



Friends of Accotink Creek Comments

Board of Supervisors Draft Environmental Vision

February 25, 2017

The principles and goals stated in the Board of Supervisors draft Environmental Vision are all laudable. Execution is quite another matter. The inertia of business as usual is a pervasive and insidious impediment to achievement of good intentions in practice.

Let's incorporate these principles in quantifiable and accountable ways into all county decisions, plans and practices in order to overcome that inertia. So long as those in a position to make a difference can regard these goals as someone else's responsibility, little can be expected.

Symbiosis can be achieved when the principles are viewed as parts of a whole, rather than in isolation. Otherwise ongoing county operations in one area may negate progress toward the vision in another. Even different parts of the vision in isolation may be at contradictory cross purposes; for example - new pavement for bicycle paths may come at the cost of tree cover and increase heat island effect.

An unfortunate Freudian slip? p. 31 - "Stewardship is a brand used on promotional material produced by the Fairfax County Park Authority as it relates to their natural resource management programs and to relay the support needed from park visitors."

Stewardship is not a "brand" used for "promotional" purposes. Stewardship is an ethos of accepting our duty of responsibility to our country, to the community of life, and to the future.

Sincerely,

Friends of Accotink Creek : : www.accotink.org : :

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