

18.1

1-8-13

January 12, 2013

City Council of Alexandria
301 King Street, Room 2300
Alexandria, VA 22314

Mayor Euille and Members of the City Council:

We are writing in support of the application submitted by AHC, Inc. to develop 78 unit multifamily building in the City of Alexandria. This development, located at the intersection of E. Reed Avenue and Jefferson Davis Highway, will provide affordable housing for households earning 60% of the area median income.

The location has excellent proximity to public transit, and AHC will provide on-site management and community activity space. In addition, AHC is committed to providing educational programming for children living there through a partnership with a local service provider.

With the loss of over 10,000 market affordable units in the last decade, rising rents, and redevelopment of the Beauregard corridor, lower income families are being priced out of Alexandria. As a coalition of affordable housing developers, homeless service providers, faith communities and advocates who serve extremely low and moderate income individuals and families in the City, we know firsthand knowledge the difficulties these families face when they are unable to find housing that is affordable and are forced to pay a disproportionate amount of their salary for rent. The proposed development offers new, dedicated, affordable units – a much needed resource as indicated by the analysis in the City’s Housing Master Plan.

We hope that you will vote to approval this application. Supporting affordable housing options will help maintain Alexandria as a successful, diverse and sustainable community with fair and equitable opportunities for all of its citizens.

Sincerely,

- Alexandria Housing Development Corporation
- ALIVE! (Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically)
- Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless
- Community Lodgings
- Friends of Guest House
- Governing Board of the Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness
- New Hope Housing
- Nonprofit NoVA
- Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance
- Offender Aid and Restoration
- Rebuilding Together Alexandria
- RPJ Housing
- Wesley Housing Development Corporation