



May 13, 2026

Chair Phyllis Randall
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
2600 Park Tower Drive, Suite 601
Vienna, VA 22180

Dear Chair Randall and members of the Authority,

On behalf of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, I write to express the Chamber's strong support for funding three of the candidate projects considered for the FY2026-2031 Six Year Program: 1) the Court House Metro Station Access Improvements; 2) the S. George Mason Drive/ S. Four Mile Run Drive Intersection Improvements; and 3) the Arlington Memorial Trail. All three projects are strategic investments in Arlington's transportation network that improve accessibility, reduce congestion, and build on multi-modal infrastructure.

The Court House Metro Station Access Improvements would more than double the elevator capacity at the Metrorail station, greatly improving user access and reducing congestion. The impact of this capacity increase, and reductions in congestion at the other entrances, would be comparable to opening a new entrance to the Metrorail station. The Court House Metrorail station serves one of Arlington's most densely developed mixed-use neighborhoods, and a less congested, more accessible station would position the neighborhood up for sustainable long-term growth as a hub of residential, commercial and civic activity.

Similarly, S. George Mason Drive/ S. Four Mile Run Drive Intersection Improvements will enhance safety at a critically important intersection that is among the top ten locations for automobile crashes in Arlington County. A safer and more efficient intersection will benefit the significant number of Arlington residents who pass through it by car or transit every day. Additionally, the grade separated crossing of the Washington and Old Dominion Trail will improve safety and connectivity for trail users.

The proposed Arlington Memorial Trail would serve as a major connector for bicycle users, pedestrians, and micromobility uses between Rosslyn and National Landing via Arlington National Cemetery. By connecting these two major mixed-use neighborhoods in Arlington, this trail would serve the growing number of residents who commute by modes such as bicycle and micromobility.

Taken together, these three projects exemplify targeted, high-impact transportation investments that improve connection between our business districts and residential neighborhoods, serving important economic sectors of Arlington and the region. The Chamber respectfully urges the Authority to approve three projects for inclusion in the FY2026–2031 Six Year Program. 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: Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Board Members; Northern Virginia
Transportation Authority Chief Executive Officer Monica Blackmon.