

## City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: FEBRUARY 28, 2005

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE DR. OSWALD DURANT RECREATION CENTER (IN LIEU OF JEFFERSON HOUSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL) AS A POLLING PLACE IN THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

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**ISSUE:** Consideration of an ordinance to establish the Dr. Oswald Durant Recreation Center (in lieu of Jefferson Houston Elementary School) as a polling place in the City of Alexandria (Attachment).

**RECOMMENDATION:** That City Council pass on first reading and set for public hearing, second reading and final passage on Saturday, March 12 an ordinance to establish the Dr. Oswald Durant Recreation Center as a polling place in the City of Alexandria in lieu of the Jefferson Houston Elementary School.

**BACKGROUND:** The Alexandria Electoral Board, which is comprised of three members who are appointed by the Alexandria Circuit Court for staggered three-year terms, is responsible for overseeing the voting process in Alexandria. In this capacity, the Electoral Board makes recommendations to City Council considering changes to polling places and establishing new polling places.

**DISCUSSION:** The Alexandria Electoral Board voted unanimously on February 1, 2005, to recommend that City Council replace the Jefferson Houston Elementary School polling place, which is located at 1501 Cameron Street, with the Dr. Oswald Durant Recreation Center, which is located at 1605 Cameron Street.

The Electoral Board secured authorization from the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Activities to use the multi-purpose room at the recently renovated Dr. Oswald Durant Recreation Center as a polling place beginning with the June 14, 2005, Primary Election. This will provide voters with a larger, quieter, more stand-alone polling place that is located immediately next to Jefferson Houston School. At Jefferson Houston, the voting has taken place in the main lobby near the front desk of the school and noise has been a problem because large numbers of children pass through this area throughout the day.

If Council approves this ordinance, the United States Justice Department will also need to approve this request to facilitate the change in this polling place, which would take

effect with the June 14, 2005 Primary Election. The City Attorney has prepared a submission for the Justice Department. In addition, after the request has been approved, the Electoral Board will send notifications to all of the registered voters in this precinct and will also advertise the change in the local newspaper.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** It will cost approximately \$3,000 to send notifications to all of the registered voters in the precinct and to advertise this change in the local newspaper, and this can be absorbed in the Office of Voter Registration and Elections operating budget.

**ATTACHMENT:** Ordinance

**STAFF:**

Mary T. LaMois, Secretary, Alexandria Electoral Board  
Donald E. Ledwig, Chairman, Alexandria Electoral Board  
Anna Leider, Vice Chair, Alexandria Electoral Board  
Kirk Kincannon, Director, Recreation Department  
Janet Barnett, Deputy Director, Recreation Department  
Harold Little, Center Director, Recreation Department  
Eric Spicer, Elections Administrator

1	Introduction and first reading:	3/08/05
2	Public hearing:	3/12/05
3	Second reading and enactment:	3/12/05

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE

Title

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain subsection (d) (JEFFERSON HOUSTON SCHOOL ELECTION DISTRICT), of Section 2-2-10 (ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTION DISTRICTS AND VOTING PLACES), and to amend and reordain “The Official Map of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, Designating Election Districts and Voting Places,” adopted by Section 2-2-13 (MAP OF ELECTION DISTRICTS AND VOTING PLACES), all of Chapter 2 (ELECTIONS), Title 2 (GENERAL GOVERNMENT) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

Summary

The proposed ordinance changes the voting place within the Jefferson Houston School Election District from the Jefferson Houston School, located at 1501 Cameron Street, to the Durant Center, located at 1605 Cameron Street. No change is made to the existing boundaries of the election district. However, in accordance with the practice of naming each election district after the associated voting place, the name of the district is changed to the Durant Center Election District.

