

MVCCA EDUC 2009-2

In Support of South County Middle School

WHEREAS Fairfax County Public School (“FCPS”) staff have recommended that a stand-alone of South County Middle School be included in the FY2010-2014 Capital Improvement Plan (“CIP”) to be adopted by the Fairfax County School Board in January 2009; and

WHEREAS construction of South County Middle School (“SCMS”) not later than the currently proposed completion date of December 31, 2011 would alleviate severe overcrowding at South County Secondary School (“SCSS”), would permit SCSS to be returned to its originally intended function as a high school thereby increasing its capacity, and would eliminate the current need for continual boundary adjustments, splitting of communities, transportation problems, and fragmenting of student educational experiences to address continued area growth and overcrowding; and

WHEREAS the area surrounding the current SCSS and the proposed SCMS is among the fastest growing in the County and its close proximity to Ft. Belvoir makes it likely that such growth will increase as a result of on-going Base Realignment and Closure (“BRAC”) activities; and

WHEREAS BRAC will likely also impact schools now receiving “overflow” from SCSS (Hayfield, Lake Braddock, West Springfield), so that failure to promptly construct SCMS and return SCSS to high school status may exacerbate overcrowding in surrounding schools as well as SCSS; and

WHEREAS because construction of the current SCSS was made possible in part by a public-private partnership which also envisioned prompt construction of the promised middle school, and similar efforts are underway to assist in construction of SCMS, inclusion on the CIP both assists and encourages those efforts and fulfills the reasonable expectations of the community,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens’ Associations urges the Fairfax County School Board to accept the staff recommendation to include a stand-alone South County Middle School in the FY2010-2014 Capital Improvement Plan.