Lafayette Village Community Association

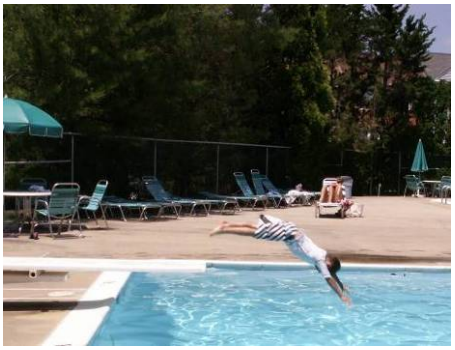
June/July 2010 Newsletter

Traffic Calming Community Meeting Set for June 23rd

The Traffic Calming Task Force will hold a community meeting on Wednesday, June 23rd at 7:00pm in the large conference room at the Mason District Government Center, 6507 Columbia Pike. Members of the task force will present the proposed plan at the meeting and will listen to community feedback. A Fairfax County traffic engineer will be present to answer questions.

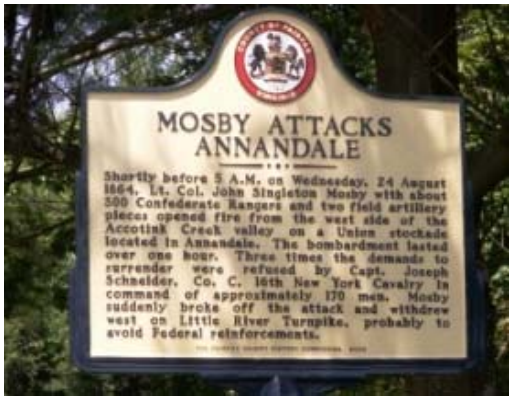
Information about the traffic calming plan can be found in the last section of this Newsletter, starting on page 11.

Diving into Summer!



The Lafayette Village Pool opened on Memorial Day weekend, just in time to let residents cool off on a hot weekend..

Board Vacancy – There is a vacancy on the LVCA Board of Directors for a term that expires October 2010. If you or someone you know is interested in filling this vacancy, please contact Jay Jarvis at Jay@JCLInsurance.com.



In this issue…

- *Traffic Calming Plan for Lafayette Village Drive*
- *Committee Reports/Schedule*
- *Arbor/Earth Day photos*
- *"Prez Sez" column: Deer Hunting on LVCA Land?*

Save the date:

7:15pm Tuesday, August 3, 2010

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT ·2010·

POLICE•COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Moon bounce, police officers, crime prevention and safety tips!

See August-September Newsletter for details!

Our Community Information…

LVCA Board Members

Jay Jarvis - President
703-280-5812
Jay@JCLInsurance.com
Vice President
Vacant
Sean Walsh – Treasurer
im_sean@msn.com
Michele Krahn - Secretary
703-573-4180
mokrahn@msn.com
Shawn Howard – Member-at-Large
703-560-7109
howardshawn@gmail.com

LVCA Committee Chairs

Architectural Control – Mary Coyle
MaryECoyle@cox.net
Grounds – John Alexander
703-208-9614
jmalex14@msn.com
Finance – Sean Walsh
im_sean@msn.com
Pool & Recreation – Linda Witham
703-698-7455
llwitham@verizon.net
Communications –Carl Iddings
lvcawebmaster@lafayettevillage.org
Neighborhood Watch – Fred Saah
703-641-0446
fred300@gmail.com

Klingbeil, Powell and Alrutz Inc. (KPA)

Diane Tschirhart
Dtschirhart@kpamgmt.com
Phone: 703-532-5005
Fax: 703-532-5098
6400 Arlington Boulevard, Suite 700
Falls Church, VA 22042-2336

REMINDER: Third Quarter Assessments are due July 1, 2010. Please enclose the July coupon with your check and make sure you mail your check in time to be received by July 15th.

