

May 2, 2017

Alexandria Planning Commission Mary Lyman, Chair City Hall, Room 2100 Alexandria, Virginia 22314

RE: FY2018 Interdepartmental Long Range Planning Work Program

Dear Chair Lyman and Planning Commissioners,

Last month, the Board of Directors of the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership (AEDP) spent some time reviewing the draft FY2018 Interdepartmental Long Range Planning Work Program. As you review the document and pass along your advice to the City Council, we wanted to take the opportunity to share our perspectives on prioritization.

While the work plan addresses many important needs and demands of the City, as the economic development arm of the City, we felt compelled to weigh in on the plans, initiatives, studies and projects that will have a <u>positive</u> <u>impact on the City's critical need to grow the tax base and revenues</u>.

The AEDP Board recommends that the following **ten projects** be identified as economic development priorities and projects that will generate tax revenue for the City, and accordingly, be scheduled and resourced as soon as possible (*order below is not prioritized*):

- North Potomac Yard & South Potomac Yard plan update, zoning & implementation
- Old Town North Small Area plan adoption & implementation
- Long Range educational facilities plan Phase 2
- Eisenhower East Phase 1 plan update and rezoning and Eisenhower East Phase 2
- Eisenhower West/Landmark-Van Dorn Plan implementation (revisit to assess adding incentives)
- WestEnd Transitway Design implementation
- Route 1 South Affordable Housing strategy
- Office Competitiveness and Conversion policy adoption
- Old Town BID Implementation Planning
- Sanitary Sewer Master Plan/Stormwater Mandates/CSO Plan

While the City faces many challenges ahead, arguably the most important is our ability to increase revenues to pay for infrastructure and services we must provide to our residential and commercial taxpayers. As we prioritize our staff and community resources, revenue generation should be an important factor.

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Thank you for your consideration and attention to this important matter.

Stephanie Landrum President & CEO

on behalf of the AEDP Board of Directors

cc: AEDP Board of Directors

Karl Moritz, Director, Department of Planning & Zoning