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Jay McConville Unveils Mt. Vernon Environmental Improvement Plan

Jay McConville, community leader and candidate for the House of Delegates in the 44th District, unveiled his Mt. Vernon Environmental Improvement Plan today at a press conference held in front of an at-risk area of Mt. Vernon's watershed. Jay's leadership on this issue addresses how continued infrastructure neglect in the Mt. Vernon area causes watershed erosion and stormwater run-off pollution that damages the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay.

In order to bring improvements to the area, Jay is calling for a community effort: environmental leaders, business leaders, and the Virginia Department of Transportation, as well as local, state, and federal officials regardless of party. Jay believes that only by bringing everybody to the table can we achieve real results.

Jay's plan would make the redevelopment and revitalization of the Route 1 corridor the number one priority of Fairfax County and a major priority of the state. Roadway improvements will prevent further damage to the Potomac River watershed and the Chesapeake Bay, and help stimulate new development along this declining commercial corridor.

Simple solutions like water capture facilities would help stem the run-off and clean the water, and slow the torrents that cut into our landscape. At the same time, Jay would lead a "Citizen's Call to Action" to stimulate community volunteers and businesses to help clean up these at risk areas.

Jay would also introduce legislation to create a "Clean Business" program, modeled after the successful Recycling, Green Energy and Environmental Restoration Site programs, that would bring businesses into the conversation of environmental improvements and provide tax incentives for environmentally-friendly development in at-risk areas like Mt. Vernon.

Finally, Jay would initiate community-wide education programs to curtail illegal dumping and increase public awareness about how to address waste and run-off water.

The Mt. Vernon region, particularly near the Belle Haven and Paul Spring Branches, suffers from being among the greatest percentage of impervious surfaces and poorest quality of streams due to run-off in Fairfax County.

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