



Fairlington Citizens Association  
P. O. Box 6182  
Arlington, Virginia 22206

August 23, 2024

Arlington County Board  
2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 300  
Arlington, Virginia 22201

Dear Members of the County Board:

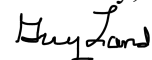
On behalf of the Executive Board of the Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) I am writing to express our support for the proposed amendment to the Arlington County Zoning Ordinance that would make it easier for many homeowners in Fairlington to make internal structural improvements to their homes to improve livability, functionality, and safety of individual units.

The amendment would enable owners to update their historic condominiums to meet modern living standards and styles, thereby advancing the county's goal of preserving older buildings that may have cultural or historic value and/or providing lower-cost living options compared to newer buildings.

Because Fairlington is currently non-conforming (certain buildings, which were built in the 1940s, fail to meet the current code's setback requirements), some homeowners must seek a variance from the Board of Zoning Appeals for interior structural alterations to remove walls separating the kitchen from the dining room or to install basement egress windows. The necessity of seeking a variance increases the cost and timeline of many Fairlington renovation projects and increases the workload of the BZA. The proposed amendment would eliminate this problem.

FCA represents over 3,400 households across North and South Fairlington and works to preserve and enhance the quality of life in Fairlington. We believe the proposed zoning amendment protects the historic character of Fairlington, something that is very important to us, and helps keep Fairlington competitive and affordable.

We appreciate the diligent work of county staff in researching this problem and examining the implications of a proposed zoning amendment on other areas in the county. We encourage the County Board to move forward with the proposed amendment, and we thank you for your attention to our situation.

Sincerely,  


Guy Land  
President