

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

c/o Department of Environmental Services 2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 705 Arlington, VA 22201

December 20, 2017

The Honorable Katie Cristol, Chair
Arlington County Board
2100 Clarendon Blvd.
Arlington, VA 22201

Subject: Support of Amendments to Chapter 10 of County Code by the Department of Environmental Services, Solid Waste Bureau

Dear Chair Cristol:

At our November 2017 meeting, the Solid Waste Bureau (SWB) staff presented the proposal to amend, re-enact, and recodify Chapter 10 (Garbage, Refuse and Weeds) of the Code of Arlington County, Virginia; to amend Articles I, IV, and V, relating to Residential, Multi-Family and Commercial solid waste services in order to improve recycling education programs and increase recycling diversion rates across Arlington County.

We appreciate and support staff's efforts to amend Chapter 10 of the County Code. We want to highlight and support the following specific elements:

- Updating definitions to align with current industry-standard terminology and goals, and adding new definitions as appropriate for more clarity to the County Code.
- Requiring regulated properties to ensure their recycling service capacity is at least equal to 50% of their garbage service capacity.
- Revising the inspections cycle for approximately 2,400 businesses from annual inspections to every three (3) years. These businesses include commercial office building tenants, retailers without prepared food, laundromats, banks, auto sales, dry cleaners, etc. Larger businesses and multi-family properties will continue to be inspected annually. This will allow inspectors to focus their time on inspections that will have the biggest impact.
- Restructuring the Multi-Family and Commercial Recycling Program Fee to ensure more equitable charges which will help increase public acceptance of the program.

The Commission would like to express its support for these proposed changes to Chapter 10 of County Code due to the positive environmental impacts and anticipated benefits that these changes have been designed to capture.

Sincerely,



Christine Ng
Chair, Environment & Energy Conservation Committee