LAFAYETTE VILLAGE COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

Monthly Meetings (Check Website for Details)

Board Meetings - 2nd Monday of month at 7:00 PM at the Mason District Government Building, 6507 Columbia Pike. (June 14 and July 12)

ACC Meetings - 3rd Monday of month at 7:00 PM at 7882 Hampton Village Pass (June 21 and July 19)

Grounds Meetings – 4th Thursday of month at 7:15 PM at 7900 Peyton Forest Trail. (June 24 and July 22)

Finance Committee – 4th Tuesday of month at 7:00 PM. Contact the Chair for location. (June 22 and July 27)

Neighborhood Watch – Tuesdays after the Board meeting at 7:30 PM at 3721 Yorktown Village Pass (June 15 and July 6)

All residents, including renters, are invited to attend scheduled meetings. Please check the website for the most current information: http://www.lafayettevillage.org/

Notes: The Historical Marker shown on the Newsletter Front Page memorializes a civil war skirmish that occurred 146 years ago close to our community. Lt. Col. Mosby and 350 of his Rangers opened fire somewhere across the west side of Accotink Creek (across the present-day Beltway) on a Union stockade in Annandale. The marker is located at the corner of Championship Drive and Lafayette Village Drive.

This newsletter also features two advertisements submitted by Lafayette Village residents who own local businesses. If you own a business and would like to submit an ad for a future newsletter, contact the editor at lvcawebmaster@lafayettevillage.org.

Please support your neighbors and local businesses!

Contributors to this edition: Thanks to Mary Coyle, the Arnettes, Fred Saah, John Alexander, Anne Sansbury, Maria Ugincius, Supervisor Penny Gross, Jay Jarvis, Kristin Walsh, the Traffic Calming Task Force, and those who submitted contractor recommendations!

Prez Sez: Deer Hunting on LVCA Lands?

by Jay Jarvis, LVCA President

To allow bow and arrow deer hunting on Association property or not is one of the questions your Board will discuss at the June 14th meeting. For the last two years the Board has voted to allow bow hunting to control the size of the herd that frequents our property.

During the May meeting the Board took a tentative vote not to allow hunting. Some residents asked the Board to reconsider. At the beginning of the June meeting, we will have two speakers who will give information on why it is important to control the deer population, how it should be done and if our community should allow controlled hunting again. All hunting is done by archery.

Roger Jask, who represent the Suburban Whitetail Management of Northern Virginia (http://www.swmnv.com/) writes, "Last season, we removed five deer from the area [of woods between Merrimac Trial and the townhomes] and also four from the area near the fields alongside 495. We stay away from the townhouses and try to be as unobtrusive as possible. The deer usually travel a small narrow path and we are fifteen feet up a tree and must be within twenty yards of the deer before we can take a bow shot. Finding the right tree on a landowner's small property is difficult but with the HOA woods added in we have found four or five spots where we can effectively hunt the deer trails. Deer mostly feed in the night time, so you may not see them when you are out in the day. Our hunts are usually in the first two hours of the morning or the last two hours before night fall and only during weekdays. No weekend hunting."

Also speaking will be Vicky Monroe, Fairfax County Wildlife Biologist, who is responsible for developing and implementing the County's Deer Management Program each year. If needed, she can help get County approval to expand the hunt to county property.

If the Board votes to allow hunting, a permit is required from Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/). This agency may send out their own people to determine if a hunt is appropriate.

One other issue is where LVCA property ends and county parkland begins. There is some confusion as to land ownership of the wooded area behind Byrds Nest Pass and Mt. Airey Lane.

Our June meeting will begin with our two guest speakers. They will speak for approximately 15 minutes, and will take questions and comments from our residents. This will be followed by Citizen's Comments on any subject. The Citizen's Comments portion will be the opportunity for residents to give their views to the Board about whether the Board should vote to allow bow hunting on LVCA property for another year. The Board will take up the issue later in the meeting. When the resolution is made, only Board members will be allowed to voice their views.

Lafayette Village celebrated Arbor Day, Earth Day....

