ATTACHMENT 3: LETTERS OF SUPPORT AND OPPOSITION

Parking Planning/Development Review Board Alexandria City Hall 301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Members of the Parking Planning Board;

I am writing to express my support for the Second Street parking petition. My spouse and I have been residents of the 900 block for a year, having purchased our house at the end of October 2017. I work at home two days a week and spend the other three at my office in Crystal City. I have observed during on weekdays that I am home, parking spots on the 900 block tend to fill in between 9:00am and 10:00. On average, I have counted at least 10 non-Alexandria City vehicles parked in the 900 block on a typical workday. (This number may be higher if Alexandria City residents with city decals but who do not live in the district are counted). I am only going by the presence or absence of the city decal in my rough count of who is or is not a "resident." On these weekdays, I am often unable to get a parking space if I run out to drop my spouse at the Metro, take my dog to the groomer or run other errands.

Given the extent of the problem, I have taken to observing where these non-resident parkers are going. I have noticed at least 3 subgroups: 1) commuters parking for the workday to take the Metro; 2) people parking for the workday and walking towards Old Town for work and 3) individuals leaving their cars with suitcases in hand heading to the airport and leaving their cars for extended periods. Of this last group, I have requested specific enforcement of the so-called "72-Hour Rule" on at least three occasions. My experience with this process has convinced me that this is not at all an effective means of addressing the problem. Due to the rule not applying on weekends, as well as the limit of available parking enforcement personnel to respond quickly, such "airport parkers" are often present in the same spot for a minimum of a week.

I have also observed that such individuals, whose intent it is to park for extended periods while they are out of town, will deliberately park in such a way that will assure maximum distance between their car and other cars present, presumably to avoid damage to their cars. Such "inefficient" use of available parking will often take up two spaces simply because of the way they choose to park. When asked to be more considerate of the available spaces for those who live here, some have become belligerent.

I was actively involved in obtaining signatures on the petition for the 900 block. Having personally spoken to just about everyone on both sides of the 900 block, concern for the parking problem was universal. However, two residents declined to sign, and one did so because they did not feel the geographic area was broad enough and needed to encompass at least the west side of Powhattan.

I attended the most recent NECA meeting as the issue of parking restrictions was specifically on the agenda. On this topic, there was a lively discussion about a variety of parking concerns. This included a

discussion specific to Vernon Street where the north and south sides of the block are in two different districts. There was also a gentleman who brought a threatening note about parking in an alleyway that was left on his windshield. Others mentioned specific "no-parking" signs in another alleyway that Katye North, Alexandria Principal Parking Planner, declared were unauthorized. In addition, at the far end of Powhattan, there are concerns about construction worker parking and people parking to eat at the various restaurants at the north end of Powhattan. Given the diversity of parking concerns, each with individual and area-specific solutions, I am confident that the approach to addressing the unique concerns of the 800-900 block of Second Street on its own was necessary. There is a great deal of concern regarding parking over all in the northeast neighborhood. At the same time, there are specific problems unique to small block areas which an area-wide petition could not possibly address.

Thank you for your consideration of this petition.

Sincerely,

Anne Van Soest

928 Second Street

----Original Message-----

From: Rhonda NICOL < rhonda.nicol@icloud.com Sent: Saturday, October 20, 2018 12:24 AM

To: Katye North < katye.north@alexandriava.gov >

Subject: Parking

Dear Katye

We are opposed of restricted parking on second street in Alexandria. We do not want the restricted raking vehicles to flow to colonial avenue. In the last 40 years there has never been a problem about parking. I do feel this area has been targeted for sometime in a bad way. The parking police visits too frequent for no real concern. Thank you for hearing our voice on colonial avenue.

