



*City of Alexandria, Virginia*  
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Justin M. Wilson  
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January 7, 2019

The Honorable Ralph S. Northam  
Office of the Governor  
Patrick Henry Building  
1111 East Broad Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Governor Northam,

This letter serves to both thank you for your support for the development in and around Alexandria's planned Potomac Yard Metrorail station, as well as to provide an update to you and your team on this project.

We are grateful to you for the inclusion of the \$50 million in CMAQ funding in the Amazon HQ2 National Landing incentive package for a southern entrance improvement to the Potomac Yard Metrorail station. This will improve access to this new, infill Metrorail station for all residents and workers in the area, including those associated with the Amazon/Virginia Tech project. In particular, this enhancement will be of great value to Virginia Tech's planned Innovation Campus.

The City is moving forward with the \$320 million Potomac Yard Metro station project, which is currently under contract through WMATA with substantial construction activities forecasted to commence in early 2019. We are working to determine the best way to incorporate the new entrance funding into the project in a way that best meets the requirements of the Metrorail station project, the current needs of the community, and the future needs generated by Amazon/Virginia Tech project while minimizing any impacts to the existing project timetable.

Additionally, later this year we plan to begin drawing down on the \$50 million Virginia Transportation Infrastructure Bank loan that was awarded by the Commonwealth Transportation Board in support of this project during Governor McAuliffe's tenure in 2015. We are appreciative of your administration's patience as we through complicated contracting, permitting and fund acquisition processes.

We are aware that members of the Alexandria community have been in contact with your office and state agencies, including the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ), to

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express concerns about the environmental impacts of the Metrorail station project, particularly impacts to wetlands.

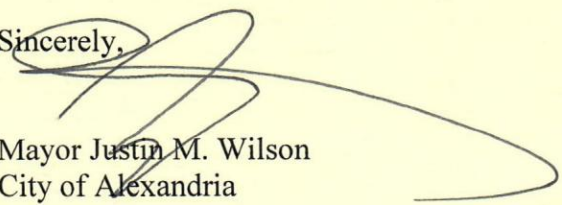
We want you to know that the project has gone through an extensive multi-year Environmental Impact Statement process, which included considerable evaluation of impacts to wetlands. We also executed an agreement with the National Park Service (NPS) which provides wetlands mitigation funding to NPS in full compliance with Federal law. We are working with VDEQ to ensure the City provides the information in our permit application process necessary to address any concerns the agency may have. We are committed to delivering a project that complies with all Commonwealth and Federal environmental requirements and continue to work with our residents to keep them informed of the project and our compliance with environmental regulations.

As a community, Alexandria embraces the value of both economic development and environmental protection and is committed to mitigating the impacts of this development on our neighborhoods and the environment. It should be noted that this new Metrorail station will result in thousands of transit rides per day, which will not only reduce single occupancy vehicle usage, but also support environmentally sustainable development in adjacent areas.

We continue to believe this project shows the considerable merit of the leadership of the Commonwealth in crafting an Amazon HQ2 package that is comprised largely of investments in education and transportation which will benefit Virginia residents for decades to come.

Thank you for your continued support. Please let me know if you have any additional questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,



Mayor Justin M. Wilson  
City of Alexandria

cc: Matthew J. Strickler, Secretary of Natural Resources  
David K. Paylor, Director, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Shannon Valentine, Secretary of Transportation  
Jennifer Mitchell, Director, Department of Rail and Public Transportation  
The Honorable Richard L. Saslaw, Virginia State Senate  
The Honorable George Barker, Virginia State Senate  
The Honorable Adam P. Ebbin, Virginia State Senate  
The Honorable Charniele Herring, Virginia House of Delegates  
The Honorable Mark H. Levine, Virginia House of Delegates  
The Honorable Members of City Council, City of Alexandria  
Mark B. Jinks, City Manager  
Stephanie Landrum, President & CEO, Alexandria Economic Development Partnership