

February 4, 2012

City Council
Richmond , Virginia

Dear Councilpersons:

I am a concerned citizen of Richmond who is greatly dismayed about the news of Hickory Community Center being turned into a firehouse. This facility is not only a historical landmark but is also a vital resource for those in the community to experience cultural enhancements, recreational opportunities and educational experiences. It provides a place for the youth especially to be exposed to positive uplifting experiences and adult mentors who can help them stay on a positive track. It also provides a space for seniors who are in need of companionship to have a place where they can exercise, utilize the computers and learn different skills. It is a gathering place of people across all age groups to share their gifts and talents with each other. I implore you to reconsider this move; it would be grossly unfair to those who rely on this center for recreation, companionship and educational opportunities. Hickory Hill Community Center is vital to this community; I urge you to not take away this much needed resource. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dawn Smith
(804) 418 1676