Catherine Drakeford

Sent from my iPad

From: Heather Owens < heatherannowens@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, October 19, 2018 12:52 PM

To: Katye North < <u>katye.north@alexandriava.gov</u>> **Cc:** Darrell Owens < <u>darrell.owens@gmail.com</u>>

Subject: objection to Residential Permit Parking District 3 petition

Ms. North,

I am unable to attend the Traffic and Parking Board's meeting on Monday, October 22 but would like to register my opposition to the proposal to require residential parking permits on Second Street. We have two cars in our household and usually park just a few spaces away from where these restrictions would take place. I feel that this will have a significant negative impact on our ability to find parking spots near our house (we have an infant so this is a significant burden) and will preclude us from utilizing spaces within view of our house without paying fees.

Please let me know if my concerns should be sent to other individuals or if any additional information would be helpful.

Thank you!

Heather Owens

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Heather Owens 1114 Colonial Avenue Alexandria, VA 22314 (860) 573-8332 Parking Planning/Development Review Board Alexandria City Hall 301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Members of the Parking Planning Board;

This letter is in support of the Second Street petition to designate permitted parting. I moved into the neighborhood in November 2017, having lived the previous 16 2/3 years in the Woodbridge neighborhood of Northeast DC. My area of Woodbridge had permitted parking due to a nearby semi-industrial area, and a WMATA bus depot. The non-permitted streets' parking availability was routinely sparse during workdays.

Since arriving, I have noticed problematic patterns along Second Street, which is adjacent to First Street, which has established permitted parking. We're the first street in the area that is available for non-residents to park. And park they do! I have on numerous occasions seen non-residents – out-of-state license plates, Virginia plates with residency/parking permits for other cities/municipalities, etc. – park on both the north and south sides of the 900 block of Second Street. Often, they appear to be heading either to the Braddock Metro Stations approximately 0.7 of miles away, or to one of the WeWorkesquetype office sharing locations on or near Washington Street. I have also witnessed multiple occasions of non-residents parking on Second Street, pulling luggage from their vehicles, and awaiting vehicle rideshare pick-ups; one assumes the destination is nearby Reagan National Airport.

There are those who would argue that non-resident parking during the work day isn't really a problem, after all, most residents are at work. Unfortunately, that is an antiquated understanding of how people work today. I work in nearby Crystal City, and my position allows for me to work-at-home at my discretion. And while I very much enjoy the option to work-at-home, I do not enjoy the reality of running a quick errand, going to an appointment, or grabbing a bite to eat, only to have home and have find no available parking on Second Street. On days I do not work-at-home, I often come home for lunch, or to check on my senior dog, Jack during the day. There is often no available parking on either side of the 900 block of Second Street. I often must resort to parking on Colonial, or Powhatan, which I am sure serves as an inconvenience to residents of those streets. On occasion, I or my spouse have been forced to double-park to bring in groceries, or when transporting heavy or obdurate items between or vehicles and our home.

I have also heard the claim that the non-resident parking situation is adequately addressed by the 72-hour parking limit. I heartily disagree. If one is reliant on the 72-hour parking limit, consider this scenario: it is possible to park any time after 1 am on a Wednesday, and remain below the 72-hour threshold as of 11:59 pm on Friday. The 72-hour limit does not apply on weekends. Consequently, that same vehicle can remain parked though 11:59 pm on Sunday, at which point the 72-hour clock starts again, allowing the non-resident to remain parked until 11:59 pm Wednesday. That's a total of 7 days, 23-hours of free, legal parking. I have seen non-resident vehicles parked on Second Street that have neared that duration.

Another claim I have heard is somehow these non-resident vehicles parked on Second Street serve as a crime deterrent. The connection tenuous at best, as it is obvious these vehicles belong to non-residents. In my 11-months in the neighborhood, I have seen vehicles with license plates from Alaska, California, Florida, Idaho, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Texas, and Wyoming. In addition, I have not seen any uptick in crime reports in the neighborhood. The corollary between at-capacity parking on Second Street and crimes deterrence can only be made in comparison to the crime rates for currently permitted streets of comparable size, and proximity to major thoroughfares

I would also note the belligerence of some non-residents parking on Second Street, when asked to park in a way that allows for more vehicles to be accommodated. In our eleven months in the neighborhood, my spouse and I have become part of a natural rhythm, underpinned by common courtesy, amongst our neighbors. We know one another's vehicles and find ways to maximize the available spaces. Some non-residents parking in the area allow for no such courtesies. They are concerned only with their own vehicle and show little interest regarding whether they are parking in such a way that will reduce the ability to maximize the number of available spaces.

