

Civic League for New Castle County
Resolution # 11-01-01
Dated: 1/21/11, *FRG/CW*
Community Bill of Rights

Whereas. Communities and residents often find that the Comprehensive Development Plans and codes seem to ignore existing character and quality of life issues.

Whereas. Interpretations of protective codes are insufficient.

Whereas. Individuals and communities have a reasonable expectation of what can be built or used surrounding them.

Now Therefore be it Resolved by the Civic League for New Castle County that current and future residents are acknowledged to have a bill of rights to the basic services and to a decent quality of life including, but not limited to community character, basic services such as listed below but not necessarily in this order.

- 1) Potable water of quality, quantity, pressure and reliability based on appropriate standards.
- 2) Emergency medical services as appropriate to meet national standards with periodic public report of attainment.
- 3) Police and fire protection services to maintain adequate response time to insure safety, order and preservation of life and property.
- 4) Open space to be a combination of neighborhood, local and regional with facilities sufficient *to* preserve biodiversity and provide recreation facilities to serve our population.
- 5) Traffic flow to be concurrent with new or redevelopment and other construction. Level of Service (LOS) shall be Level D above the canal and LOS C below the canal with no by right for redevelopment, workforce housing or other uses. Provision shall be made for safe use of mass transit, bicycles, motorcycles, and walking
- 6) Community character so that existing and future residents can feel secure and confident in what will occur next to them..
- 7) Drainage so that flooding will be eliminated on adjacent and downstream properties based on minimum 100 year storm including quality of discharges.
- 8) Sewer capacity shall prevent overflows or backups anywhere in the system and the county shall not grant waivers for development due to infiltration or lack of capacity by using back flow preventers or discharge into waterways.
- 9) Transparency and ability of residents to have ample opportunity to comment in a timely and meaningful way on rezonings and various stages of development plans. Reinstate 3.319 hearings and reduce the number of waivers and interpretations the general manager of land use may grant.
- 10) Preserve quality of life and community fabric as listed above but not limited to specific combinations.
- 11) Air shall be free of dust, dirt, particulates and smog generating materials and enforce the rule that construction dust must be kept on the property.
- 12) Toxic sites shall be isolated to avoid threats to communities, individuals and water supplies.

Therefore be it further resolved: that the above items shall be listed prominently in an opening appropriate agenda/preamble section of the 2012 Comprehensive Development Plan.