

Motocross concerns make the cut

By FRANCES HUBBARD

Staff Writer

**KING WILLIAM** – Does motocross fit in Aylett? A new video hopes to answer that question with a flat ‘no.’

Produced by the Citizens of King William County, the nine-minute film hopes to be an educational tool the new non-profit group expects to use in opposition of the proposed sports park off of Route 30 near Globe Road.

In January developers revealed their plans for Governor's Run Sports Park, a motocross facility located on 327 acres in Aylett, to an onslaught of opposition. And although the application submitted by KW Morrison LLC was withdrawn in order to be revamped and address concerns, the new citizens group has let most of the county know that they are holding their ground over the next few months as the application process continues.

“At a meeting in January we were brainstorming and though twouldn’t it be a good idea to have a video to share with others,” said Bob Hubbard, an Aylett resident and member of the Citizens of King William County. “The film would look at what King William has today and contrast that with what a motocross facility would do to the county.”

The video starts out welcoming audiences to King William County and moves into describing the county’s historical heritage. The narrator describes the area in Aylett where the motocross tracks are proposed as one of the least developed areas in the county.

The video describes the unique characteristics of the county, including the

rivers, recreation, reservations, state forests, farmland, and wildlife.

“You get the picture of what a great county it is with so many things to see and do without the noise or the traffic,” Hubbard said.

The narrator then begins to describe the effects the citizens group believes a motocross track will have on the county. The voice illustrates construction, dirt, destruction to land and wildlife, bright lights, noise, traffic, and litter.

“The majority of King William citizens say ‘no’ to motocross in King William County. It is not the right location. It adds no value and it will destroy a way of life enjoyed for generations,” the narrator says.

The video is expected to be presented to the county decision makers, Hubbard said, including Planning Commission members and members of the Board of Supervisors.

Not all citizens oppose the sports park, though. Resident Eli Hopkins told the Board of Supervisors in February that he moved to King William for motocross.

“It’s a number one family oriented sport,” he said. “I have a six-year-old that looks forward to it every weekend. I don’t think it’s a bad thing.”

Developers’ original plans included four competition motocross tracks, a pavilion, a snack bar, restrooms, and a camping area. The tracks, which will be located approximately four miles north of Central Garage, would be accessed off of Route 30.

The developers, which include Bob Fauteaux, Arthur Mourino, and Marshall Campbell, initially proposed to host one weekend event per month. A typical motocross event draws between 300 and 400 spectators with riders generally ranging between the ages of eight and 16 years-old.

The Citizens of King William County was formed initially to oppose the motocross track, but Hubbard said they will be around long after this issue is resolved. So far, the organization has over 1,000 petition signatures against the facility and over 400 signs displayed opposing the sports park.

Hubbard said numerous residents have joined because they want to get involved and have other concerns about the direction of the county. Members have been volunteering in the county, cleaning roadways and assisting at events like this weekend's Spring Fest.

For more information on the Citizens of King William County call 804-769-9089 or email [citizens4kw@gmail.com](mailto:citizens4kw@gmail.com).

The video may be viewed by visiting [www.citizensforkwc.org](http://www.citizensforkwc.org). King William residents may request a copy of the video to present to groups of neighbors, organizations, civic associations, or churches.