



GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH

Loving as Christ loves, serving as Christ serves.

8710 Mount Vernon Hwy Alexandria, VA 22309 703-780-4055 email: office@gs-cc.org

July 20, 2021

Supervisor Dan Storck
2511 Parkers Lane
Alexandria, VA 22306

RE: Support for replacement of the Kennedy Shelter at Beacon Hill Road site

Dear Supervisor Storck,

I am writing to you to support the Emergency and Supportive Housing at the former Hybla Valley Nursery site on Beacon Hill Road. Our parish has a fifty-five-year history of care and support of Social Justice issues. Housing and food security have been a central focus of our outreach to the community. We have overwhelming support from our parishioners dedicated to supporting those in need of shelter and food. Parishioners support these efforts with their time volunteering and financial support, especially in service and outreach to the homeless.

The parish is a founding member of Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services and has partnered with them over the years and with VIC-HOP. We also have an Emergency Assistance program in place and work in conjunction with GSHFS, United Community and Fairfax County Coordinated Services to provide financial assistance to families in need and help prevent homelessness.

We support the proposed project site chosen by Fairfax County at Beacon Hill Road. Given the urgent need to replace the Kennedy Shelter with a safe, secure, and welcoming atmosphere, the parish urges you to support the County plan. The site is uniquely situated to provide the necessary and needed services to the ever-growing homeless population in our area.

Sincerely,

Reverend Thomas P. Ferguson
Pastor