

**Testimony from the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA)
Economic Incentive Program (EIP) Public Hearing
September 15, 2020**

My name is Katherine Ward and I am testifying today on behalf of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizen's Associations (MVCCA), in the capacity of Cochair. I reside on Gladstone Place in Alexandria VA within the Mount Vernon District.

The MVCCA was formed in 1969 and ever since we have actively sought the revitalization of the Richmond Highway Corridor—our Main Street.

We are pleased that the county staff has developed this innovative approach to the revitalization process. We also believe there are additional actions the Board needs to take to ensure the success of the EIP. Those steps must include undergrounding the utilities and reducing the width of the roadway. Richmond Highway has numerous smaller and shallower parcels of land that would benefit under the EIP if the road width was reduced. Leaving these parcels with more developable land we believe there would be greater potential for consolidation and revitalization.

The MVCCA fully supports the Economic Incentive Program (EIP) as proposed for the Richmond Highway Corridor from North Gateway to Jeff Todd Way. We, furthermore, support the recommended Richmond Highway start date of the ordinance.

We encourage the Fairfax County Staff to work diligently and promptly work with the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority and the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation to inform and educate local and national developers and landowners about this new program.

We ask that you authorize the proposed EIP as presented.

Thank you for your time.