February 8, 2017

Fairfax County Planning Commission
12000 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, VA 22035

RE: Proposed Tysons Implementation Plan Amendment.

Dear Members of the Fairfax County Planning Commission,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Vienna Town Council that reviewed the Proposed Tysons Implementation Plan Amendment S 13-II-TY1. We appreciate the opportunity to review this document and provide feedback.

Since 2010, key commitments were made to communities surrounding Tysons. I think it is important to mention a few of them since Vienna is one of those affected communities. One of the commitments was to ensure that impacts on the surrounding communities, outside of Tysons, are mitigated and Tysons growth does not negatively impact our quality of life. Additionally, Tysons is to become a destination where residents and employees can live, work and play.

Given these commitments, we ask that you honor the decision of building 20 athletic fields in Tysons and remove the added language on pages 112-113 that could discourage developers from meeting this requirement. The Town of Vienna, contiguous to Tysons, currently does not have adequate field space for its residents and youth. We don’t want Tysons population growth to add to the shortage and negatively impact our quality of life. If Tysons is to be a place where citizens live, work and play, then it must have adequate athletic fields within its borders to meet that goal.

Please remove all references to James Madison High School on pages 117-118, 125. Even though the school is no longer mentioned by name in the text, it is identified indirectly by increasing the number of high schools from 3 to 4. The text also increases the capacity of the high school by 500 students. James Madison High School currently exceeds its student capacity and the demand for the use of its
facilities is already extremely high. Having students and parents travel from Tysons down Route 123 to James Madison High School will contribute to the traffic along this corridor and does not satisfy the commitment to have citizens live, work and play in Tysons.

Please retain the deleted language on pages 31, 39, 40 and 92 that provides for metrics to determine a balance between development and the implementation of transportation and other infrastructure requirements. We also believe the amendment should retain the Initial Development Level for the amount of permissible office uses on pages 31-32. It is important that the needed infrastructure keep pace with development.

I know the County is working hard to make Tysons Redevelopment a success. The Town of Vienna shares that desire since Tysons sits on our eastern border. We thank you for listening to our concerns. We look forward to hearing from County staff at our work session in March.

Sincerely,

Laurie A. DiRocco
Mayor, Town of Vienna

Cc: Fairfax County Board of Supervisors