



Comments of the Friends of Accotink Creek regarding:

- **Country Club Commons Connector Trail**
- **George Snyder Trail Extension**

Members of the Planning Commission, City of Fairfax

January 9, 2022

While we observed these two items on the Planning Commission Agenda for January 10, 2022, we were unable to locate information on the specifics of the decisions to take place at this meeting. Nonetheless, at the risk of being redundant or superfluous, The Friends of Accotink Creek offer these observations:

Country Club Commons Connector Trail:

Although we previously submitted comments describing this proposal as a useful street-to-street pedestrian and bicycle connection, in light of the increasingly gloomy outlook for climate change and the relentless sacrifice of our natural habitat, we must amend our position. It is no longer justifiable to sacrifice carbon-sink trees for our present convenience without a quantifiable demonstration of net environmental gain.

George Snyder Trail Extension:

The Friends of Accotink Creek have pleaded with the City to forego this project and instead rely on our existing residential streets to provide superior connections via [Neighborways](#). Such connections achieve the goal of safe and convenient non-motorized transportation without further sacrifice of our fragmented remaining inventory of natural habitats. Again, the loss of carbon-sink trees is no longer justifiable. Ready alternatives are available.

At the recent Glasgow Climate Change Conference world leaders issued the stirring declaration "We therefore commit to working collectively to halt and reverse forest loss". The world cannot make good on that pledge if we here cannot. Whenever it is in our power, the City must adopt a course of prevention of deforestation large and small.

“The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit.”

– Nelson Henderson

Friends of Accotink Creek

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