

The North Ridge Citizens' Association

A Non-Profit Organization

PO BOX 3242

ALEXANDRIA, VA 22302-0242

9
11-17-01

November 15, 2001

The Honorable Kerry J. Donley
301 King Street, Suite 2300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Re: **City Council Docket, November 17, 2001, Public Hearing Meeting, Item 9,**
"Recommendations making Old Dominion Boulevard north of West Glebe Road and
Notabene Drive one way streets, changing the existing parallel parking to diagonal parking
on the west side of each of these streets"

Dear Mayor Donley:

I am writing as President of the North Ridge Citizens' Association (NRCA) to express support for the proposal to increase available parking to residents of Arlandria living north of West Glebe Road in the vicinity of Old Dominion Boulevard, Milan, Four Mile Drive, Florence, and Notabene Drive. The proposal would provide more and better parking to Arlandrians, and it would relieve parking and traffic congestion on the south side of West Glebe in North Ridge, particularly on Tennessee Avenue, North Overlook, Norris Place, Kentucky Avenue and Old Dominion Boulevard. I believe this proposal is Item # 9 on your November 17 docket.

Our neighbors in Arlandria, just north of West Glebe Road, do not have adequate parking. They live in a densely populated neighborhood that includes apartment buildings and duplex homes. Since most Arlandria residents are workers who must travel all over the Washington Metropolitan Area, and since they don't have immediate access to a subway stop, virtually all of them must own cars. And, the only parking for them is on the street. Consequently, there simply are not enough parking places in Arlandria in the neighborhood just north of West Glebe.

Therefore, when Arlandrians come home at night, they are frequently unable to find parking near their homes. So, they will then look for parking in North Ridge just across West Glebe from their homes. When they are able to find parking in North Ridge, they will leave their cars and walk the four to five blocks back home to Arlandria. Thus, Arlandria's residents are inconvenienced by a lack of parking, and North Ridge's residents are inconvenienced by unnecessarily congested streets and occasionally blocked driveways.

In the summer of 2001, a committee of the NRCA, and representatives from the City's Traffic and Environmental Services Division, went on a series of walks through Arlandria to try to find additional parking spaces for residents of Arlandria. The group was able to determine that, indeed, Arlandrians need more parking, and that more parking could be provided by remarking and reconfiguring traffic patterns on Old Dominion and Notabene. The result of this effort is Item # 9 on your November 17 docket.

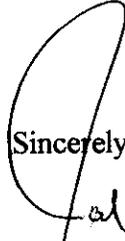
The NRCA believes that this proposal serves the interests of Alexandrians in Arlandria as well as in North Ridge.

Representatives of the Lennox Place development, located north of West Glebe, have expressed opposition to this proposal. Lennox Place representatives have suggested that the additional parking not be created in Arlandria and, instead, that the North Ridge neighborhood petition the City to establish zoned parking. NRCA does not support the concept of zoned parking south of West Glebe Road. If the City were to implement zoned parking in North Ridge, then our neighbors in Arlandria would be the most adversely effected. Not only would Arlandrians not have adequate parking in Arlandria, but they would then be unable to park in North Ridge. Zoned parking would only increase inconvenience and aggravation for everyone.

Please vote in favor of Item # 9, the proposal to increase available parking in Arlandria.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,



Joseph N. Bowman, President
703-836-0884 Office
703-548-6803 Home
Jbowmanesq@msn.com



Judith Bliss, President
 Arlandria Civic Association
 725 Four Mile Road
 Alexandria, VA 22305
 703 683-2954

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~~17~~
~~10-23-01~~

ARLANDRIA CIVIC ASSOCIATION

October 17, 2001

Kerry Donley, Mayor
 301 King Street
 Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mayor *Kerry* Donley,

I am writing on behalf of the Arlandria Civic Association requesting you DENY the request to make Old Dominion Boulevard and Notabene Drive one way streets.

This request came from Northridge Civic Association due to the fact they do not want "those people" (this is a direct quote) parking on their street. Therefore Northridge decided to change the parking on the streets in our neighborhood.

There has been no communication between Rich Baier or anyone at T&ES and this community except for the meeting at Lenox place, which I just happened to hear about while attending another meeting and I ask if I could come. There has been no study or traffic count on the cars going through the neighborhood. There has been no meeting with the managers of the apartments this will effect. No communication at all.