The problem ebbs and peaks, but it is that unpredictability that we are looking to alleviate. I welcome short-term parking options for guests, contractors (although this may be better served by the availability of guest parking permits), etc. But I am opposed to non-residents taking advantage of our limited parking to avoid paying for parking in any of the nearby public garages, or in private garages of nearby businesses. This is not in the best interest of the City of Alexandria as it reduces the tax revenue generated by private garages and direct revenue generated by public garages.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Lopez 928 Second Street

805 Second Street Alexandria, VA 22314

12 October 2018

Mr. William Schuyler, Chairman Mr. James Lewis, Vice Chairman Members of the Traffic and Parking Board

Dear Chairmen and Members of the Traffic & Parking Board,

The intention of this letter is to make you aware of the parking situation on Second Street, so that you might take my experiences into consideration.

Having kept the peculiar hours of a person working a retail job while pursuing my masters at GW, I often take Metro into DC. When that is not possible, I drive. I've returned in my car repeatedly in the late morning, mid-afternoon, and early evening to find no parking available near my home. While I generally don't mind parking around the corner or on another block to accommodate my neighbors, it's irritating to do so to accommodate commuters who simply park in front of my home and then walk to the Braddock Road Metro stop to go into the city. I can appreciate that the walk is quick and easy, and that's one of the reasons I purchased a home in this location.

The commuters do not live in this neighborhood and they do not necessarily pay Alexandria taxes. I'm not bothered by the visitors who come to spend a few hours with their friends or to vote at the fire station. The commuters who park consistently every morning between 7am and 9am and return between 4pm and 6pm, these are the people who frustrate me. I would rather pay the annual fee for a parking permit to park on my street every day instead of being repeatedly inconvenienced by people I don't know parking in front of my home, blocking easy entry points to my house especially when I come home with groceries, large items, or in unpleasant weather.

For these reasons, I'm requesting that you vote in favor of the petition which has been presented to you to make the 800 and 900 blocks of Second Street permit parking.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jill Christmas

805 Second Street

805 Second Street Alexandria, VA 22314

12 October 2018

Mr. William Schuyler, Chairman Mr. James Lewis, Vice Chairman Members of the Traffic and Parking Board

Dear Chairmen and Members of the Traffic & Parking Board,

I work in Southern Maryland and drive to the office. Occasionally, I have meetings in Crystal City or the District and will take Metro. On those days, I have left my house right as someone who doesn't live here is parking in front of it and then will just coincidentally follow that person all the way to the metro. This is not a one-off occasional event, it happens every day. While I understand the urge to park for free, it can be quite annoying when they are not gone before I return home from a regular day and cannot park near my own home.

Additionally, I know this bothers my wife greatly as she does not work normal hours and either leaves early and returns to no available parking spots or leaves late and sees someone swoop in as soon as she pulls out. I know this is supposed to only be about my complaints regarding parking, but happy wife happy life.

Lastly, my vehicle was recently struck by a commuter attempting to parallel park in front of my parked car in front of my house. While I am lucky in that she left a note and assumed full responsibility for the accident, had she not been parking on Second St. for the sole purpose of finding free long term parking, this accident would have never happened. Second St. is a busy road that is only complicated by people attempting to park there who do not belong. Creating an enforced restricted parking zone would benefit those who live here and make for a more efficient road for those simply passing through.

Thank you,

John Christmas

805 Second Street

John Scalia, Jr. 932 Second Street Alexandria, VA 22314

(703) 548-0028 (Home) (202) 664-0846 (Mobile) John.Scalia@att.net

11 October 2018

Traffic & Parking Board City of Alexandria 301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Chairman Schuyler and Board Members:

I have lived in the City of Alexandria since August 1993 at 932 Second Street. During this time, I have seen my neighborhood undergo many significant changes, most for the betterment of residents. However, even positive change can be accompanied by some less than desirable consequences. Most notably, as the neighborhood has become more desirable place to live, parking – as in many other urban neighborhoods in Alexandria City and elsewhere – can be a challenge given the general lack of off-street parking available to older residences and the proximity of the neighborhood to Metro and offices and businesses located in the northern part of Old Town.

