLean households conducted in November 2006 by George Mason University on behalf of the MCC showed resident support for adding such uses as a dance/fitness studio, an art studio, a physical recreation space, and a 100-seat theatre, and

WHEREAS, the expansion of the MCC's main building, at 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean ("**Ingleside Building**"), outside the footprint of the existing structure would trigger a cost (above and beyond the actual cost of any addition) of approximately \$1,000,000 to comply with county code requirements which do not apply to that building as long as it retains its current footprint, and

WHEREAS, the anticipated expansion of the Dolley Madison Library, which is located adjacent to the Ingleside Building, will decrease the amount of open space available for drainage and recreational use in the area around the Ingleside Building, and

WHEREAS, the MCC has an agreement with Fairfax County for the use of the "Old Firehouse Teen Center Building" ("**OFTC**"), located at 1440 Chain Bridge Road, next to the Giant Shopping Center, in downtown McLean, and

WHEREAS, the OFTC, because it is centrally located in downtown McLean, lies within walking distance of a larger daytime population than the Ingleside Building, and

WHEREAS, a downtown McLean property could serve to accommodate MCC activities, such as those which the above-referenced survey confirmed a need for, and

WHEREAS, the MCC Board has indicated that any construction done in downtown McLean on its behalf will not result in an increased tax rate to residents, and

WHEREAS, at present, the OFTC is unused during portions of the day when middle school students are in school (suggesting that some dual use of facilities at a downtown location is feasible), and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding any possible dual use, the MCC is committed to dedicating at least a portion of any downtown location to the sole use of a teen center,

WHEREAS, another George Mason survey found that, among local middle schoolers and the parents of local middle schoolers, there is a preference for modifying the OFTC property over keeping it as is, moving the Teen Center to the Ingleside Building, or moving the Teen Center into an annex (specifically built to accommodate it) at Longfellow Middle School, and

WHEREAS, both the McLean Planning Committee ("**MPC**"), and the McLean Revitalization Corporation ("**MRC**") are well positioned to evaluate any changes that may be necessary in the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan to best accommodate MCC activities at a downtown McLean location,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the McLean Citizens Association supports the concept of locating a facility for MCC uses in downtown McLean, and recommends that the MCC work with the MPC and the MRC to determine the optimal way of achieving that goal, including the possible retention and renovation of the OFTC.

cc: The Honorable Joan Dubois, Fairfax County Supervisor for the Dranesville District

Ms Nancy Hopkins, Dranesville District Planning Commissioner

McLean Community Center Board

Fairfax County Planning Commission

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

McLean Revitalization Corporation, via MCA liaison

McLean Planning Committee, via MCA liaison