

MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS (MVCCA) Resolution
"Recommendations to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on the County's April 23, 2024,
Memorandum on the Proposed Flooding Workplan" (E&R and SW 2024 J01)

Whereas: In March 2021, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Association (MVCCA) formed a Special Committee on Stormwater to investigate Mount Vernon District residents' complaints regarding stormwater problems affecting their homes and neighborhoods.

Whereas: In April 2021, the Committee published an action plan stating its intent to identify homeowners/communities with stormwater issues, examine cause(s) and resultant harm, and work to remedy existing problems.

Whereas: Through a MVCCA survey of its member organizations in 2021, Mount Vernon District residents identified over 100 sites with stormwater issues.

Whereas: Causes of identified stormwater problems include inadequate stormwater infrastructure, increases in adjacent and near-by impervious surfaces, climate change, and inadequate ordinances, regulations, and best practices necessary to mitigate existing and future rain-driven flooding problems.

Whereas: Many homeowners in the Mount Vernon District reported they incurred considerable expense to remedy stormwater problems resulting from inadequate infrastructure, increases to impervious surfaces in neighboring properties, or inadequate ordinances, regulations, and best practices.

Whereas: The County Executive memo of April 23, 2024, provided an interim update on flooding in the County; summarized the nature and extent of the flooding problem in Fairfax County; and requested advice from the Board of Supervisors on a way forward to address the problems.

Whereas: The County Executive's memorandum identifies a 3-element approach to mitigating flooding issues, consisting of projects, programs, and regulatory changes to address the issues.

Whereas: Regarding projects, the memorandum states that County staff identified over 500 currently existing problematic flood related issues requiring attention to mitigate flood hazards and estimates \$600 million is needed to address these problems.

Whereas: Regarding programs, the memorandum identifies the expansion of existing, as well as new program elements, e.g., grants, citizen assistance, etc., to mitigate flooding issues.

Whereas: Regarding regulatory changes, the memorandum acknowledges that changes to existing County regulations could help prevent flooding issues, and examines past changes and recommends additional changes to the regulatory framework for such purposes, including updates to the Zoning and Stormwater Management Ordinances, Public Facilities Manual, the Comprehensive Plan's Environmental Policy, and other policy materials to better ensure flood-resilient and climate-ready communities, in alignment with the Resilient Fairfax plan.

Whereas: If left unaddressed due to a lack of funding or rules changes, flooding issues will continue to have a grave and growing impact on residents of the Mount Vernon community as well as other communities in Fairfax County.

Therefore, Be It Resolved: The MVCCA recognizes the importance of the elements outlined in the County Executive's memorandum and asks the Board of Supervisors to move quickly to implement the memorandum's project, program, and regulatory change elements, and more specifically provide:

(1) direct financial assistance to individual homeowners to defray costs of correcting problems through individual grants or other such conveyances, and

(2) direct intervention by Fairfax County offices charged with stormwater management to fulfill their responsibilities, especially improvement, replacement, and maintenance of stormwater infrastructure, so that residents and businesses will not be adversely impacted by flooding.

Be it Further Resolved: The MVCCA asks the Board of Supervisors to fund priority flood-related needs by examining and re-allocating line-item funding of Stormwater Fee revenues in the current 2025 budget; using carry-over funding from previous budget year; aggressively seeking and securing grants from federal, state, and other sources to support this work; and incorporating funding into future years budgets by pursuing any other available funding mechanisms to correct problems attributable to stormwater.

Be it Finally Resolved: The MVCCA asks the Board of Supervisors to add a quarter penny to the budget years to support the needs identified in the County Executive's memorandum,

APPROVED BY THE MVCCA GENERAL COUNCIL JUNE 26, 2024