

ARLINGTON COUNTY
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 414
Arlington, Virginia 22201

June 2, 2021

Honorable Matt de Ferranti
Chair, Arlington County Board
2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22201

RE: New Park at South Eads Street and Army-Navy Drive

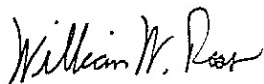
Dear Chair de Ferranti,

The Park and Recreation Commission (PRC) support the master plan and design for the New Park (Teardrop Parcel) at Eads Street South. Members participated in the original SPRC discussions on the LCOR project as well as the public engagement comment process. At our May 25th meeting we received an update on the park design process.

We appreciate the way the design process provided the community with alternative park themes and support the proposed final “Meander” concept. The park appears to provide the promise of a casual use oasis in this part of Crystal City that is supportive and respectful of the need for more natural plantings. The plan for protecting the remaining cottonwood tree and preparing for its possible succession is welcome. We also support the concept of a “dog spot” rather than a dog run, given that there are already several canine facilities being planned for this neighborhood. One commission question involved the park lighting, which is obviously important for urban safety. We continue to support the use of downward directional fixtures.

On all park designs, the commission continues to call for the minimization, subject to park standards and ADA requirements, of hardscaped surfaces and pathways. We hope that the illustrated depictions of combined hardscaped and permeable pathways provide a good precedent for other open spaces in the county.

Sincerely,



William Ross
Chair – Park and Recreation Commission

cc: Members, Arlington County Board
Mark Schwartz, Arlington County Manager
Jane Rudolph, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation