



**ARLINGTON COUNTY
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 414
Arlington, Virginia 22201**



August 25, 2020

Honorable Libby Garvey
Chair, Arlington County Board
2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22201

RE: Met Park Master Park Design

Dear Chair Garvey:

The Park and Recreation Commission would like to offer its thoughts on the Met Park Final Master Plan. Commission members participated in the public engagement process, including review of the online materials produced by county staff and the applicant's design team. We would like to compliment the engagement process which allowed for a wide range of community comments whose major themes appeared to be taken into account in the final design.

Overall, we found the design to be innovative and creative, attempting to take into account multiple community needs and anticipates the popular use of this site which will be a critical component of the first Amazon office complex. The design incorporates the dual objectives of providing a connection path through this important hub of National Landing and proposing natural open space features and amenities that will serve as a local destination.

This will be an urban oasis, and for those who care about native plants, biophilia, organic design, experience in nature, and softening the rough and angular built environment that is mostly National Landing, we believe that this design is a dramatic leap as compared many previous projects in Crystal City and Arlington generally. With a few other private and public designs from the past two years (Artis, Ames, Marriott, Lubber Run, Long Bridge) we hope that the county is setting precedents for subsequent biophilic designs in Arlington that will make it easier to create actual design standards and other guidance to support all future projects.

Thank you for letting us share our views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William W. Post".

William Ross
Chair, Park and Recreation Commission

cc: Members, Arlington County Board
Mark Schwartz, Arlington County Manager
Jane Rudolph, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation