



February 27, 2022

Nate Graham  
Arlington County Department of Environmental Services  
2100 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 300  
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Mr. Graham:

On behalf of the Crystal City, Pentagon City, and Potomac Yard business communities, the National Landing Business Improvement District (BID) offers its support for the 60% design for Segment 2A of the Transitway Extension to Pentagon City.

Mass transit is the backbone of National Landing's transportation network and this long-planned extension will enhance connectivity and further support new development in Pentagon City and along Columbia Pike. Building upon the Transitway's existing infrastructure, coupled with the soon to launch 16M premium bus service, will significantly increase capacity and connectivity, which is an important part of National Landing's long-term transportation strategy to become the most connected downtown urban district in the Country.

The BID supports the preferred 60% Transitway design, including dedicated bus lanes, new dynamic stations, upgraded pedestrian and traffic signals, and stormwater management improvements proposed in this project. Specifically, the pedestrian safety and accessibility improvements like ADA ramps, new paving and markings, and solar lighting inside shelters are welcomed. Additionally, the BID supports the Transitway's current alignment along 12<sup>th</sup> Street and notes that while east/west bike lanes are not anticipated in this design, future accommodations along Army Navy Drive and along 15<sup>th</sup> Street (as outlined in the Pentagon City Sector Plan) will ensure a safe, protected network throughout National Landing.

As we collectively move beyond the pandemic and welcome workers back to their offices, we also anticipate a need to attract people back to transit. Improving access and connectivity via the Transitway's operational changes is one way to achieve this goal. Such changes include:

- Expanding the operational hours of National Landing's dedicated bus lanes to 6am-10pm, every day, to assure a fast, reliable bus trip throughout the day;
- Increasing Metroway's frequencies to every 10 minutes during those expanded Transitway hours to ensure there's always a bus waiting to move you throughout National Landing and to points beyond; and
- Providing a one-seat ride between the Crystal City Metro Station and the Columbia Pike corridor via the 16M premium bus service.

The Transitway is an important mobility asset for National Landing and the planned extension will greatly enhance the value and ridership of the system as it more directly and conveniently links the three neighborhoods of National Landing to the Columbia Pike corridor. We look forward to continuing to support the transitway as well as people-centric mobility through National Landing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tracy Sayegh Gabriel'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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