



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY BOARD

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March 24, 2020

Dear Arlington County Property Owner and Manager,

The current pandemic situation is unprecedented not just for all of us in Arlington County, but globally. As we all work to understand the near- and longer-term economic challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, we wanted to reach out to you, our commercial property owners and managers, to seek your help in maintaining economic stability in Arlington County, for your tenant businesses and their employees, as well as your own employees in your commercial and mixed-use buildings. We all need to find ways to work together to provide some level of economic security for those most challenged by this significant economic shock.

With this in mind, we would ask that you implement the following actions:

- Maintain security and janitorial staffing levels in your buildings for the sake of the health and welfare of those people still working in and visiting your buildings, as well as the economic security of these vulnerable workers.
- Work proactively with tenants that now require additional landlord or County support, such as curbside pick-up locations for restaurants. Businesses can request sign installation by calling 703-228-5000 or emailing DESContactCenter@arlingtonva.us
- Work proactively with tenants that are experiencing significant or full business disruption, most notably retailers and restaurants, service providers, child care providers, small business office tenants, etc., to provide rent relief and other tangible measures that allow these tenants to remain in their space when business operations fully resume.
- Do not file eviction proceedings against any tenant who is in arrears on rent for at least the next three (3) months. Currently, the General District Court has removed all civil cases – except for protective orders – from the docket which were scheduled to be heard from March 17 – April 6, including eviction cases (unlawful detainers). This information was shared in [an Order for Docket Management effective March 16, 2020](#).
- As of now, The U.S. Small Business Administration has administratively declared an economic disaster for Arlington County which means any small business is eligible to apply for a low-interest federal disaster loan for working capital as a result of economic injury to small businesses suffering substantial economic injury as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Further, the County is exploring options for providing additional resources to support businesses and commercial property owners who

experience hardship as a result of uncollected rents and will provide further information as resources are identified.

We also want to hear from you. We're trying to compile information on the level of economic distress our businesses are experiencing around the County, and we welcome your ideas for potential ways the County can work with you and your tenants to provide meaningful support and relief. **Information, ideas and requests for further information can be sent to aed@arlingtonva.us or call 703-228-0808.**

Thank you for considering these requests. We understand that these measures may create financial challenges for your property and appreciate your commitment to supporting Arlington's business community as we address this health crisis in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Libby Garvey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Libby Garvey, Chair
Arlington County Board

