



September 15, 2022

Arlington County Board
2100 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22201

RE: SER Restaurant Pergola

Dear Chair Cristol,

I'm writing to express the Arlington Chamber of Commerce's support for Item 3 on the County Board Agenda for September 17: SP #190 Site Plan Amendment to allow construction of a permanent outdoor pergola (SER Restaurant); located at 1110 N. Glebe Road (RPC# 14-013-048). Permitting the outdoor pergola would enhance SER Restaurant's outdoor dining space, adding vibrancy to the commercial area in the sector of North Glebe Road. We have been in conversations with SER about their outdoor dining for several years, and are pleased to see this item on the Consent Agenda.

Permanent outdoor dining space brings activity to Arlington's streetscape. North Glebe Road in particular is a main thoroughfare near a Metro station with relatively wide sidewalks and home to increasing amounts of pedestrian activity. It is particularly well suited for an expansion of al fresco dining. A permanent pergola would add to the attractiveness of both the restaurant and the surrounding streetscape.

Support for Arlington restaurants is vital to their success. This item would provide SER with the valuable opportunity to expand seating capacity at a time when restaurants in Arlington are still struggling. Moving forward, we await the results of the Permanent Outdoor Dining Study, and hope to see a streamlined, efficient process for handling permanent outdoor dining structures and approvals.

We encourage the County Board to adopt the Item that will permit this welcome addition to SER. We thank you for the County staff's engagement with the owners of SER, and we thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Bates". The script is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "K".

Kate Bates
President & CEO