Lafayette Village Celebrates Earth Day/Arbor Day

Lafayette Village held a joint celebration for Earth Day and Arbor Day again this year with our traditional Great Trash Treasure Hunt, followed by a community cookout and tree planting. Many families came out in the morning to participate in the Great Trash Treasure Hunt, collecting 7 bags of trash while finding many golden coins (the treasure) in the process.

Later, about 40 residents gathered in Trammell Park for a community cookout, featuring hot dogs, chips and sodas. Our Congressional Representative Gerry Connolly, County Chair Sharon Bulova and our Mason District Supervisor, Penny Gross assisted the LVCA Board of Directors in the tree planting, a beautiful Magnolia, and joined our barbecue. The kids enjoyed the moon bounce, and the weather, after threatening rain, held off until our celebration was over.

Thanks to the many families and adult volunteers who made this day both productive and fun. A special thank you to Jay Jarvis, John Alexander and Anne Sansbury of the Grounds Committee for planning and running the event, and Gerry Connolly, Sharon Bulova, and Penny Gross for their participation.

Scenes from Arbor/Earth Day:

Receive LVCA news and notices by email: send your request to lvcawebmaster@lafayettevillage.org

Community Updates and Recap…

Finance Committee:
Highlights from the Finance Committee:

1. The finance committee continues to transition our funds into a managed account with Wells Fargo. The bank will recommend the best CDs and money markets for placing association funds.
2. Currently the Association is under budget by approx. $40K. This variance is largely accounted for by the $23K deposit we received from the State for the HOT lanes project. Please note $23K is not what the Association has settled for, just a deposit received from the State.
3. Snow removal – the Association was over budget by $8K for snow removal this year. The county has cut its budget for snow removal so this line will be adjusted in future years for the Association.
4. Current reserves are $360K. There are pool expenses and street repairs anticipated over the next few years which will draw upon these reserves.
5. Delinquencies continue to rise. Currently the Association has $47K in delinquencies.

Grounds Committee
With summer right around the corner, the Grounds Committee is in full swing with neighborhood projects. We've taken a complete survey and inventory of the townhome **mailboxes**. About a third have been replaced in the last couple of years. We are planning to tackle another third this year and the rest next year. In addition, we are collecting bids to fix the **curbs** and **sidewalks** throughout the community. Over the next couple of weeks, we'll be tagging **trees for trimming and removal**. If there are particular trees you would like trimmed or removed, please email me at jmalex14@msn.com. Please remember, though, that trees in front yards are the responsibility of the homeowner.

One Grounds Committee project is growing madly: the **community gardens**! Here is a report from the front lines:

> The gardens at Lafayette Village were already flourishing in May because we were able to get off to an early start with flowers and early vegetables, as well as a fabulous crop of perennial strawberries and at least one grape vine. Among the other crops growing and/or producing are kale, bok choy, cabbage, swiss chard, lettuce, carrots, onions, spaghetti squash, cucumbers, zucchini, eggplant, spinach, string beans, peppers, and lots and lots of tomatoes.
>
> The gardeners are getting smarter and smarter about fending off strong winds and minor droughts, but the ubiquitous weeds require nothing short of constant hard work, and they don't seem to care that they aren't welcome in our garden area. We're waiting for a report on some magic granules that are touted to keep weeds away and allow crops to grow unimpeded. We'll see about that. Meanwhile, the lady bugs, bees and worms are hard at work, helping us get rid of the bad bugs, pollinate the crops, and till the soil. So far it's a very successful season – and it's barely begun!

If you are interested in participating in the community garden in future years, email the Grounds Committee at jmalex14@msn.com. If there is sufficient interest, we will create additional plots for the next planting season!

Pool and Recreation Committee

The pool opened on schedule Memorial Day weekend, and residents have been enjoying the sun and water will all the summer-like weather we've experienced this June.

If you have not applied for your 2010 pool passes, you can find the application and submission procedures on the website at www.lafayettevillage.org/pooll.htm.

