



Aurora Highlands Civic Association

March 18, 2016

Dear Members of the County Board,

The Aurora Highlands Civic Association (AHCA) strongly supports continued full funding of the Neighborhood Conservation (NC) Program in the upcoming bond cycle.

The NC Program is the primary tool neighborhoods have to improve their quality of life, whether it be through increased safety and security, beautification, or improved facilities. AHCA is fortunate to have two programs currently approved for NC funding. The Fern St. project will improve safety by adding sidewalks to a critical street that both serves as a key pedestrian pathway to Metro and the employment and commercial centers at Pentagon City and Crystal City, and provides better access to the 23rd St. Restaurant Row, which is a much-loved gathering spot and focal point for our neighborhood. The Nelly Custis Park project will revitalize one of the few green spots in our neighborhood and make it more inviting for everyone to use. Neither of these projects could have been accomplished without NC funding.

Similarly, projects in our neighboring Arlington Ridge Civic Association (ARCA), such as the improvements to S. Lang St., will help our residents. We share many roads and facilities with ARCA, and the NC program is a wonderful way to bring adjoining neighborhoods together to work on items of mutual benefit.

AHCA stands at the crossroads of the most populous and heavily commercialized section of Arlington. The NC Program is critical to helping us balance the needs of a residential neighborhood against the demands of increased commercialization and development. Thus, we urge you to fully fund, if not increase the funding for, the NC Program. It is one of the best investments you can make in the future of Arlington and its neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anabula G. G. G.", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

President, AHCA