



February 27, 2018

Prince William Board of County Supervisors
One County Complex
Prince William, Virginia 22192

Dear Supervisors,

The Prince William Conservation Alliance supports implementation of the county's Strategic Vision, to create live-work-play communities in Prince William. We support increasing jobs within our county, by encouraging growth at places such as Innovation and along Route 1.

Prince William Conservation Alliance supports minimizing future traffic congestion by constructing new housing on transit corridors in the Development Area closest to the job centers in Fairfax, Arlington, and the District of Columbia.

We support investing in new public facilities where they can serve the greatest number of people at the lowest cost, in the area designated for development since 1998.

We support lower property taxes, by incentivizing growth in the Development Area where it is cost-effective to provide new fire/police stations, schools, libraries, and other services that must be expanded as population grows.

We support designating agriculture and agri-tourism as a "targeted industry" for economic development in that part of our county furthest away from the job centers, maintaining it as our Rural Area.

We encourage you to do the same, by rejecting the proposal to initiate the Mid-County Park & Estate Homes Comprehensive Plan Amendment on March 6. Do not add more houses in the Rural Area. Do not bust the urban growth boundary that has existed in every Comprehensive Plan and was formally adopted in 1998.


Our county's Strategic Plan highlights that quality of life is a primary factor that "families, individuals and businesses rely upon when choosing where to locate..." The

Comprehensive Plan is designed for Prince William to evolve into “a role model in many areas... from the provision of public services to protecting our natural resources.”

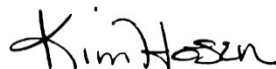
That requires steering development in the Development Area, and protecting the Rural Area. The alternative is to encourage suburban sprawl. In 1998 the supervisors recognized that sprawl development sabotages transit, raises property taxes, increases traffic congestion, and reduces the distinctive quality of life that makes Prince William competitive when recruiting businesses to provide local jobs.

There are costs, and there are no benefits for the public, if you abandon the growth strategy used for the last 20 years. Stay the course.

Sincerely,



Charlie Grymes
Chairman



Kim Hosen
Executive Director