

May 3, 2019

To Who it May Concern,

As the Chairperson of Shirlington Dogs II, the Arlington County required sponsoring group for the Shirlington Dog Park, I am writing to strongly support the establishment of off-leash dog parks in the Pentagon City area. The more than 11,000 households there currently have no nearby dog park as there are none in the entire 22202 zip code area. Many of those dog owners utilize the Shirlington Dog Park, which being over 2 miles away and across Interstate 395 they have no other choice but to drive to get there. The Shirlington Dog Park is already heavily used receiving nearly 200,000 visits annually. The limited parking near the dog park is in high demand and parking will be even more difficult to find with the remodeling of adjacent Jennie Dean Park that will permanently eliminate over 40 parking spaces in the area. With Amazon announcing they will allow employees to bring their dogs to work at their new Arlington headquarters, establishing dog parks in the Pentagon City area is even more critical. In addition, the dog parks will need to be large enough to accommodate the expected number of dogs that will be utilizing them at any given time and meet the requirements of the area residents so there will not be a need to drive to Shirlington or any other dog park. Thank you for your consideration and I am available to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Keith Fred Shirlington Dogs II Email: <u>info@shirlingtondogs.org</u> www.ShirlingtonDogs.org

Shirlington Dogs II is a non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (FEIN 81-4058679) and contributions may be tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.