City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: OCTOBER 15, 2012

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: RASHAD M. YOUNG, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: LONG RANGE EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES WORK PROGRAM – UPDATE

As you are aware, staff for the City and ACPS has been jointly developing a work program for a Long Range Educational Facilities Plan. The purpose of the planning effort is to develop recommendations to improve facilities planning and accommodate the growing student population in order to support and enhance the delivery of educational programs and services in the most efficient, cost effective manner possible.

Several weeks ago, I forwarded an initial draft of that document to City Council. In addition, the draft work program was presented at the September 18th City Council/School Board Subcommittee meeting with generally favorable feedback. The Subcommittee had an excellent discussion and offered suggestions for inclusion of additional items in the work program. City and ACPS staff have incorporated those suggestions into the final version of the Work Program, reflected in the following changes:

- Inclusion of fiscal analysis and/or strategic review language to various parts of the work program. Staff also modified the work program to allow for the creation of a fiscal analysis subcommittee.
- Revision of the Staff Contribution section of the work program to reflect Department/Division only, not individual staff positions.
- Modification of the work group composition to increase citizen members and to emphasize that staff's role is to advise and support. The work group will consist of a total of 19 members, two from the City Council, two from the School Board, a representative of the Campagna Center, and eight community members, including PTA representatives. ACPS and City staff will each have three members assigned to the work group with other ACPS/City staff acting as support staff, not official members of the work group.
- Modification of some of the work group's attendance and meeting process requirements.

ACPS and City staff have been meeting regularly and have initiated work on student enrollment and forecasting, as well as coordinating the process to identify and select work group and sub-committee members. It is envisioned that membership in the work group and subcommittees will be selected by the Superintendent of Schools and the City Manager. Attached is a copy of the revised work program for your review. As the process continues, staff will continue to keep Council informed.

cc: Debra R. Collins, Deputy City Manager