Life guard Andrew McDowell and pool manager Patrick Samuels

Communications Committee
Did you know that you can submit ads, articles, recipes and comments to the newsletter? All submissions will be *considered* for inclusion. Please submit your entries to

lvcawebmaster@lafayettevillage.org. Lafayette Village makes it easy to stay informed through the newsletter, website and monthly Board meetings. The next newsletter will be available July 30, 2010. Articles and submissions are due by July 27th.

Neighborhood Watch Committee – Vehicle break-ins seem to have started again. There have been several reported break-ins the last month. While it is hard to eliminate them completely there are several things that can be done to deter the criminals.

1) Do not leave valuables exposed in parked cars (GPS, satellite radios, iPods, cell phones, laptops, etc.)
2) Make sure your vehicle is locked.
3) If you park in front of your house, leave your exterior lights on.

This has all been repeated in the past but we still keep getting reports of things being stolen from the inside of vehicles. Note that when airbags or other vehicle parts are stolen, that is usually the result of professionals and it is much harder to stop them.

Neighborhood Watch Committee, cont. – There was a reported incident that was not in our neighborhood but residents should be aware since it was close. There was an attempted assault in which a woman appeared to be lured out of her home because her air conditioner was not working. When she went outside to investigate she was grabbed. She screamed and the suspect ran away. Please be aware of your surroundings when going out at night.

Finally, at the next neighborhood watch meeting (July 8th) we will be finalizing plans for the National Night Out (NNO). If anyone has any suggestions for NNO, please email fred300@gmail.com or plan to attend the meeting. Last year was a success and this year could be even better.

Architectural Control Committee (ACC):

SPRING WALKTHROUGH

The Spring Walkthrough has been completed and violation notifications should have been received. Annual inspections benefit the entire community if potential homebuyers see that the homes in our community are in good repair during the busy spring buying season. If you have received a violation notification, it is important to review the repairs and/or improvements outlined in the violation letter immediately, and to contact KPA, our management company as soon as possible. If needed work will require more time to complete, write or e-mail KPA (Dtschirhart@kpamgmt.com) and let them know when the work will be completed. KPA will be flexible and work with you to establish reasonable time frames. Your ACC Street Captains (see below) are also available to assist you in resolving problems, but the first response for any violation notification must be to KPA.

RECORD KEEPING

The ACC has developed a new record keeping scheme in order to allow for more accurate property status tracking. Although the Spring walkthrough has been completed there are still some unreported and/or ongoing violations that need to be addressed. Hopefully, in the long run, the new record keeping format will prove to be more effective in tracking and resolving problems throughout LVCA.

HOMEOWNER REQUESTS

Although it's been relatively quiet regarding homeowner requests, we expect that things will pick up throughout the spring and summer. Recent homeowner requests have included:

- Garage Door Replacement
- Front Door Replacement
- Siding Replacements
- Color Changes
- Window Replacements
- Tree and bush Replacements/Removal

Community Updates and Recap, cont.…

ONGOING PROBLEMS

- **Trash placed outside at inappropriate times and/or trash receptacles stored in public view, behind bushes, etc. -** These two practices have been an ongoing problem and are the source of most complaints to the ACC by neighbors annoyed by the practice. Not only is it unfair and very frustrating to neighbors who do attempt to maintain their properties, it has an adverse effect on the appearance of the neighborhood during this busy spring real estate season.
- **Exposed Wires** – Several homeowners have been cited for having exposed cable and/or antenna wires. While it is not always possible to completely hide them, hiding wires behind downspouts and tacked tightly under the bay or box windows where possible will minimize the unsightly appearance. If you have been cited and have questions, please work with KPA to address a solution.

ACC BLOCK CAPTAINS

As there have been some changes within the ACC, we're publishing a new listing of the ACC Block Captains and their streets. Homeowners should always notify their block captain whenever they have problems and/or questions.

BLOCK CAPTAIN STREET ASSIGNMENTS

BLOCK CAPTAIN	STREETS
Mike Louden Mike_Louden@msn.com	Merrimac Trail
Hattie Walden hmwalden@mindspring.com	Hancock Forest Trail, Hampton Village Pass, Brunswick Forest Trail
Chas Ryan* chr1969@cox.net	Butterfield Lane, Mt. Airey Lane
Penny Horsley pjhorsley@aol.com	Ashley Glen Road
Terri Clark terri.clark@cox.net	Byrds Nest Pass
Tina Snapp tLsKippies@gmail.com	Colonial Village Row, Peyton Forest Trail
Mary Coyle MaryECoyle@cox.net	Newport Glen Pass
Joaquin Tremols** tremols@lycos.com	Yorktown Village Pass, Trammel Court

* Chas Ryan has joined the ACC (subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors). He has kindly agreed to be the Block Captain for Mount Airey and Butterfield Lanes.

** Joaquin Tremol, former President of the Board, has agreed to be the Block Captain for Yorktown Village Pass and Trammel Court.

***ACC BLOCK CAPTAINS:** Block Captain *do not* police their neighbors. Instead, as members of the ACC, Block Captains have a responsibility to ensure we all adhere to the ACC rules/guidelines. These guidelines were written to ensure that LVC maintains the integrity of its colonial aesthetics and to ensure that property values continue rise. A pristine community is a welcome environment for future buyers.

DUTIES: As Block Captains, we: review management company inspection reports for your streets; identify and help to correct any discrepancies on the reports; assist homeowners with questions and report back to the ACC chairperson; report all questions, suggestions and recommendations to the ACC chairperson. Finally, the ACC chairperson communicates with the management company.

Your Backyard Habitat in Summer--Shifting into Full Gear …

So, your AC is on and you're reaching for the sun block—welcome to summer! Take a look outside. You may see wildflowers, butterflies like the yellow tiger swallowtail flitting around, and birds like wrens and robins toting food back to their chicks. We know the towhees, who sing a recognizable "drink-your-tee-ee-ee-ee", have returned, and we've also spotted several ruby-throated hummingbirds at our feeder.

If you're putting in new plants, remember: over-fertilizing forces toxic amounts of the stuff into local waterways, and chemical herbicides can do more harm than good. Watering? You can use or create a rain barrel to catch water from your downspout and wrap a soaking hose around your planting beds. Modest sprinkler sessions at night save water and money, and as always, native plants will mean less work and expense for you and better health for the birds and bugs that are vital to our local wildlife.

In fact, many insects and invertebrates are more beneficial that you might think. Though slugs may be headed for your hostas, they do create natural compost. Some beetles eat the larvae of other bugs that feed off of our plants, bees and certain flies are crucial to pollination, and our local bats depend on moths, mosquitoes and cockroaches. If you feel you must eliminate any bugs, do your homework, and remember that we can't get rid of them all, so we might as well learn to co-exist as best we can!

The lush greenery around us is a sight for sore eyes after a last winter, but it can be harder to identify the many interesting birds in town. However, if you have a hunch about who's singing out there, you can find out for sure with a clip of their songs at:

http://www.enature.com/backyardwildlife/nwf_bwh_home.asp

The Backyard Habitat program was created by the National Wildlife Federation more than 35 years ago to help create healthy and diverse sanctuaries for animals. To be certified, a yard has to provide food, water, shelter, and a place for raising young--easier than you might expect! For more information, go to:

http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife/certify.cfm?campaignid=WH09DAAC

--Kim and Andy Arnette

Finished and Unfinished Real Wood Furniture for Every Room in Your Home.

Saah UNFINISHED FURNITURE

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Lafayette Village Residents Save 25% off Regular Prices with this ad.

5641-F General Washington Dr.
Alexandria, VA 22312
(703) 256-4315
www.saahfurniture.com
Delivery and Finishing available.

Community News…

The Board Corner: Perspectives from Supervisor Penny Gross:

Lack of state funding for transportation is no surprise to most Fairfax County residents. Congested roads in Northern Virginia make news, not only here, but in surveys around the nation. Just how dire the situation is was demonstrated in late May when the Board of Supervisors held a required public hearing on the Proposed Virginia Department of Transportation Six-Year Secondary System Construction Program for Fiscal Years 2011 through 2016. The total amount under discussion was **$1989**. That's not a typo - the state reduced its allocation to Fairfax County by 99 percent! Beginning in FY 2012, the entire program will be zeroed out.

