



May 15, 2024

Monica Blackmon
Chief Executive Officer
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
2600 Park Tower Drive
Suite 601
Vienna, VA 22180

Dear Ms. Blackmon,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce strongly supports the funding application for both the CC2DCA project and the Shirlington Bus Station Expansion, under the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) FY2024-2029 Six Year Program. The CC2DCA multimodal project, connecting the Crystal City neighborhood with Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, will enhance the value of the existing multi-modal transit network in Arlington and complement other major long-term transportation investments. The Shirlington Bus Station expansion will also enhance the existing bus network that connects Arlington with large parts of Alexandria and Fairfax County.

The \$21.1 million grant for CC2DCA would serve to provide the last remaining funds needed to complete the project. It would provide a significant benefit to the Crystal City neighborhood, and for the National Landing area overall. CC2DCA will establish a direct connection between the airport terminal and the newly renovated Crystal City VRE Station, which NVTA has committed \$20 million in investments. Due to the Transforming Rail in Virginia Initiative, which is expected to bring expanded VRE and Amtrak service to Crystal City, residents of Northern Virginia and Washington D.C. would be able to take regular, direct trains to Crystal City and then walk to the airport. CC2DCA would enhance connections in Crystal City to bus rapid transit and Metrobus to North Arlington, Alexandria and Washington D.C., in addition to bicycle paths and the Mount Vernon Trail.

The \$11.6 million grant for the expansion of the Shirlington Bus Station would help expand capacity for the station, which is a hub for Shirlington and adjacent neighborhoods to connect to Alexandria, Fairfax County, and to Metrorail stations. Shirlington, with its walkable urban village, is a destination for shopping and dining that attracts people from throughout Northern Virginia. This investment in the Bus Station is a commitment to strengthen transportation connectivity between the neighborhood and Northern Virginia.

We ask you to please support these two grant requests from Arlington County as part of the Six Year program. We thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Bates". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Kate" and "Bates" being capitalized and prominent.

Kate Bates
President & CEO