In an effort to help ensure that residents had priority access to street parking, a couple of times over my 25 years of residence at 932 Second Street, me and others have explored the possibility of creating a district parking zone for the neighborhood to limit "visitor" parking to short periods of time, particularly to discourage commuter parking and even "satellite" parking for National Airport. These past efforts were generally quashed by the objecting NorthEast Civic Association and even a general lack of support from a majority of neighbors. Despite these past unsuccessful efforts, my neighbor Nancy Meyers has spearheaded the current petition to include the 800-900 blocks of Second Street in the nearby existing residential parking zone. It is my understanding that (1) the vast majority of residents living on the 800-900 blocks of Second Street support this petition and (2) a recent assessment by City staff has confirmed a high daytime occupancy rate and disproportionate use by "visitors."

Understanding that inclusion of the 800-900 block of Second Street within the residential parking district is accompanied by additional nominal City fees, as the legal owner and occupant of 932 Second Street, I fully support the aforementioned petition.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of the petition; I am

Sincerely yours,

John Scalia, Jr.

Chairman William Schuyler, James Lewis Vice Chairman and Members of the Board City of Alexandria Traffic and Parking Board Alexandria, VA

Dear Chairman Schulyer, Vice Chairman Lewis and Members of the Board,

I have owned this house at 803 Second Street for 18 years. Over this time the neighborhood has greatly improved, however the improvements in my neighborhood and more generally at this end of town for business as well as residences have also brought "unintended consequences" for the residents. The most notable and obnoxious of these is a regular lack of parking on the block in front of my house as commuters who work at the north end of Old Town choose "free parking" rather than a garage or any pay parking at/near their work. This has gotten exponentially worse in the last year.

The odd side of the 800 block of Second Street is the last street closest to the north end of Old Town businesses that is not a districted parking area and it is directly off the southbound portion of the GW Parkway. Every morning commuters pull in to park here as they swoop off the Parkway. The black car with the Pennsylvania plates, the white car with the Florida plates, the rust colored car with Maryland plates and the white car with DC plates to name a few – they are all interchangeable "regulars." We also have more than our fair share of Virginia plates with other countys' stickers such as from Arlington, no sticker which I assume to be Fairfax and last but not least and perhaps most insulting – other City of Alexandria residents who do not live on this street or in this neighborhood but frequently drive here to park including one with a District 2 parking sticker.

These cars arrive at any time from 8am-11:30am and sometimes as late as noon but then stay all day until 4:30-6:30pm. The scattered arrival time in part is due to the new "work share office" space for freelancers etc. at the triangular intersection of Powhattan, North Washington and Montgomery streets (a mere 2/10 of a mile, less than 5 minute walk away) combined with the fact that four of us who live in the 800 block have "irregular schedules" meaning that we either work from home (sometimes or all the time) or work retail and so do not always vacate early in the morning leaving those who arrive later in the morning with hope of getting a parking space. A fact they have noted. And park they do. We also have occasional metro parkers, longer term airport parkers and inconsiderate neighbors. However, the commuter situation is especially appalling.

I have become a prisoner in my own home as I try to game out which day is safest to leave the house and at which time, in order to come back to a spot on my block to park near/in front of my own home, especially if I am coming home with 15 bags of mulch, or 80 lbs. of kitty litter – not something I can physically lug up around streets or around the block. Double parking in front of my home is hazardous due to the rate at which people gun the accelerator as they come off of West Abingdon drive and speed up the hill to the stop sign at Powhattan. More to the point – I am a

resident here, I pay taxes here both on my residence and on my car, and I should not have to cede all day parking on the block in front of my own home to commuters who park here all day. Nothing is worse than coming home in the car to watch a commuter pull in to the last spot in front of your house on your street as you have 5 bags of groceries and it is near 100 degrees outside. The sinking feeling in your stomach and the sense that you have been "gamed" and lost is extremely frustrating – it has completely distorted the quality of life here. In fact, it has gotten to the point that were I in a position to sell my home and move, I would. No one should have to live this way. While the addition of our street to District 3 would not completely ameliorate this problem I suspect, I would at least feel I had a fair and fighting chance.