In 2003, the Six-Year Program allocated $138 million to Fairfax County; the county revisits and adjusts the planned projects each year, depending on length and cost of projects, differing land uses, etc. In 2004, the amount increased to $153 million, but the trend has been down in subsequent years, and slid right off the page this year. Several road projects in other parts of the county came off the list because of insufficient funding. **Perhaps the greatest impact for Mason District is that the program contains no funding for traffic signals or traffic calming.** Many neighborhoods use traffic calming programs, which includes speed humps, to address the speed and volume of vehicles on local roads. In response to my question as to whether any further applications for the program would be accepted, transportation staff said that applications could be processed, but no money is available for installation of speed control devices beyond this fiscal year. This is bad, and sad, news. Fairfax County provides nearly 25 percent of the state's individual income tax liability, 13 percent of the local option sales tax receipts, and almost 20 percent of recordation/deed of conveyance taxes, so it is incredible, indeed insulting, that the Secondary Road Program allocation is less than $2000. It probably cost more than that to prepare, advertise, and conduct the public hearing!

Transportation funding is a hot issue, which is why the Commonwealth is anxious to hand off the responsibility to local governments. Without adequate state dollars on the table, however, local governments cannot move to place that burden on real estate taxpayers who already fund more than 63 percent of the county's General Fund.

Remodeling? What to do with your old furniture….

Neighbors helping Neighbors! ACCA (Annandale Christian Community for Action) a volunteer driven community organization needs your help in serving needy neighbors seeking assistance with food, rent, utility bills, medical assistance, and furniture. To donate food, please deliver nonperishables to7200 Columbia Pike in Annandale. To donate furniture, call 703-256-9513 and ACCA will pick up your donated furniture and give you a tax deductible receipt. Mattresses/box springs (single, double, and queen size) sofas, kitchen/dining tables and chairs, chests of drawers/dressers, and microwaves are most requested and needed items.

Spotlight by Starlight Returns to Mason District Park - Searching for live entertainment this summer? Look no further than right here in Mason District! The *Spotlight by Starlight* concert series returns to Mason District Park, 6621 Columbia Pike in Annandale, with nearly 50 performances scheduled for your summertime enjoyment. Enjoy a variety of free entertainment on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, beginning in June through August 2010! For more information, and to obtain the 2010 *Spotlight by Starlight* schedule, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/spotlight.htm. **Note**: Concerts are cancelled in the event of inclement weather. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469) one hour prior to the performance for weather-related updates.

Contractor Recommendations

GEEKS - Computer Techs

PaulOnCall Computer Service
4101 Chain Bridge Road, St. 211
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-266-3888
www.poccs.com
(March 2010) Easy to schedule - and a flawless service experience that I'd use again when needed. Called on to transition from an ancient PC and Windows version to a new PC with Windows 7, and especially to transfer old files onto new as efficiently and compatibly as possible. At $90 per hour (very reasonable compared to competitors), PaulOnCall was exhaustively knowledgeable, communicative, worked steadily, continually answered questions while working, and only minimally involved me in "set-up steps/options and default choices" beyond those I'd stipulated. My variety of ongoing questions also yielded a customized training result that I could never have otherwise achieved. All has worked perfectly since, default options I've encountered to understand were all appropriately exact choices, and I've not once had to follow-up by phone with "where/why" questions. Website describes more complex service capabilities than my relatively simple conversion. A remarkable result for help we'd all prefer to not have to need.

