



November 15, 2017

Arlington County Board 2100 Clarendon Boulevard Suite 300 Arlington, Virginia 22201

Dear Chairman Fisette:

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce offers our support for the County Board's adoption of the Clean Energy Financing Ordinance to authorize creation of the Arlington County Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) program.

The Chamber advocated for this program several years ago at the General Assembly and local levels, and since then, our Sustainability Committee has worked closely with County staff to help move implementation forward. In January 2016, the committee cohosted a seminar with the County to inform lenders of the benefits of a C-PACE program. Most recently Rich Dooley, Community Energy Coordinator for Arlington County, presented at our Capital Improvement Panel.

We appreciate the County's forward thinking about driving the C-PACE program – the first of its kind in Virginia – which would provide a financing alternative that enables low-cost, long-term funding for energy efficiency retrofits and upgrades for commercial properties. Over 1,000 commercial buildings across the country have taken advantage of their respective C-PACE programs, including buildings in the neighboring District of Columbia.

C-PACE provides a win-win program for the property owner and the greater community. By saving costs and protecting the environment, this program clearly aligns with our County values.

We thank you for your January 2017 commitment to launching C-PACE, and fully support moving forward with the adoption at the November meeting to advance implementation. We look forward to continuing to partner to help encourage the success of this program.

Sincerely,

Kate Bates

President & CEO

Kate Bates

CC: Arlington County Board members Libby Garvey, John Vihstadt, Katie Cristol, Christian Dorsey and County Manager Mark Schwartz