December 11, 2017

Mark Jinks Alexandria City Manager 301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mark,

Thank you for attending our Board meeting on November 16th, and for all the communication and progress that we have made since then. The new initiative we are working on is to explore if there is a partnership between the City and NOVA Parks that can bring the kind of year-round programs and facilities to Cameron Run we would all like to see.

NOVA Parks has partnered with the City since we acquired and restored the Carlyle House in 1969. Since 1976, we have invested over \$17 million (not inflation adjusted) into capital improvements at both the Carlyle House and Cameron Run. We have quite a bit of experience in creating and operating unique destination parks, and we can see great potential building on the popularity of Cameron Run with the City.

We have already had two productive staff meetings to explore what form this joint effort might take, and what is feasible for this site. I am optimistic we will be able to find a win/win solution. Last week, the NOVA Parks Board took the following action to encourage our continued progress.

Motion passed by NOVA Parks Board on 12/7/17:

That the Executive Director be directed to communicate to the Alexandria City Manager NOVA Parks' interest in pursuing a partnership with the City to develop indoor amenities in addition to the existing waterpark, to expand services to the public. Staff is further directed to report back to the Board on progress before the end of the fiscal year.

I hope the City Council also encourages our joint efforts to find a mutually positive solution at the upcoming December 16th Public Hearing. I look forward to continuing to problem solve with you and your staff.

Sincerely

Paul Gilbert

Executive Director

Cc:

Debra Collins, Deputy City Manager