10313 Lee Hwy/Fairfax Blvd
Fairfax, VA 22030
Tel: 703-273-3810
Fax: 703-591-6721

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- Fully Equipped Body, Paint and Mechanical Shop
- All Insurance Work Welcome
- Car Rental Replacement
- Free Shuttle to Local Metro
- I-Car Trained Technicians
- Courteous and Professional Service
- Detailing Department on Site
- 24-Hour Towing Service Available
- Airbag Diagnosis and Replacement

Business Hours

Mon, Wed, Fri 8:00AM - 6:00PM
Late Night Hours Tue, Thu 8:00AM - 9:00PM
Sat 9:00AM - 1:00PM

HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL

Carpet and Upholstery Cleaners

JAT Carpet and Upholstery Specialist 703-591-5959

We needed our light-colored carpet cleaned and deodorized; JAT was quick, thorough and friendly. Their chemical-free process worked well, was affordable, and left a light orange scent as it dried. Contact: James A. Taylor.

Two additional recommendations:

Quality Appliance Service
703-339-9100

TPN Home Improvement
571-277-2002

Lafayette Village Drive Traffic Calming !

Plan Presented at LVCA Semi-Annual Meeting

The Lafayette Village Traffic Calming Task Force presented a traffic calming plan for Lafayette Village Drive at the Association's Semi-Annual meeting May 10, 2010. The task force, consisting of Maria Ugincius (chair), Fred Saah, Susan Dudley, Linda Boone, and Carl Iddings, unveiled a plan consisting of a raised median planter south of Hancock Forest Trail, a raised crosswalk at the site of the existing cross walk on Lafayette Village Drive and a speed hump or speed table just south of Byrds Nest Pass. The plan also incorporates the three-way stop sign at Trammell Road and Fenton Drive. This plan was developed by the task force in conjunction with traffic engineers from Fairfax County Department of Transportation and staff from Supervisor Penny Gross's office.

Spirited discussion

The plan presentation generated much discussion at the Semi-Annual meeting both for and against. Most

speakers supported the plan, arguing that the plan would reduce traffic speed and make Lafayette Village Drive safer for residents and pedestrians. One resident raised a concern that any low-slung vehicle with ground effects would damage itself on the speed hump. He cited his own experience driving over speed humps elsewhere in Fairfax County. However, another resident with a sports car cited her experience, which caused her no problems.

Another gentleman suggested improved traffic enforcement coupled with major fines for speeding. He pointed to Falls Church, where speeding tickets start at $200, and claimed that people don't speed in that city. In response, it was pointed out that enforcement is expensive and intermittent, and that while Falls Church, as a city, can enforce its own laws, we in Lafayette Village are dependent on the Mason District police and are competing with all the other neighborhoods for traffic enforcement.

Several other questions were raised:

- Would the speed hump or raised cross walk affect snow plowing in winter? Probably not, since snow plows are designed to float, and would simply lift up when the traffic calming device was encountered.
- Would the devices affect property values? While this is a commonly raised concern, the only real study done on the question showed no impact at all on property values.
- Who would pay to implement the plan? Fairfax County and the state VDOT would pay to install the traffic calming devices.

Plan modified by task force

A week later, the task force met to review the comments made at the Semi-Annual meeting. As a result, the task force modified the plan by selecting a speed table instead of a speed hump for the site just south of Byrds Nest Pass. See the Traffic Calming Plan map at the end of this newsletter for the final task-force approved plan.

Next Steps

The next steps in the process are mandated by Fairfax County. On June 23, 2010 at 7:00pm in the Mason District Government Center, the task force will hold a community meeting to discuss this plan. All LVCA residents and owners are invited to this community meeting, along with residents in the "impacted area," which includes Hirst and Estabrook Drives, and Fenton, Thurner, Episilon, Delta, McGregor Courts and several houses on Trammell. A representative from the Fairfax County Department of Transportation will also attend the community meeting to answer questions about the proposed plan.

After the community meeting, owners of homes in the "ballot area:" – all townhomes in Lafayette Village – will be mailed a ballot to vote on the plan up or down. 50% of the townhome owners need to mail their ballots by the deadline (to be determined). If at least 60% of the returned ballots were cast in support of the plan, Fairfax County will consider it approved, and will schedule installation of the traffic calming devices, assuming funds are available.

Traffic Calming: Frequently Asked Questions

Do traffic calming measures affect emergency response times?

Studies have shown that certain traffic calming measures, especially vertical measures such as speed tables and raised crosswalks, can slow fire trucks and other emergency vehicles by about 3 to 10 seconds each. During the development of a traffic calming plan, the County's Fire and Rescue Department is typically consulted to determine if there would be a problem placing traffic calming devices on a specific road. Fire and Rescue is only concerned if the road is a major route for emergency vehicles. Lafayette Village Drive is not such a route,

What is a "speed table"?

A speed table is a raised traffic control device, 22' long, 12' feet wide, and 3" high. A speed tables is flat on its top for 10'. It is similar to a raised crosswalk Because it is flat on top, it provides a gentler ride for most vehicle, while still reminding drivers to control their vehicle speed.

Do speed tables affect snow removal?

Speed tables and raised crosswalks are gradually sloped so that snow plow blades go over without damage to them or the pavement surface.

Do speed tables create additional noise levels?

Studies have shown that some noise levels increase where the total percent of heavy truck traffic volume is 20% or greater. This does not pertain to our community.

Do traffic calming measures affect property values?

There is no evidence to suggest that traffic calming measures either raise or lower residential property values. It is likely that for every person who feels they detract from the value of a property, there is another who feels their safety benefits add to the value of a property.

Can the speed tables on our street be made higher or lower?

No. Speed tables (and raised crosswalks) in Fairfax County are 12 feet wide by 22 feet long, and 3 inches high. Research has found these dimensions to be the best compromise to slow most vehicles without affecting emergency response times.

Who develops and who has final approval of the traffic calming plan?

The development of a traffic calming plan is a community-driven process under the leadership of a traffic calming task force and the overall direction of the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT). The community task force has a significant role in the project approval. The community votes on the plan via a ballot process, to ensure that the traffic calming plan has widespread support across the community. (*Source: Fairfax County Department of Transportation*)

Traffic Calming Community Meeting Notice

The following flyer will be distributed to residents of Fenton Drive, Thurner Court, McGregor Court, Epsilon Court, Gamma Court, Hirst Drive, Estabrook Drive, and selected houses on Trammell Road and Lafayette Village Drive.

Lafayette Village Drive

Traffic Calming Plan

Community Informational Meeting

When: 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Where: Mason District Governmental Center
6507 Columbia Pike

Why: Please come to a community informational meeting to discuss a proposed traffic-calming plan to consider the installation of a speed table, a raised crosswalk, and a raised median island on Lafayette Village Drive. A representative from the Fairfax County Department of Transportation will be available to answer questions about the proposed traffic-calming plan for Lafayette Village Drive. Shortly after the meeting, residents in the ballot area will be receiving a ballot to vote on the proposed traffic-calming plan for Lafayette Village Drive. Please attend this meeting to get answers to your questions.

Contact: For additional information, send an email to lvcawebmaster@lafayettevillage.org.

Existing Multi-Way Stop at the intersection of Lafayette Village Drive & Trammell Road

Proposed Speed Table adljacent to Lafayette Village Community Association property

Replace existing painted crosswalk with Raised Crosswalk adljacent to Lafayette Village Community Association property

Proposed 30' x 8' Plantable Median with 100' taper adljacent to Lafayette Village Community Association property & Fairfax County Park Authority property

N
W E
S

I495 NB
I495 SB THRU RAMP
I495 SB
I495 NB THRU
RESTRICTED
MP TO RT236 WB
MP TO I495 NB

THOR DR
FENTON DR
TRAMMELL RD
MERRIMAC TRL
TRAMMELL CT
COLONIAL VILLAGE ROW
BYRDS NEST PASS
LAFAYETTE VILLAGE DR
BUTTERFIELD LN
ASHLEY GLEN RD
ESTABROOK DR
HIRST DR

0 125 250 500 750 Feet

Fairfax County Department of Transportation
Residential Traffic Administration Program (RTAP)
CONCEPTUAL TRAFFIC CALMING PLAN MAP
LAFAYETTE VILLAGE DRIVE
Mason District

Tax Map: 59-4

5/25/2010