Assistant Commonwealth Attorney Tom Cullen and spokespersons from Lenox Place spoke at the board meeting and ask for this proposal to be denied.

I am asking you to please DENY this request.

Sincerely,

Judy Bliss

Judith Bliss, President
 Arlandria Civic Association



9
11-17-01

3603 Old Dominion Blvd.
Alexandria, VA 22305-1325
November 7, 2001

City Manager Philip Sunderland
City Hall
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mr. Sunderland,

I am writing to thank you for your support of the proposal received by Council on October 23 (Agenda item 17: Proposal to Change to Notabene Drive and Old Dominion Boulevard north of West Glebe Road). As you know, this proposal was approved by the Traffic and Parking Board on September 24 by a vote of 6-1, and is scheduled for a public hearing at Council's November 17 meeting.

It seems to me that the proposal suggests a very practical, low cost, and common sense way to solve several problems:

It creates, by changing parallel parking to diagonal parking, 70 new parking spaces where they are needed - next to the apartments of many people who live in the Arlandria area north of West Glebe.

By providing parking where it is needed, it should alleviate the parking problem in the Beverly Hills area south of West Glebe, where the Arlandria-area residents are forced to park now. I am very familiar with this problem; my home is the first house on Old Dominion Blvd. in the Beverly Hills area, and every parking space bordering my property is occupied every night. Sometimes parkers partially block my driveway.

It should alleviate the safety hazard posed by many pedestrians, including children, forced to cross busy West Glebe twice a day to find a place to park.

I am aware that Lenox Place opposes this proposal, but they have guaranteed parking places at their homes, and do not have people parking in front of their houses, since they are a gated community.

I believe that the residents of the Arlandria area have a right to park as near to their homes as possible, and this proposal, which has been approved by the Fire Department, Police Department, and Sanitation Department, is a low-cost way to provide this parking. Again, thank you for your support.

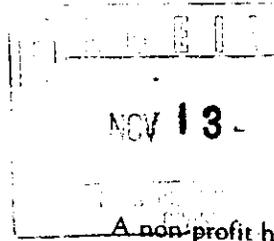
Sincerely,

Barbara P. Hayes



Community Lodgings

9
11-17-01



228 South Pitt Street, 3rd Floor
Alexandria, VA 22314

A non-profit housing corporation

Tel: (703) 549-4407
Fax: (703) 548-1294

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ETH LUCAS

YDIA ODLE

September 20, 2001

William E. Clayton
Traffic Chairperson
North Ridge Citizens Association

Dear Mr. Clayton:

Community Lodgings, a property owner of 612 and 607 Notabene Drive in Alexandria supports the concept of angle parking on Notabene Drive.

We believe this concept presents a positive alternative to the congested parking which currently exists, but also will provide residents with a sense of security and well-being, when they can park their cars closer to the building where they reside.

We support the concept as proposed by the North Ridge Citizens Association.

STAFF

ITA BROWN
Executive Director

ELVARO LUNA
Operations Director

MARINA SILVA
Office Manager

Sincerely,

Rita Brown
Executive Director

JOHNSON ASSOCIATES, INC.

4619 LEE HIGHWAY
POST OFFICE BOX 7139
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22207

(703) 524-8858 Office
(703) 524-6428 Facsimile
www.japroPERTIES.com

11-7-2001

To whom it may Concern:

Johnson Associates owns 40 rental apartments at 613, 625, 627, and 641 Notabene Drive.

We strongly support the plan to install diagonal parking on Notabene Drive.

Additional street parking would be a great improvement to our neighborhood.

Jim Burkholder

Jim Burkholder

Property Manager

Johnson associates



Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority

800 North Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Post Office Box 25466
Alexandria, VA 22313

(703) 549-7115
FAX: (703) 549-8709
TDD: (703) 836-6425

Commissioners

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Debra E. Zusman, Vice-Chairperson
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Antoine Cobb
A. Melvin Miller
Myke W. Field
Caryle C. Ring, Jr.
Thelma Towles
Ruby J. Tucker

William M. Dearman, Chief Executive Officer

Mr. William E. Clayton
Traffic Chairperson
North Ridge Citizens Association
3402 Halcyon Drive
Alexandria, Virginia 22305

November 14, 2001

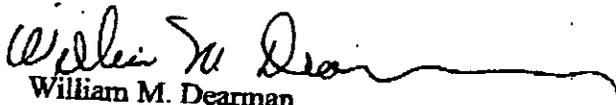
Dear Mr. Clayton:

ARHA is a property owner of Glebe Road and Old Dominion in Alexandria and supports the concept of angle parking on Notabene Drive.

