

PENTAGON CITY CRYSTAL CITY POTOMAC YARD May 19, 2024

Monica Backmon Chief Executive Officer Northern Virginia Transportation Authority 2600 Park Tower Drive, Suite 601 Vienna, VA 22810

Dear Ms. Backmon,

On behalf of the Crystal City, Pentagon City, and Potomac Yard business community, the National Landing Business Improvement District (BID) would like to express its **support** for the CC2DCA Multimodal Connection ("CC2DCA") under the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's (NVTA) FY 2024-2029 Six-Year Program.

The National Landing BID commends NVTA for making this project a priority for funding, which we estimate to be a prudent investment that will pay dividends once complete. CC2DCA will serve as a catalyst by connecting bus rapid transit, Metro rail, commuter (VRE/MARC) and intercity (Amtrak) rail, and the Mount Vernon Trail with National Airport - enhancing the value of our existing network while creating new mobility options.

This project embodies NVTA's core values of equity, safety, and sustainability and supports the goals of Arlington County's Community Energy Plan by reducing the reliance on single occupancy vehicles.

Additionally, this project will have economic development benefits by putting more than 24,000 residents, 36,000 employees, and 5,000 hotel rooms in National Landing within walking distance of the airport. It will be a much-needed pedestrian solution for the many thousands of employees and residents who travel to and from the airport every day, especially flight crews, many of whom stay at hotels in National Landing between flights. Local developers have mentioned that CC2DCA is an important part of their pitch in attracting potential new businesses to National Landing.

Lastly, CC2DCA will help maximize the value of other existing or planned investments in multimodal transportation. The NVTA itself has committed to invest nearly \$20M in VRE's planned Crystal City Station. This augments the nearly \$4B that the Commonwealth is investing through the Transforming Rail in Virginia initiative to improve passenger rail service, anchored by expanded VRE and Amtrak service to the new Crystal City Station. CC2DCA will multiply the benefits of both investments by providing a direct connection from the station to the airport.

For these reasons, we strongly support Arlington County's application for funding this one-of-akind project and encourage the NVTA to grant their request.

Sincerely,

In LU

Tracy Sayegh Gabriel President & Executive Director National Landing Business Improvement District

NATIONAL LANDING BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

2011 Crystal Drive Suite 205 Arlington, VA 22202 nationallanding.org