

6/14/2026

Matt de Ferranti, Arlington County Board Chair
Maureen Coffey, Vice-Chair
Takis P. Karantonis, Member
Julius "JD" Spain, Sr, Member
Susan Cunningham, Member

Ellen M. Bozman Government Center
2100 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 300
Arlington County, VA 22201

Dear Chair de Ferranti and esteemed Board Members,

We are writing today to express Shirlington Civic Association (SCA) support for the requested \$7 million in bond funding in FY 2027 CIP for the Arlington Neighborhoods Program (ANP).

As you know, for nearly 60 years the ANP (formerly the Neighborhood Conservation Program) has been the primary source of a wide range of pedestrian safety, traffic calming, environmental, and parks projects benefiting neighborhoods countywide. ArNAC is the only true "bottom-up" county program that directly reflects neighborhood priorities. As such, it is a strong example of Arlington's commitment to community development and resident engagement.

The requested \$7 million is necessary to recommend 16-20 projects over the next two years, which will keep the ANP functioning at its current rate of recommending 4-5 projects every half-year. ANP funding in recent years has been insufficient to meet ongoing demand.

At the July 2024 Funding Round, the Arlington Neighborhoods Advisory Committee (ArNAC) voted to recommend our first priority project (proposed in 2017, replaced in 2021) and several other projects for funding.

Our project would provide a rapid-flashing beacon to improve pedestrian safety at the heavily used crosswalk of South



Existing



Example Rapid Flashing Beacon



Concept for Lighting



Example Wayfinding

Arlington Mill Drive & Campbell Avenue, which is locally notorious for near-misses to pedestrians and cyclists. It would also add low level lighting along the pedestrian bridge at South Nelson Street, improving safety for nighttime users crossing Four Mile Run between Shirlington and Green Valley, with minimal environmental impact.

We hope and trust that other neighborhoods with projects in the queue also will be able to see their projects advance and that communities will be able to propose new projects as needed.

However, if the ANP is not sufficiently funded in the upcoming CIP, then the project queue will build and potentially be unable to accept new projects. To neighborhoods, it might look as if the County were unresponsive to neighborhood needs, and there are limited ways for most neighborhoods to meet those needs.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edith R. Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Edith R. Wilson, President Shirlington Civic Association

Cc:

Mark Schwartz, Arlington County Manager

Mason Kushnir, Deputy Clerk to the County Board