

LAND USE COMMITTEE

Interim report to citizens of Cabin John

Valued characteristics of Cabin John to be preserved

quiet atmosphere	low density housing
small town friendliness	low volume traffic
socio-economic mix	no heavy vehicle traffic
lots of trees, greenery	good fire and rescue services

Landmarks of Cabin John to be more fully utilized

Cabin John Creek	commercially zoned area
Cabin John Park	around Tuckey's
Union Arch Bridge	C&O Canal, park and towpath
Cabin John watertower	Potomac River

Possible desirable additions to Cabin John

- * Decontamination of Cabin John Creek
- * A bike trail through the entire Cabin John Park area, from the recreation center along the Cabin John creek, possibly to a new 10-acre parkland acquisition
- * An additional active recreation area, probably in opposite half of town from the schoolyard
- * One or more pedestrian accesses to the canal
- * Renovated and new low/moderate income housing, primarily to accommodate present Cabin John residents (largely renters) who want to buy in Cabin John homes they can afford
- * Resurfacing of MacArthur Boulevard, retain in present location as two-lane street, plantings and good maintenance along sides
- * A stopover point on the canal/towpath, such as an outdoor cafe, perhaps canoes and bicycle rentals
- * A community/commercial area--limited number of services in low-key coordinated architecture, limited amount of advertising space
- * A community center (theater, teen-center, etc.) possibly under the water tower
- * Small library branch

The Land Use Committee, this summer, will be working on the specifics of its recommendations, especially the how and where of the desirable features. Comments and suggestions are welcome.

Report of Committee on Proposed Improvements

A meeting of the committee was held on March 14, at which were present Marjorie Craig, Win Shaw, Vera Dodds, and A. McDonald Dodds, chairman. Unfortunately we did not have anyone from the Gardens or other areas.

It was the consensus that desirable improvements include:

1. Improvement of public transportation
2. A return to at least the level of maintenance of MacArthur Blvd which was practiced in past years when attention to grass and weed cutting and trash pickup was much better than nowadays. We suggest that the county be asked to lend support to this request.
3. Provision of footpaths and bicycle paths in the parks and wherever practicable in the community.
4. Provision of better street lighting where individually needed and requested.
5. Upgrading of the street lighting intensity from Seven Locks Road to Persimmon Tree Road to the standard in effect to the east of that stretch.

We also recommend that:

1. Curbs, gutters and sidewalks not be installed on our residential streets (unless specifically applied for by owners) as the apparent need does not justify the disruption and the cost, especially since such cost could be a serious burden to many of our homeowners.
2. That no action be taken whether in the guise of improvement or not which could possibly jeopardise the Cabin John Master Plan or be the basis for a claim of change-of-character in the neighborhood in future rezoning attempts.