



June 12, 2019

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

Dear Chair Dorsey,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce strongly encourages the County Board to authorize the advertisement of a public hearing to consider enacting an ordinance to remove the current prohibition on installation and maintenance of small cell facilities on County-owned structures in the public right of way. This encouragement builds on the Chamber's letter of October 25, 2018, in which we called on the County Board and County staff to take a proactive approach in establishing a process for small cell deployment.

As noted in the October letter, having a modern, cutting-edge mobile communications network in Arlington is essential for Arlington's businesses and residents to thrive as leaders in the global economy. Small cell facilities support wireless coverage and the demand for mobile data in dense areas like the Rosslyn-Ballston, Route 1, and Columbia Pike corridors. Small cell antennas are low profile, compact, and unobtrusive, fitting on the same types of streetlight poles that are already in place in Arlington. Having a robust small cell network will also prepare Arlington for the next generation of technology.

The Chamber compliments the Arlington County Department of Environmental Services for its development of a deployment process for small cells. We encourage the County Board to take the next step at its June meeting by authorizing the advertisement of a public hearing on the small cell deployment process in July.

Thank you for your consideration of these 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: Arlington County Board members Libby Garvey, Katie Cristol, Matt de Ferranti, and Erik Gutshall; County Manager Mark Schwartz; Greg Emanuel and Nate Wentland, Department of Environmental Services