



April 28, 2023

Devanshi Patel
Chair, Arlington County Planning Commission
2100 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 700
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Chair Patel,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce supports the acceptance of the Sunrise Senior Living Special General Land Use Plan (GLUP) Study document, and the recommendation to the County Board to advertise public hearings for the Sunrise North Glebe Road GLUP Amendment. Sunrise Senior Living provides older adults personalized care at its facilities across the nation, including services such as independent living, assisted living, and skilled nursing. Sunrise's North Glebe Road property has been an integral part of the Arlington community for almost 40 years. The proposed project will provide a much-needed increase of 35 additional units in a conveniently accessible location in North Arlington. Northern Virginia currently faces a shortage of senior housing units, and this project would help address this issue.

The lack of senior housing units makes it difficult for senior citizens in Arlington to age in place. The proposed Sunrise project would utilize the existing land Sunrise owns to accommodate a larger number of senior citizens and replace the existing facility as it nears the end of its operational life. Given that senior citizens drive less, their costs to County infrastructure are minimal. In addition, the new facility's parking will be below grade. The new Sunrise facility would employ approximately 80 staff members and enable Sunrise to continue serving Arlington for generations to come.

We strongly urge the Planning Commission to recommend the advertising of the GLUP Amendment. We also ask that the Planning Commission support the Sunrise North Glebe project at its public hearings and the subsequent steps towards its final adoption. 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 Vice Chair Sara Steinberger; Commission Members Nia Bagley, Elizabeth Gearin, Stephen Hughes, Jim Lantelme, Tenley Peterson, Leo Sarli, James Schroll, and Daniel Weir; County Manager Mark Schwartz; CPHD Director Claude Williamson; Planning Director Anthony Fusarelli.