



AURORA HIGHLANDS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

December 5, 2023

Arlington County Board
2100 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear County Board Members,

The Aurora Highlands Civic Association (AHCA), as a founding member of the informal Livability22202 coalition (along with Arlington Ridge and Crystal City Civic Associations), would like to preempt any misinterpretation about Livability's position on the Melwood GLUP study owing to other comments on the Melwood proposal. In brief, there is not a Livability position on the Melwood proposal. In fact, with the current update to the priorities, Livability is not seeking additional affordable housing in 22202, owing to the overwhelming success of the County's previous initiatives.

AHCA has actively supported the programs of Melwood and its predecessor organizations, Linden and the Sheltered Occupational Center (SOC) for many years. We have also benefited from the public function these organizations have served as our neighborhood's polling place.

As commendable as Melwood's work is, however, we do not support the zoning changes and extreme density that are currently under evaluation by the County. Our November 21, 2023, letter is not presenting a new position; it supports an analysis endorsed at an AHCA meeting with over 100 members (who are Melwood's neighbors) and presented to the County Board back in March 2022. Therefore, any notions that Livability22202 supports the rezoning are both misrepresentations of the AHCA position and untrue. There is no Livability position on the role or integration of Melwood into the community. Nor is there a need for one.

I hope this clarifies AHCA's position as a member of the Livability22202 coalition.

Sincerely,

Cory Jacobson Giacobbe
President, Aurora Highlands Civic Association

CC: Arlington Ridge Civic Association
Crystal City Civic Association
Crystal and Pentagon Cities Council
Arlington County Staff