

9720 Capital Court = Suite 203 = Manassas, VA 20110 = 703.368.6600

June 2, 2017

The Honorable Corey A. Stewart, Chairman Prince William Board of County Supervisors One County Complex Court Prince William, Virginia 22192

Dear Chairman Stewart:

On April 10, 2017, the Prince William Chamber of Commerce submitted a letter commenting on the County's proposed FY18 budget. Within that letter the Chamber iterated the importance of maintaining a predictable and consistent policy-making process. Given the recent deliberations over the proposed Potomac Nationals stadium, we ask that you oppose sending the decision to a referendum and maintain your existing commitment to the Potomac Nationals and JBG Companies to make a determination on the project at the Board level.

In the aforementioned FY18 budget letter, the Chamber specifically referenced the stadium and the importance of remaining cognizant of finite tax payer dollars. While we maintain that risk mitigation with regard to tax payer dollars is important to consider with any decision made by the Board of County Supervisors, the Board also needs to remain cognizant of the private sector's need for risk mitigation. Private sector negotiations with public entities do not occur in a vacuum. The Chamber has serious concerns about the future negative economic development implications created through a volatile and unpredictable negotiating process.

Attracting new investment to our community enables the Board of County Supervisors to continue to keep residential property taxes low and further its goal of providing a world-class education in classrooms across the County. The Board of County Supervisors should not renege on its prior commitments, especially not with regards to final decision making processes, or it will jeopardize attracting and maintaining private sector investment in our community.

There is tremendous economic opportunity in Prince William County but the private sector needs consistency and predictability to thrive. As the County proceeds with the Potomac Nationals stadium negotiations, the Chamber respectfully requests that the Board of County Supervisors take these factors in to consideration.

Sincerely,

CC Bartholomew Chairman, Board of Directors Betty Dean Chairman, Policy Committee

Pc: Supervisor Jeanine Lawson, Vice Chairman Supervisor Ruth Anderson Supervisor Peter Candland Supervisor Martin E. Nohe Supervisor John D. Jenkins Supervisor Maureen S. Caddigan Supervisor Frank J. Principi