



September 23, 2015

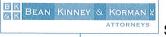
Arlington County Board 2100 Clarendon Boulevard Suite 300 Arlington, Virginia 22201

## Dear Chairman Hynes:

The Chamber is writing to express our strong support of the changes to both the site plan review process and the permitting process announced on September 10 that are currently being implemented by Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development (CPHD). These are many of the reforms Arlington businesses have been imploring Arlington County to undertake for a number of years. These proposed changes were enhanced by CPHD's willingness to proactively reach out and engage the business community in discussions before finalizing their plans.

While there is still work to be done to continue to make Arlington more business friendly, it is heartening to see progress begin to take shape in a comprehensive manner. The Chamber specifically wants to commend Steve Cover, who became the Director of CPHD just eight months ago, and immediately started looking to streamline inefficient processes. Taken together, these two process reforms represent a significant step forward for the County in allowing business to flourish. We also commend Acting County Manager Mark Schwartz for his leadership and support of these changes.

Therefore, the Chamber respectfully requests that the Arlington County Board do their utmost to ensure the proposed changes to both the site plan review process and the permitting process are implemented.



Sincerely,



Kevin Shooshan

Chair

Kate Roche President & CEO

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CC: Arlington County Board members Jay Fisette, Libby Garvey, Walter Tejada, John Vihstadt, Acting Arlington County Manager Mark Schwartz, Arlington Director of Community Planning, Housing and Development Steve Cover