Given that the odd side of the 800 block of Second Street officially has 7 parking spaces (although that is very tight) and that there are 5 houses on this side of the block, no parking on the other side of the 800 block of Second Street, and that while 2 household on the odd side of the block only have 1 car per household but the others have two – leading to a total of 8 cars for the residents alone – and that the City in a "traffic calming measure" removed one of our parking spots a few years ago – we feel particularly squeezed by the current situation. On our best day one of us ends up without parking – on the worst day – we find our block full with commuters who stay for the day– including in technically illegal spots and no parking for residents including those with toddlers and car seats to try to safely unload, groceries to lug etc.

Since I live on the odd side of the 800 block I feel that I can speak most strongly to what is true here which is that those of us who live on this block have reached a breaking point. For the odd side of the 800 block, 100% of the residents signed the petition. Similarly, four out of 5 households (mine included) on this block face wrote letters in support of this petition.

I strongly support the petition to join District 3 Parking District. It is past time for the residents here to get relief.

Sincerely,

Nancy L. Meyers

Karen Grane 918 Second Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314

October 21, 2018

William Schuyler, Chairman Traffic and Parking Board 301 King Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Re: District Parking for 800 Block (Odd) and 900 Block of Second Street

Dear Mr. Schuyler:

This letter is in support of district parking for the above-referenced sections of Second Street. I have lived at 918 Second Street since 1998. Within the past year or so, parking on the 900 block of Second Street has increased in difficulty. Cars not belonging to residents appear to park in the 900 block of Second Street for days or weeks on end. This use could be for persons, not residents of the street, to avoid paying for parking at National Airport. Other non-resident vehicles appear to part in the 900 block during the business day. During the weekend, the difficulty of finding a parking space near my home appears to subside, so employees of a local business or businesses may be using the parking available on the street during the work week.

Having a residential parking district for these sections of Second Street would be beneficial to the residents and my neighborhood.

Sincerely.

Karen Grane

To: William Schuyler

Chairman, Traffic and Parking Board

From: Paul Barry

Paul Barry Yau Dany 811 Second Street

Subject: Residential Permit District Parking for 800 Block of Second Street

The 800 block of Second Street has a chronic parking problem, which can be remedied by expanding the adjacent residential district parking area.

Under the best of circumstances, there is barely enough parking to accommodate the residents of the 800 block of Second Street. This situation is exacerbated by the fact that the majority of inbound traffic to the neighborhood is routed through the 800 block of Second Street to Powhatan Street (as opposed to the 900 block of Second Street). As a result, many commuters working in the neighborhood have a tendency to park on the block for the duration of the day.

Moreover, the 800 block of Second Street does not have any parking on the south side of the street. Consequently, all of the available spaces are filled very quickly in the morning by non-residents.

Due to the constant inconvenience, the level of frustration has reached the breaking-point for residents. Your favorable consideration of the request to provide residential permit district parking to the 800 block of Second Street would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.



Petition for Creating or Expanding a Residential Permit Parking District

Neighborhood Contact: Nancy M	leyers	
Address: 803 Second Street		
Telephone: <u>703-299-9887</u>	Email: echomeyer	rs@verizon.net
Proposed Blocks for Inclusion in the	New/Expanded District:	
Street Name	Block Number	Block Face (Odd/Even)
SECOND STREET	800 (803-811)	000 - 803-811
SECOND STREET	900 (BUTH -000/even)
* PLUASE SUE,	MAP	

Proposed Restrictions (Check an option on each line):

Two Hours

Three Hours

8AM-5PM

8AM-9PM

8AM-11PM

8AM-2AM (following day)

