

# The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, Inc.

**P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-9998** **http://www.mvcca.org**

December 29, 2008

Supervisor Gerald W. Hyland
2511 Parkers Lane
Alexandria, VA 22306

Dear Supervisor Hyland:

Attached for your action please find a Resolution of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA) adopted on December 17, 2008, entitled "Full Disclosure in Fairfax County's FY2010 Advertised Budget Plan".

The MVCCA applauds your unprecedented efforts to obtain citizen input on the appropriate balance of services and tax burden through the series of public information meetings held throughout the County.

In order to continue this public discourse and provide input to the Board in these difficult financial times the MVCCA contends that the citizens should have the benefit of full disclosure of the funds needed to continue to provide important County services, including the school system, at an appropriate level in FY2010 and beyond.

Similarly, the MVCCA urges that the FY2010 Advertised Budget Plan should disclose and specify the real property tax rates (residential and commercial) and any other revenue enhancements that would be needed to support all such services, in order to:

- ✓ Enable the public through the hearing process to better assist the Board in balancing the tax burden with the level of services provided.
- ✓ Provide the Board with flexibility in responding to citizen concerns and in fulfilling its duty of stewardship of quality of life in Fairfax County.

Recognizing that the Board of Supervisors cannot raise tax rates above what is included in the FY2010 Advertised Budget Plan, the MVCCA requests that the FY2010 Advertised Budget Plan does not presuppose cuts in services or the transfer to the school system by virtue of too small a limit on tax rate increases. The citizens may prefer to provide funding instead of accepting a loss of services; this option should not be taken away by the limits of the FY2010 Advertised Budget Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

David Dale
Co-Chair, Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations

cc: Clerk to the Board of Supervisors