# COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY GALLERY WALK FOR 1300 HIGH SCHOOL SEATS SITES (May 23, 2017)

## **Comments on Education Center Site:**

- Please maintain Planetarium if this site is selected
- Think adaptively re-using the Ed Center is great idea. It is an historic building and a great example of 1960's Arlington but it needs to be used not destroyed or moth-balled
- Adaptive re-use of the Ed Center to provide additional class space is, in my opinion, a wise use of funds. This should provide a lot of breathing room before building a new HS.
- Utilize W-L property (Ed Center) for new additional site 9<sup>th</sup> grade only. Create underground parking.
- Please add extra traffic lanes to Quincy St to help traffic.
- Good potential use of space. Needs to be paired with recreational fields at Buck site.
- Take better advantage of deck over I-66.
  what else can we site there to address short- and long-term needs?
- Make sure parking will be adequate for new HS. Need #s for what APS is learning to be sure there will be enough.
- Pedestrian safety MUST be addressed if adding new students on/near Quincy and on Washington Blvd as traffic will increase there with new tolling.
- Only want our "fair share" of HS students (Kenmore and Career Center take your fair-share too).
- Preserve Planetarium and Ed Center. Repurpose ED Center to accommodate our "fair share" of students.
- Extended W-L campus seems a reasonable choice
- W-L is large enough don't add more seats to W-L property.
- This seems a reasonable option facilities already exist.
- This site is more feasible has pool, sports facilities already existing parking garage available.
- Can APS work with VDOT to use space over I-66 in the same way they have built parking garage near W-L? How about building up the highway space near the Buck property?

## **Comments on Career Center Site:**

- We need to provide a center with carpentry, HVAC, electrical, masonry, engineering, etc, training.
- If another HS is in the future, this would be the best place. Not all students are college-bound and some of those would be better served with an education that emphasizes trades. Trades are also good background for engineers and architects.
- All for a Career Center especially in proposed Shillington area. We NEED a Career Center that trains young people for higher paying jobs and non-skill jobs such as waiting tables and fast food service. We need to build the middle class.
- This is a great option for ensuring geographic diversity within Arlington and there are lots of walkers to this site.

#### **Comments on Kenmore Site:**

- Can we build a road exiting on Manchester (on Arlington's side)?
- Change Kenmore to a high school and expand.
- No need to put a high school near elementary school. Speak with Carlin springs staff about middle school students coming to their school only to be found in their bathrooms doing unacceptable activities – ask them.
- Kenmore worst site based on analysis plus first -hand experience living in the neighborhood adjacent to Kenmore.
- Traffic current awful traffic situation on Carlin springs will only get worse-also more dangerous to students, buses and neighborhood at the Rte. 50/Manchester intersection. Opening 2<sup>nd</sup> Street will be a disaster of the first order. Not only will increased traffic thru the neighborhood bring safety issues but you need to also check the county's agreement with Fairfax before opening a street. Fencing was put up by Arl County and roads closed at 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets when Manchester was built. Parking and safety are the big issues.
- I second this comment about 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets being closed and remaining closed.
- There needs to be a joint decision on 1300 seats and 4<sup>th</sup> comprehensive HS so can make a fully informed decision.
- When considering building at Kenmore site now or in future please try not to open 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets to Manchester. There are ways to reconfigure access to Kenmore by moving existing driveways and entrances.
- Terrible location not enough roads
- Traffic and safety issues create immense problems that make this site a very bad choice. Three schools in ¼ mile with no additional access/egress roads is a HUGE problem.
- What is intent for VHC land is it being considered for APS or for county?
- Why is VHC not shown on this map but other JFAC properties are shown?
- Traffic in and out of Kenmore is already horrible. You can't add a HS traffic burden to this site unless there is major infrastructure improvement.
- Traffic concerns make Kenmore a show stopper. It is too dangerous as it is. The roads cannot sustain 1300 more people ¾ of whom can drive.
- Traffic is a concern but this is only site that leads to a 4<sup>th</sup> comprehensive high school.
- Don't send more kids to the edge of the county. Traffic is terrible and school site borders on Fairfax on west side.
- Regardless of if we use Kenmore now or later, the transportation conversation needs to begin in earnest now.

### Other Comments:

- If we need 2000 seats in 10 years, the only viable plan is to build at Kenmore and move the middle school.
- I realize the building at the corner of Carlin springs and Columbia Pike is on Fairfax property but could we lease that as an Arlington high school?
- There are so many empty office buildings in Arlington, why can't these buildings be considered for a possible high school (parking is already available). Indoor pool could be added as well as tennis facility and indoor track. It would be the envy of all other Arlington high schools.

- Could you consider using VDOT territory across 66 plus Buck property for school facility? Could you use the property for ART storage (off 66)?
- The time will come when there is no more land to buy. We will have to think about using unoccupied commercial buildings (Crystal City). Where is there space that we can offer a tax write-off in exchange for use of a whole or partial building?