Sponsor

City of Alexandria Electoral Board

Staff

Tom Parkins, Registrar of Voters  
Eric Spicer, Elections Administrator  
Ignacio B. Pessoa, City Attorney

Authority

§ 24.2-712, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended

Estimated Costs of Implementation

None

Attachments in Addition to Proposed Ordinance and its Attachments (if any)

None

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain subsection (d) (JEFFERSON HOUSTON SCHOOL ELECTION DISTRICT), of Section 2-2-10 (ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTION DISTRICTS AND VOTING PLACES), and to amend and reordain "The Official Map of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, Designating Election Districts and Voting Places," adopted by Section 2-2-13 (MAP OF ELECTION DISTRICTS AND VOTING PLACES), all of Chapter 2 (ELECTIONS), Title 2 (GENERAL GOVERNMENT) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Subsection (d) of Section 2-2-10 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be, and the same hereby is, amended and reordained to read as follows:

(D) The ~~Jefferson-Houston-School~~ Durant Center Election District shall be bounded and described by the census blocks shown on the map adopted by section 2-2-13 of this code as comprising the said district.

The voting place within the ~~Jefferson-Houston-School~~ Durant Center Election District shall be at the ~~Jefferson-Houston-School~~ Durant Center, located at ~~1501~~ 1605 Cameron Street.

Section 2. That "The Official Map of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, Designating Election Districts and Voting Places," adopted by Section 2-2-13 of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be, and the same hereby is, amended and reordained as shown on Exhibit 1, attached hereto and incorporated fully by reference, to reflect the designation and description of: the Durant Center Election District, in replacement of the of the Jefferson Houston School Election District

Section 3. That the general registrar of voters be, and he hereby is, directed to record the foregoing amendments on the said map.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall become effective upon the date and at the time of its final passage; provided, however, that the changes in the Election District names and voting places herein made shall not be implemented until the changes are first submitted to the Attorney General of the United States and no objection is interposed within 60 days of the submission, as required pursuant to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE  
Mayor

Attachment

- Introduction: 3/08/05
- First Reading: 3/08/05
- Publication:
- Public Hearing:
- Second Reading:
- Final Passage:

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**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA  
2001 Precinct Census Blocks**

ID TRACT	BLKGRP	BLOCK	ID TRACT	BLKGRP	BLOCK		
<u>Jefferson-Houston Durant Center</u>							
738	201600	1	1005	883	201802	2	2007
739	201600	1	1006	884	201802	2	2008
740	201600	1	1007	904	201900	1	1007
741	201600	1	1008	905	201900	1	1008
748	201600	2	2006	906	201900	1	1009
749	201600	2	2007	907	201900	1	1010
750	201600	2	2008	908	201900	1	1011
751	201600	2	2009	909	201900	1	1012
752	201600	2	2010	925	201900	1	1028
753	201600	2	2011	926	201900	1	1029
754	201600	3	3000	927	201900	1	1030
755	201600	3	3001	928	201900	1	1031
756	201600	3	3002	930	201900	2	2000
757	201600	3	3003	931	201900	2	2001
758	201600	3	3004	932	201900	2	2002
759	201600	3	3005	933	201900	2	2003
760	201600	3	3006	934	201900	2	2004
761	201600	3	3007	935	201900	2	2005
762	201600	3	3008	936	201900	2	2006
763	201600	3	3009	937	201900	2	2007
764	201600	3	3010	938	201900	2	2008
765	201600	3	3011	939	201900	2	2009
766	201600	3	3012	940	201900	2	2010
767	201600	4	4000	941	201900	2	2011
768	201600	4	4001	942	201900	2	2012
769	201600	4	4002	943	201900	2	2013
770	201600	4	4003	944	201900	2	2014
771	201600	4	4004	945	201900	2	2015
772	201600	4	4005	946	201900	2	2016
773	201600	4	4006	947	201900	2	2017
774	201600	4	4007	948	201900	2	2018
775	201600	4	4008	949	201900	2	2019
776	201600	4	4009	950	201900	2	2020
777	201600	4	4010	951	201900	2	2021
778	201600	4	4011	952	201900	2	2022
779	201600	4	4012	953	201900	2	2023
780	201600	4	4013	954	201900	2	2024
841	201801	3	3021	955	201900	2	2025
842	201801	3	3022	956	201900	2	2026
864	201802	1	1006	957	201900	2	2027
865	201802	1	1007	958	201900	2	2028