We believe this concept presents a positive alternative to the lack of parking in that area and will provide the additional spaces for residents and visitors.

ARHA supports the concept as proposed by the North Ridge Citizens Association.

Sincerely,


William M. Dearman
Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Ed Lacey
Marye Ish
Connie Lennox



An Equal Opportunity Employer
Equal Housing Opportunity





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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Commonwealth's Attorney
City of Alexandria*

520 King Street, Suite 301
Alexandria, VA 22314-3140
(703) 838-4100
Fax (703) 838-3897

ASSISTANT
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LARRY CUNNINGHAM

S. RANDOLPH SENDEL
COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY

KRISTA G. BOUCHER
DEPUTY COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY

COMMUNITY PROSECUTION PROGRAM

THOMAS CULLEN
3805 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Suite C
Alexandria, Virginia 22305
(703) 519-3318
Fax (703) 519-3320

October 1, 2001

Mr. Converse West
200 N. Pickett Street, # 907
Alexandria, Virginia 22304

Dear Mr. West,

I am writing to advise you that the comments of Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Thomas Cullen made at your September 24, 2001 meeting regarding the proposed configuration of angled parking in the existing right of way on north Old Dominion Drive and Notabene Drive do not reflect the position of this office. While I had discussed this matter with Rich Baier before your September 24 meeting, I had not communicated that discussion fully to Mr. Cullen, and that failure to communicate with him, for which I take responsibility, in part resulted in his comments at your meeting.

In my view, solutions to traffic and parking issues in Alexandria are generally beyond the purview of my staff and are being handled in a capable and professional manner by Mr. Baier and his staff. Mr. Baier and his staff devoted substantial time and effort to developing a solution to this particular problem, and I am sorry if Mr. Cullen's comments at your meeting created any misunderstanding that my office is opposed to staff recommendations in this case. We are not.

Very truly yours

S. Randolph Sengel
Commonwealth's Attorney

cc: Tom Cullen
Rich Baier
Joe Bowman
William Clayton
Don Shepperd

Donald J. and Joan C. Helbig
501 Tennessee Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22305

November 8, 2001

9
11-17-01

The Honorable Kerry J. Donley
City Hall, P.O. Box 178
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

We have lived on the northwest corner of Tennessee and Old Dominion for 29 years. We support the NRCA recommendation to establish front-in parking on Old Dominion Boulevard, north of W. Glebe.

We constantly see people walking down the center of Old Dominion, having left their vehicles many blocks from their homes. Positive action on the NRCA proposal will provide these residents parking nearer their homes. As well, home owners on Tennessee, Old Dominion and North Overlook will be able to park in front of their homes once more.

Parking on Executive Avenue has proven that diagonal parking provides more spaces without impeding traffic. The City Transportation and Environmental Services Department has determined that the 3800 block of Old Dominion is sufficiently wide to accommodate such diagonal parking. This is the most economical, practical and immediate solution for the City Council to support.

That "Lenox Place at Sunnyside" residents object is not surprising. That attitude matches perfectly with the isolationist approach they have had to City living. Though they receive City public street services (trash removal, etc.), they have posted "No Trespassing" signs in English and Spanish at the entrances to the community.

We need for you to approve the NRCA recommendation giving residents adequate parking.

Sincerely,

Donald J. Helbig
Joan C. Helbig

Donald J. & Joan C. Helbig



9
11-17-01

Arlandria Mount Vernon Avenue Business and Property Owners Association

November 15, 2001

To: Honorable Mayor Donley
Members of the City Council
City of Alexandria

From: Arlandria Mount Vernon Avenue Business Association

Re: City Council Hearing Saturday November 24, 2001, Docket Number 9
Proposed parking changes for Notabene Drive and Old Dominion Blvd

We are a newly formed association of business and property owners along Mount Vernon Avenue from the intersection of South Glebe Road and Mount Vernon Avenue at Four Mile Run to the Mount Vernon Avenue and East/West Glebe Road intersection (corner with the former Safeway). We are opposed to the proposed parking changes. We already have a crowded parking environment for our businesses and firmly believe that the proposed parking change will increase the pressure on parking for our businesses and potentially drive customers away as the parking spaces are more likely to be used by residents for parking and increase the opportunity for public nuisance problems. Another solutions is resident parking permits. We believe a comprehensive parking study for the commercial and residential neighborhood is necessary before this decision is made.

Association Directors

Henver Palma, Business Owner
International Travel Agency
3801 Mount Vernon Avenue, Owner of Property
3901-3905 Mount Vernon Avenue, Owner of Property
T-703-684-7744

Nathan Carter, Business Owner
The Peoples Store
3824 Mount Vernon Avenue
T-703 683-7778

Stephen Weinstock, Property Owner
Mount Vernon Village Center (formerly Arlandria Shopping Center)
Tenants include CVS and Blockbuster Video
3809-3825 Mount Vernon Avenue
T-703 527-4938

A partial list of Association Members includes:
RT's Restaurant, 3804 Mount Vernon Avenue

Il Pulgarcito Restaurant, 3830 Mount Vernon Avenue
Fashion K, 3815 Mount Vernon Avenue
Super K, 3803 Mount Vernon Avenue
Mercadito Ramos III, 4100 Mount Vernon Avenue
Po-Siam Restaurant, 3805 Mount Vernon Avenue
24 hour Express, 4101 Mount Vernon Avenue

2

3809A Elbert Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22305
November 16, 2001

9
11-17-01

The Honorable Kerry J. Donley
The Honorable William C. Cleveland
The Honorable Claire M. Eberwein
The Honorable William D. Euille
The Honorable Redella S. Pepper
The Honorable David G. Speck
The Honorable Joyce Woodson

Dear Mayor Donley and Councilmembers:

I attended a meeting regarding proposed changes to parking on Old Dominion and Notabene this week. Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the hearing on Saturday, so I wish to convey my feelings about this matter in this letter.

First, I need to tell you that I was offended by the condescending, Father knows best attitude that Richard Baier took throughout the meeting. He made it clear that he didn't appreciate anyone's effort to derail this process. To paraphrase him, "I have been here for every meeting, where have you been?" The first I knew about this situation was in September, when a meeting was held at the same date and time as our homeowner's association's annual meeting, and I felt that it was important to attend that. I knew that we sent our former President of the Lenox Place association as our representative to the parking meeting, so I wasn't too worried. The next meeting that I was able to attend was the final meeting before the hearing. I am sorry that Mr. Baier took our criticism so personally, but if he didn't want to listen, he shouldn't have had the meeting.

We were told at the beginning of the meeting that the Northridge Association brought up the parking problems. Oddly, none of the proposed solutions impact them at all. It is clear to me that the real problem is that Northridge wants to keep the riff-raff out of their neighborhood. Otherwise, part of the solution would include the following:

- Angle parking on Executive Boulevard south of W. Glebe - an almost unused street with not even a driveway cut for half its length - plenty of parking here.
- Angle parking on Old Dominion south of W. Glebe - this street is wide enough for the Macy's parade and could easily accommodate a great number of angle spaces.
- Parallel parking along the first block of Old Dominion south of W. Glebe. One can park along the first half of the block, but the second half is restricted to parking on Sunday mornings only. If it's good enough for God, its good enough for me, and half a dozen spaces could be created.

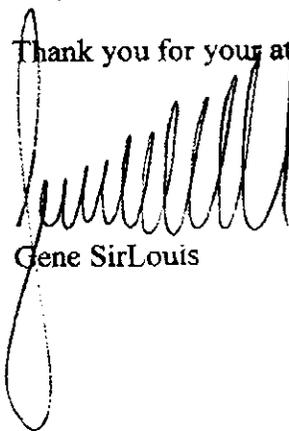
- Angle parking along the western stretch of Four Mile Road - a good section of the street widens sufficiently to allow more parking there.
- Parking along the emergency access lane behind Presidential Greens.

The last questioner of the evening asked Mr. Baier where he lives. Northridge, of course.

I do not question that there is a severe parking problem in our neighborhood. I live on Elbert Avenue, and we do not have enough parking even for our residents, much less any visitors we might have. Further, Elbert Avenue is very narrow, and the changes proposed will force much more traffic onto our street, making for dangerous conditions.

If the city is to solve this problem, it must have a comprehensive program. Mr. Baier admitted that a traffic study had not even been done on Elbert Avenue, only one block away. I strongly urge you to postpone any action on this matter until wider net can be cast over this neighborhood to solve the problems to everyone's advantage, not just to keep undesirables out of Northridge.

