

June 30, 2025

Honorable Takis Karantonis, Chair  
Arlington County Board  
Ellen M. Bozman Government Center  
2100 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 300  
Arlington, VA 22201

Re: Ballston One Site Plan

Dear Chair Karantonis,

The Forestry and Natural Resources Commission (FNRC) strongly supports the recommendations of the Chesapeake Bay Ordinance Review Committee (CBORC) that conditions be included in the site plan to maximize the planting of canopy trees in and around the Ballston One project.

The FNRC participated in the site plan review committee for this project and commends the retention of the underground parking on this site as a sensible reuse of existing resources. However, the restricted soil depth above the garage severely limits the potential soil volume and the planting of canopy trees on the site. Given the sensitive location of this project within the Resource Protection Area (RPA) and just steps away from the Ballston Wetland Park, additional tree planting along the edge of the park will help mitigate intrusion into the RPA and accrue benefits of improving water quality, increasing the tree canopy, reducing storm water runoff, reducing the urban heat island and providing a more natureful environment for both the residents and other park users.

The FNRC further supports the recommendation of CBORC to encourage the applicant to consider providing a designated dog area to minimize water quality impact from pet waste, while also protecting the trees and other plants in the landscape from excessive dog waste. Additionally, the FNRC urges the applicant to use dark sky lighting and bird friendly glass to minimize light pollution and bird collisions, especially on the western side of the building facing the Ballston Wetland Park.

Sincerely,



Caroline Haynes, Chair  
Forestry and Natural Resources Commission

#### Commission Members

Caroline Haynes Chair  
Bob Benson  
Bill Browning  
John Carey  
Elizabeth Gearin  
Josh Handler  
Noreen Hannigan  
Jennifer Hazen  
David Howell  
Neal Hunter  
Phil Klingelhofer  
Lisa Marcellus  
Stephen Sockwell

cc: Members, Arlington County Board  
Members, Planning Commission  
Mark Schwartz, Arlington County Manager  
Samia Byrd, Director, Community Planning, Housing and Development