Monday-Friday

Monday-Saturday

No Sunday Restrictions

Sunday 11AM-11PM

Sunday 11AM-2AM (following day)

Submit Completed Petition to:

Mail: Department of Transportation and Environmental Services

Transportation Planning Division

Attn: Parking Planner

301 King Street, Room 3600 Alexandria, VA 22314 Email: Katye.North@alexandriava.gov

Phone: (703) 746-4139

We the undersigned residents hereby request that the City create a new/expand the existing residential permit parking district on the blocks listed above. We understand that if a district is created/expanded to include our blocks and signs are posted to restrict parking for non-residents of the district, residents will be required to pay an annual fee for resident parking stickers for each vehicle and that we will also need to obtain guest passes to allow guests to park on the street.

		Second Street	
(north side North	# side)		
(block #, e.g. 100)	(st	reet name)	(side of block, e.g. even/odd)

Resident Name (Printed)	Resident Signature	Address	Date
Nancy L. Meyers	My 95/	803 Second Street	28 July 201
JILL CHRISTMAS	Loulling	805 Second Street	28 dily
Christy Regnal to	6	807 Second Street	29/och
RYAN TAYLOR	(5-)	809 Second Street	28 July 18
PAUL BARRY	Yaul Dury	811 Second Street	JULY 16
Anne Van Soest	Ame for found	928 Second St	July 28
JOHN SCALLA	A Sold	932 Sowal St.	7 28
MARY J. POUL	All taller	9/1 16 17	7-25
Ann Tipton		914 Sneod St	7/23/18
Shannen Smith		922 Second St.	3-412
Rebecca Nicka	Kil Work	920 Second St	8-4-48
Kay Blackburn	Vagan	926 Selond 5+	8-4-6

Please note signatures from residents who are renters.

Staff Only:	Number of Households on the block face
	Number of Households that signed petition

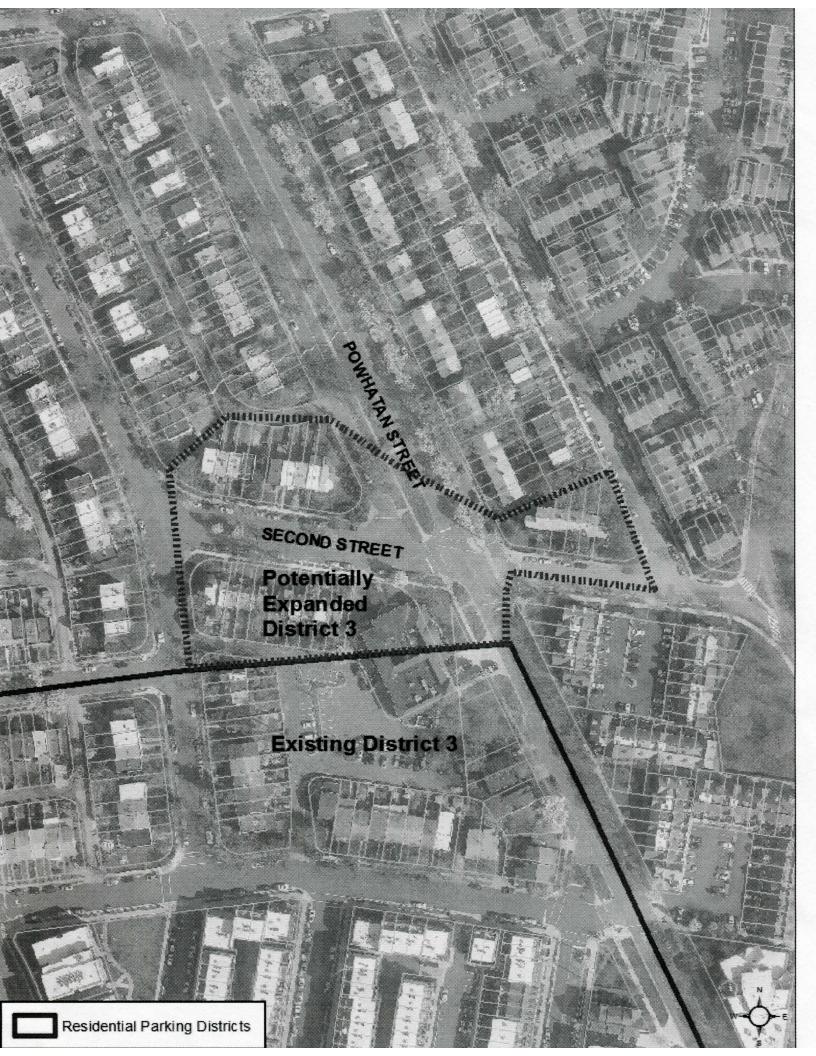
We the undersigned residents hereby request that the City create a new/expand the existing residential permit parking district on the blocks listed above. We understand that if a district is created/expanded to include our blocks and signs are posted to restrict parking for non-residents of the district, residents will be required to pay an annual fee for resident parking stickers for each vehicle and that we will also need to obtain guest passes to allow guests to park on the street.

block of		(side)
(block #, e.g. 100)	(street name)	(side of block, e.g. even/odd)

Resident Name (Printed)	Resident Signature	Address	Date
MMNUER	Miller	930 24d St	6 Aug 2018
Dim Johnson	Jaw John	916 Secont St	18/AUS
WilliamMyldrow	Splithall	905 Second St.	\$18/18
KAREN GRAME	Kare Free	918 Spand 87	8-18-2018
JULIE E SWATER	gelie & Swatch	903 SECOND ST	9-6-18

Please note signatures from residents who are renters.

Staff Only:	Number of Households on the block face
	Number of Households that signed petition
	Percentage of Households



October 11, 2018

Mr. William Schuyler Chairman Alexandria Traffic and Parking Board 301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Chairman Schuyler and members of the Board,

We write today in support of an effort to create registered parking for the 800 block and 900 block of Second Street in North Old Town.

We live at 809 Second Street, and we are consistently faced with parking challenges stemming from visitors coming from Maryland, DC, and across northern Virginia who seem to commute to nearby offices.

Currently, the parking problem on this street has blocked us from parking in front of our house for weeks. We are not strangers to city living, and we recognize public streets equals public use. However, we believe residents of the neighborhood should be prioritized when it comes to utilizing the street for parking in front of our homes.

As the parents of a young baby – who moved to Alexandria from DC to avoid these very issues – we strongly encourage the board to adopt this proposal.

Thank you for your time, your service, and your consideration.

Ryan J. Taylor

Bevin Taylor

October 15th, 2018

To: Alexandria City Council

From: Clayton & Shannon Smith

922 Second St.

Alexandria, VA 22314

RE: Second Street Parking District Proposal

City of Alexandria Council Members:

We are writing in reference to the proposed parking district on Second Street, as we strongly support this proposition. In the four and a half years we have been in our home we have noticed a sharp increase in the number of cars parked on our street on any given day, and it is a vast inconvenience to us as residents. There are many days on which we have to park on another street and haul our bags, groceries, etc., longer than necessary due to non-resident automobiles. This is especially inconvenient and poses a safety issue with a young child, as we do not have the luxury of making several trips to our cars back and forth with a toddler in tow. The lack of safety is also apparent as this increases the traffic on our previously quiet street, making us uneasy of allowing our young son to walk on the sidewalk at certain times of day. We have noticed that many of the cars are the same day after day, with individuals parking and walking to their places of employment, to the metro, or catching an Uber to the airport. We strongly feel this cheapens our beautifully peaceful residential street to a commuter hot spot, where free parking is easily obtained at the expense of the home owners. While in general we are very pleased with the development that has occurred in our neighborhood and very much appreciate the ability to walk to many establishments, we are very concerned that these changes will cause even more issues with parking.

We thank you for your time and consideration of our parking issues on Second Street. We also remain available for any further information that may assist in our neighborhood parking proposal.

Sincerely,

(757) 478-9952

Shannon R Smith (757) 472-3371