Thank you for your attention,



Gene SirLouis

**Beverly Hills Manor
Community Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 2845
Arlington, Virginia 22202-0845**

9
11-17-01

November 16, 2001

The Honorable Mayor of Alexandria, Virginia
And Members of City Council
City of Alexandria, Virginia

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

The purpose of this letter is to formally support the proposal made to you in a memorandum dated October 18, 2001, by City Manager Sunderland to change Notobene Drive and Old Dominion Boulevard North of West Glebe Road.

We are a homeowners association comprised of 35 townhouses located at 400-468 West Glebe Road in Alexandria, Virginia. We have been part of the Alexandria community since September 1982.

It is our view that the recommendations made in Mr. Sunderland's proposal will ease the burden of parking in the affected neighborhood at a minimal cost to the City. It should significantly resolve the parking shortage in the Arlandria West area and allow residents south of Glebe Road to more freely park their vehicles nearer their residences.

Respectfully submitted,



Terry L. Draver, President

HELP!

9
11-17-01

Honorable Mayor Kerry J. Donley
Honorable Councilman and Councilwoman
City of Alexandria

November 16, 2001

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing this letter requesting your support **OPPOSING** the proposed changes to add additional parking spaces and create a one-way street on N. Old Dominion and Notabene. I am a resident of Lenox Place and have serious concerns about the impact this will have in our neighborhood.

I am upset and angry with our neighbors in the Northridge community whom have initiated this situation and have not included us in any of the meetings affecting our lives.

I am extremely disappointed with Rich Baier, Director of the City's Department of Transportation. Rich has not attempted to work with our neighborhood and instead has only told us what to expect. Rich mentioned that he is a citizen and member of the Northridge Association, he should have stepped aside since there seems to be a conflict of interest in questioned.

Rich Baier has mentioned numerous times that he has the support of the Commonwealth attorney's office of Randy Segal. If you were to read the notes taken at the Traffic and Parking Board meeting on September 24, 2001, you will read that his assistant commonwealth attorney Tom Cullen was against the proposed street changes and adding parking. It's somewhat ironic that his office has changed position. Could this be politics?

We are a poor neighborhood and Northridge is the "rich" neighborhood, and again it's a simple case of the rich always win.

I hope you vote against this proposed situation, until we can all be involved.

Sincerely,



Art Garza
3920 Charles Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22305
703-518-8483

PHONE-O-GRAM®

for: cc

9
11-17-01

From Paul D Vozak

Company _____

City Zenith Place

Area Code

703

Phone

683-0538

Telephoned

Please return the call

Returned your call

Will call again

Came in

See me

Message Not enough time for people to get involved and give their opinion.

Re: parking situation on Old Dominion Boulevard North area.

Date 11/16

Time 9:40

Taken by

Kef

Action Wanted _____

Action Taken _____

Sent to CC, CM, TRES

*9 11/17/01 PH

3809A Elbert Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22305
November 29, 2001

The Honorable Kerry J. Donley
The Honorable William C. Cleveland
The Honorable Claire M. Eberwein
The Honorable Willaim D. Euille
The Honorable Redella S. Pepper
The Honorable David G. Speck
The Honorable Joyce Woodson

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

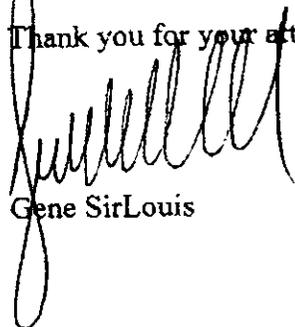
I must tell you that I am disappointed that none of you, not the mayor nor a single councilmember, responded to my letter dated November 16, 2001 regarding the proposed changes to Old Dominion and Notabene off of West Glebe Road.

I was unable to attend the council meeting to express my views in person. I understand that the changes were approved. I also read in The Washington Post that a task force was to be implemented to study the larger issue involved.

The changes you made were at the behest of the Northridge Association where Richard Baier lives. Now that their issue is resolved, someone else will have to get behind this huge parking problem in our neighborhood. Please inform me about this task force. I would like to participate if possible, and at the very least would like to be informed of the membership of the task force and be apprised of their ongoing work.

I would also like to invite each of you to drive down Elbert Avenue any evening to see just how congested it is. It is a narrow street and there is not enough parking even for its residents, much less any spillover or guest parking.

Thank you for your attention,



Gene SirLouis

