



June 3, 2024

Trespass Towing Advisory Board
2100 Clarendon Boulevard,
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Members of the Trespass Towing Advisory Board,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce strongly urges the Board not to include a second signature requirement in any new proposed towing regulation. A second signature requirement would create a new regulatory burden for property owners and businesses when they seek to remove illegally parked vehicles from their properties.

Small retail businesses rely on the availability of limited parking spaces for their customers and clients. Each additional minute that a trespassing vehicle deprives a business of a valuable parking space can cause additional lost revenue for that business. Local towing practices should be crafted to maintain the ability for businesses and property owners to remove illegally parked and trespassing vehicles quickly and efficiently.

A second signature requirement creates duplicative authorization for the removal of each trespassing vehicle, as authorization is already provided for in the contractual agreement (the "first signature"). Such a requirement will require either the property owner or a designated agent to be pulled away from other duties at any given time to authorize a tow. These policies also raise worrying safety concerns by increasing the likelihood of confrontation between the owner or agent and aggrieved vehicle owners.

We acknowledge that no one likes to be towed. The Chamber does believe, however, that policies such as second signature requirements work counter to the best interests of small businesses and property owners in Arlington. We ask that you please consider their concerns and interests when considering proposals for new towing regulations.

We look forward to continuing to engage with TTAB, County Staff, and County Board members on potential towing regulations in order to find solutions that work for everyone. 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