

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR Culpepper Garden –Arlington Affordable Housing Investment Fund (AHIF) request

Ms. Libby Garvey
Chair
Arlington County Board
2100 Clarendon Blvd., 3rd floor
Arlington, VA 2221

Dear Chair Garvey:

The Arlington Forest Citizens Association had a presentation on September 21, 2016, from Arlington Retirement Housing Corporation (nonprofit owner of Culpepper Garden), regarding their proposed renovation of Culpepper Garden I, the 204 apartments that were opened in 1975. We were briefed on the extent of the renovation which will include improvements to the facade to increase energy efficiency and renovation of the apartments. We further understand that it is Culpepper Garden's plan to relocate all residents on site during a phased renovation that will take about two years to complete. We understand that ARHC will be requesting approximately \$10M in Affordable Housing Investment Funds to help with the cost of renovation and to assure that current tenants will not be displaced if HUD vouchers are not provided. As part of the renovation we also understand that the Arlington County Senior Center, currently located on Culpepper Garden's lower level, will close and programs relocated to other County Senior Centers.

We take no exception to this planned renovation, AHIF request and our membership voted to provide this letter indicating our support for Culpepper Garden's renovation to Arlington County.

Our neighborhood recognizes the important "safety net" role Culpepper Garden plays in providing much needed affordable housing for our community's lowest income seniors – through both independent and assisted living. Culpepper Garden's 340 apartments and nearly five acres of green space are an asset to our community.

Sincerely,

Allison Kennett
President,
Arlington Forest Citizens Association

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