

Jack Sullivan

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2-24-07

## STATEMENT BEFORE CITY COUNCIL ON THE ALL-CITY SPORTS FACILITY

MR. MAYOR, MEMBERS OF COUNCIL,

MY NAME IS JACK SULLIVAN

I AM HERE TODAY AS A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE SEMINARY HILL ASSN.

[read resolution]

SPEAKING NOW FOR MYSELF AND NOT FOR THE ASSOCIATION, I HAVE BEEN HIGHLY CRITICAL OF THE PLANS THAT HAVE BEEN ADVANCED FOR THIS NEW SPORTS FACILITY.

RECENTLY I ATTENDED A THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION HEARING ON THE PROJECT.

THERE I WAS STRUCK BY THE NUMBER OF COACHES OF FIELD SPORTS FOR BOTH ADULTS AND CHILDREN WHO TESTIFIED ABOUT THE CURRENT CRYING LACK OF PLAYING FIELDS IN ALEXANDRIA.

THEIR SUPPORT FOR THIS FACILITY CLEARLY WAS RELUCTANT. SOMETHING, OBVIOUSLY, IS BETTER THAN NOTHING. BUT PUTTING MILLIONS INTO ONE NEW FIELD AND A 3000 SEAT STADIUM DOES NOT MAKE MUCH SENSE WHEN THE NEED IS FOR A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF NEW FIELDS.

WE SHOULD BE ACCOMMODATING PEOPLE WHO PLAY, NOT PEOPLE WHO WATCH.

THUS IT MAKES LITTLE SENSE TO ME TO PUT ALL OUR SPORTS EGGS INTO ONE BASKET -- EVEN IF IT DOES HAVE A FANCY PRESS BOX AND CONCESSION STANDS THAT SELL CORN DOGS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION.

## SEMINARY HILL ASSN. RESOLUTION ON THE ALL-CITY SPORTS FACILITY

At its monthly meeting on Thursday, Feb. 8, the Seminary Hill Association, Inc., executive board unanimously passed the following resolution:

Resolved that the Alexandria City Council should defer the construction of the proposed All-City Sports Facility until the following two conditions are met:

- \* That other needed capital improvements are funded and underway, to include the new police station, completion of Windmill Hill Park, and the provision of turf for existing playing fields, and

- \* Until the entire amount of private sector money, in excess of \$5 million, not only has been pledged but is in the bank, earning interest.