

Sent: Sunday, June 13, 2021 8:35 AM

To: CountyBoard CountyBoard@arlingtonva.us **Cc:** Natasha Alfonso nalfonso-ahmed@arlingtonva.us

Subject: John M. Langston Citizens Assn - Plan Lee Highway Project Feedback (Area 2)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside Arlington County.

To Our County Board Members:

The John M. Langston Citizens Association reviewed the County staff's recommendations for the best ideas to guide future development of Lee Highway as presented in the series of meetings supported by the Lee Highway Alliance. The preferences of the Halls Hill - High View Park community, as discussed and voted on at our May monthly meeting of the preliminary, conceptual ideas regarding the different land use scenarios for our neighborhood area is as follows:

1. The neighborhood voted unanimously that we prefer the Option A scenario.
2. The neighborhood voted unanimously that we do not support Option B IN ANY FORM.

The idea that the County staff has offered an option that provides incentives for developers and commercial property owners to consolidate residential property into a commercial property to allow them to increase their building height to seven stories made the community feel that again, we are under siege.

In addition, the neighborhood does not want any additional affordable housing in our neighborhood. Halls Hill - High View Park has MORE affordable housing than any other neighborhood in North Arlington. Until other neighborhoods increase the numbers of affordable housing options in their communities, we respectfully request that County staff focus on those neighborhoods and leave ours alone. Moreover, our community has worked since 2004 on how we want our neighborhood presented on Lee Highway with the development of our Welcoming Area and the design for the rebuilding of Fire Station 8. We do not want the latest ideas of County Staff on this visioning project to override what our community has worked on for the past 17 years.

One further comment in regard to making the street narrower to compensate for bicycle and pedestrian traffic. As noted in the plans, Area 2 already has the narrowest portion of Lee Highway. We respectfully ask that the road not be narrowed further to the point where car traffic is backed up through our neighborhood, as this remains a thoroughfare to and from the city. Increasing stalled cars at the lights spewing out fumes that harm our citizens is not our preference. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding these requests.

Regards,

Wilma Jones Killgo, President, John M. Langston Citizens Association