



January 10, 2024

Sara Steinberger
Arlington County Planning Commission
2100 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 700
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Chair Steinberger,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce requests that the Planning Commission recommend Item 1 on the January 10 agenda to the County Board, concerning the GLUP and Site Plan amendments for the proposed development at 1501 Arlington Boulevard. The proposed redevelopment would provide 446 new housing units near the Rosslyn metro station, including 24 committed affordable units onsite. This increase is a significant improvement over the existing 28 units on this property, providing much-needed additional housing units in the growing Rosslyn-Ballston corridor.

The Rosslyn Station Area Plan Addendum includes an objective of “increasing opportunities for housing” while emphasizing a multimodal approach to transportation. This proposal would create more than 410 additional units in a transit-rich area, as well as constructing new sidewalks and crosswalks to benefit pedestrians, including both residents of the new housing units and residents of the Fort Myer Heights neighborhood.

The proposal will reimagine the existing site of an aging motel and small garden apartments into a modern multifamily residential building close to Metrorail, bus routes, bike trails, and the amenities of the Rosslyn-Ballston corridor. We ask that the Planning Commission recommend the site plan amendment, and ultimately recommend adoption of this proposal. We thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Bates". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kate Bates
President & CEO

CC: Planning Commission Members; County Manager Mark Schwartz; CPHD Director Samia Byrd; Planning Director Anthony Fusarelli.