

PLH/Langston Blvd Statement to Arlington County Board July 17, 2021

Good morning, and thank you for this opportunity to bring to the Board's attention the concerns of many residents regarding the most recent iteration of Plan Lee Highway/Langston Boulevard. My name is Jane Zimmerman, and I am a member of the Old Dominion Civic Association and a 27-year resident of Arlington County.

Like many residents and stakeholders along the Lee Highway/Langston Boulevard corridor, my neighbors and I have commented on several iterations of plans. We have attended community meetings, and provided feedback collectively through civic associations, and individually through the cumbersome features on the cumbersome county website.

Sadly, the answer we received was the most recent iteration of the Plan. It breaks faith with the premises of the Guiding Principles and the Visioning Study, and represents a radical departure from the feedback and expressed viewpoints of the primary stakeholders -- Arlington County residents. This iteration of the Plan reflects developer-driven interests, which are being shoe-horned and reverse-engineered for their short-term profit, at our long-term expense and existence.

These issues literally hit home when Scenarios A and B for Area 3 allow Arlington County to exercise eminent domain, and extend either North 22nd or North 23rd Streets through my house and those of my neighbors on either side.

Please see the statement I uploaded on the website while registering to speak regarding the Plan's serious flaws. They include:

- the impact of increased density on the future viability of residential and commercial areas,
- scenarios exacerbating traffic safety, congestion, and parking,

- unaddressed issues regarding environmental sustainability, and
- the lack of attention to the impact on our schools, parks, and community spaces.

The transformation from Lee Highway to Langston Boulevard should mark a new vision for the corridor, and improvements that will enhance our neighborhood and the wider Arlington community.

The planners need to go back and prioritize the input from residents, who are committed to the long-term sustainability of our community.

Thank you for your leadership and attention.