


City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

REVISED as of 1/18/2008

DATE: JANUARY 17, 2008
TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 
SUBJECT: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A BRADDOCK EAST ADVISORY GROUP

ISSUE: The establishment of the Braddock East Advisory Group to study and advise the City staff on a plan for the Braddock East area focusing on James Bland and Bland Addition, Samuel Madden Uptown, Ramsey Homes and Andrew Adkins housing developments.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council:

- (1) Approve the attached resolution establishing the Braddock East Advisory Group; and
- (2) Authorize the Mayor to appoint the members of the Advisory Group.

DISCUSSION: We would like to establish a Braddock East Advisory Group to study and advise the City staff on a to-be-developed plan for the Braddock East area focusing on the James Bland and Bland Addition, Samuel Madden Uptown, Ramsey Homes and Andrew Adkins housing developments.

Staff and consultants will provide background information to the group and facilitate their discussion of issues and evaluation of options over a series of 8 to 10 meetings in the next 5 to 6 months, with the objective of bringing a plan and redevelopment plan for the Braddock East area to the Planning Commission and City Council by November 2008.

The mission of the Braddock East Advisory Group will be to:

- Identify and evaluate issues, challenges and opportunities for the future of the public housing in this area;
- Bring community values, knowledge and ideas into the process of creating a plan for the area that takes advantage of opportunities to improve the area in

ways that provide lasting benefit to the local community and the City as a whole; and

- Keep the public informed about the development of the plan by reporting back to the community, and reporting their findings and recommendations to the Planning Commission and City Council.

The Braddock East Advisory Group would consist of 12 members. Members will be drawn from among the following groups: Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA); residents of public housing; members of civic associations such as Northeast and Inner City; a resident of the Braddock area; a member of the historic preservation community; a member of the development community who has experience with affordable housing and workforce housing development; a member of the Planning Commission; and three at large members with diverse backgrounds, incomes, and other relevant experiences

- **Commissioner from the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA);**
- **Resident of public housing;**
- **Public housing advocate;**
- **Two members of civic associations such as Northeast and Inner City;**
- **Resident of the Braddock area;**
- **Person knowledgeable about the history of the Parker Gray community;**
- **Member of the development community who has experience with affordable housing and workforce housing development;**
- **Member of the Planning Commission; and**
- **Three at large-members with diverse backgrounds, incomes, and other relevant experiences.**

Planning and Zoning, and Office of Housing, and ARHA staff will provide support to this advisory group, supplemented by a consultant team and staff from other departments including in particular Transportation and Environmental Services, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, and the Office of Historic Alexandria. ARHA staff will participate in the process and plan development as well.

The advisory group is expected to meet twice each month beginning in February through June and once a month until November 2008. This time line is necessary in order to fit into the Glebe Park redevelopment timetable. The discussion of this planning process has its origins in the Glebe Park redevelopment planning and HOPE VI HUD Grant Application process. At the time Glebe Park and the HOPE VI applications were approved by Council, the need and plans to undertake an East Braddock Road planning process were agreed to in principle by Council. In November Council approved a \$250,000 allocation for this planning process.

The advisory group will receive staff and consultant briefings and will participate in interactive problem-solving sessions at each of their meetings. The program will begin

with identification of issues by the advisory group, and information sessions on development economics, affordable housing, urban design, transportation, economic sustainability, and other topics that may be identified by the group. Investigation of these issues will be followed by identification of options for the future, selection of a preferred option, and working toward development of details of the plan in a variety of policy areas.

ATTACHMENT: Resolution

STAFF:

Faroll Hamer, Director, Department of Planning and Zoning

Richard Josephson, Deputy Director

Kathleen Beeton, Division Chief, Neighborhood Planning and Community Development

Jeffrey Farner, Division Chief, Development

Mildrilyn Davis, Director, Office of Housing

Helen McIlvaine, Deputy Director

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, the revitalization of the James Bland, James Bland Addition, Samuel Madden Uptown, Ramsay Homes and Andrew Adkins public housing developments and their surrounding areas is important to the economic and social health of Alexandria as a whole and to the Braddock area in particular, and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to gain the advice of community members representing a variety of interests in the development of a plan for redevelopment of the area that takes advantage of opportunities presented by redevelopment and that provides long-term benefits to residents and businesses in the Braddock area and to Alexandria as a whole,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA THAT:

1. There is hereby established a Braddock East Advisory Group.
2. The Braddock East Advisory Group will consist of 12 members;
~~— Members will be drawn from among the following groups: ARHA;~~
~~— residents of public housing; members of civic associations such as~~
~~— Northeast and Inner City; a resident of the Braddock area; a member of the~~
~~— historic preservation community; a member of the development~~
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~~— experiences.~~
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 - **Member of the development community who has experience with affordable housing and workforce housing development;**
 - **Member of the Planning Commission; and**
 - **Three at large-members with diverse backgrounds, incomes, and other relevant experiences.**

3. The functions of the advisory group shall be to:
 - a. Identify and study the issues, challenges and opportunities presented by the redevelopment of public housing in the Braddock East area.
 - b. Based on the members' local knowledge, values and ideas, advise the staff and consultant team on options for the future of the planning area, and assist the staff and consultants in developing policy recommendations in the variety of subject areas required for a plan.
 - c. Keep the public informed about the plan, advising groups they represent of the progress of the plan and issues raised that are of interest to the group, and advising the Planning Commission and City Council on their analysis and recommendations.

4. Administrative and technical staff support to the Advisory Group will be provided by ~~the staff from the~~ Department of Planning and Zoning, ~~and~~ Office of Housing, **and ARHA** supplemented by staff from other City departments and agencies.

5. The Advisory Group shall endeavor to present its findings and recommendations to the Planning Commission and the City Council in the Fall of 2008.

ADOPTED: _____
Date

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

ATTEST:

JACQUELINE M. HENDERSON CMC CITY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 2266

WHEREAS, the revitalization of the James Bland, James Bland Addition, Samuel Madden Uptown, Ramsay Homes and Andrew Adkins public housing developments and their surrounding areas is important to the economic and social health of Alexandria as a whole and to the Braddock area in particular; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to gain the advice of community members representing a variety of interests in the development of a plan for redevelopment of the area that takes advantage of opportunities presented by redevelopment and that provides long-term benefits to residents and businesses in the Braddock area and to Alexandria as a whole;


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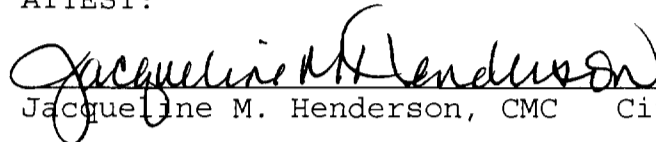
and ARHA supplemented by staff from other City departments and agencies.

5. The Advisory Group shall endeavor to present its findings and recommendations to the Planning Commission and the City Council in the Fall of 2008.

ADOPTED: January 22, 2008


WILLIAM D. EULLE MAYOR

ATTEST:


Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk