DATE: March 28, 2006

SUBJECT: Updated Highland Park-Overlee Knolls Neighborhood Conservation Plan.

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the attached resolution to accept the Updated Highland Park-Overlee Knolls Neighborhood Conservation Plan with staff comments specified in the plan.

ISSUE: None.

SUMMARY: The Highland Park-Overlee Knolls Civic Association began work on this updated plan in 2002. A written survey was distributed to every household in the neighborhood. Neighborhood Conservation (NC) staff worked extensively with volunteer plan writers to complete and review this updated plan, which was approved by the Association in January of 2006. The Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee reviewed the updated plan on March 9, 2006 and recommended it be forwarded to the Planning Commission and County Board for acceptance. Therefore it is recommended that the County Board accept the updated plan with staff comments specified in this report.

BACKGROUND: Highland Park-Overlee Knolls encompasses 34 blocks north of Interstate 66. The neighborhood is bounded on the north by 22nd Street, on the east by North McKinley Road and Lexington Street, and on the west by Quantico Street. Arlington East-Falls Church, Leeway, Tara-Leeway Heights, Westover Village, and Madison Manor neighborhoods all surround the Association. The neighborhood consists of 613 households. The neighbors especially appreciate the streets lined with mature trees, public paths along Interstate 66 and Four Mile Run, open spaces at Reed School and Parkhurst Park, and close proximity to shops and metro. Highland Park-Overlee Knolls residents’ main goal is to preserve and enhance the quality of life and the natural beauty of the neighborhood.

In spring of 2002, surveys were distributed to 613 homes, ensuring that every household was included. The survey response rate for the neighborhood was 17.62 percent, which is well above the average 10 percent response rate for civic associations in Arlington. The Civic Association also sponsored a Neighborhood Conservation Open House to receive input from residents and explain the Neighborhood Conservation Program. After comments from County staff were discussed and changes were made to the document, the final draft updated plan was...
placed on the website prior to an announcement made in the newsletter. In January of 2006, the Highland Park-Overlee Knolls Civic Association voted to adopt the updated plan.

On March 9, 2006, the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) reviewed and approved the Updated Highland Park-Overlee Knolls Neighborhood Conservation Plan and recommended that the Planning Commission and the County Board accept this updated plan.

Staff has provided comments on a number of recommendations to clarify issues and provide additional information. Staff generally supports the Updated Highland Park-Overlee Knolls Neighborhood Conservation Plan and recommends County Board acceptance of the updated plan, subject to staff comments attached to this report.

**DISCUSSION:** The Updated Highland Park-Overlee Knolls Neighborhood Conservation Plan makes 44 recommendations covering a broad spectrum of topics. County staff will work to implement the community projects as initiated by the neighborhood, subject to funding availability and NCAC approval. For non-capital recommendations, NC staff will act as a liaison between the community and other County agencies. Attached is the updated plan, along with staff comments, organized by sections in the Updated Highland Park-Overlee Knolls Neighborhood Conservation Plan. This report and staff comments will be printed and bound with the Updated Neighborhood Conservation Plan when it is published.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The acceptance of the Updated Highland Park-Overlee Knolls Neighborhood Conservation Plan does not have any immediate fiscal impact upon County operations. If recommendations from this plan requiring funding or staff resources outside of the NC bond allocations are brought forward for implementation, they will each be analyzed as part of the County budget process.