

CRITERIA FOR CONSIDERATION OF ARLINGTON COUNTY FACILITIES & LAND IN ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS' CAPACITY PLANNING PROCESS

Arlington County and Arlington Public Schools have a long tradition of working together to solve problems, with a focus on creative solutions that take into account the needs of both students and the broader Arlington community. In fall 2009, the County Board and School Board reaffirmed the commitment to collaboration, which includes a policy that both organizations will, "collaborate proactively and systematically in the interests of maximizing the efficient use of community resources and building space to help provide all residents of Arlington access to efficient services and community-based programs. The County and Schools endorse the joint development and use of environmentally sustainable facilities whenever it is in the best interests of both entities and of the community."

In the spirit of the collaboration policy, the County and Schools support the evaluation of the potential use of County facilities to address the enrollment growth and capacity challenges Schools currently face, particularly where such a solution would provide mutual benefits to Schools and the broader County population. To that end, the County and Schools support the following criteria to be used in consideration of County facilities.

Joint Space Philosophy

- Because facilities are held and controlled by both the County and Schools, both should openly assess operational needs reflected in shortages and excess space of different types to find opportunities, where feasible, for efficient shared use.

Services

- Services provided to County residents will continue at a comparable or greater level. Examples of factors to be considered in use of County properties include:
 - o Appropriateness of current uses to, or synergies that could be created by co-location with a Schools use
 - o number of current users & types of programs,
 - o square footage currently in use on a regular basis,
 - o specialized space / square footage needed to support existing programming (e.g., studio, gym or kitchen space)

Other Policy Areas

- Any permanent solution will respect the County's articulated goals in open / green space, affordable housing, historic preservation, land use, transportation, smart growth, and energy and environmental goals, among others. Examples of factors to be considered in use of County properties include but are not limited to:
 - o Access to major / minor arterial streets and traffic impacts on surrounding community
 - o Consistency with neighborhood land use and development plans

- Given that both County and Schools needs can change dramatically over the life of any facility, planning, design, and construction should deliberately address long-range flexibility for both organizations.

Financial

- Any solution should be cost-effective, yielding economies of scale for both organizations.
- Any solution should consider existing CIP and other financial commitments.
- An estimate of operating costs and future maintenance capital costs for both County and Schools of any solution should be developed and presented to both Boards.

The County and Schools look forward to working collaboratively in the near-term and through Schools' processes and the County's Public Facilities Review Committee process as projects get closer to implementation.



County Board Chairman

Nov. 30, 2011


School Board Chairman

11/30/11