

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

c/o Department of Environmental Services 2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 705 Arlington, VA 22201

November 13, 2017

The Honorable Jay Fiset, Chair
Arlington County Board
2100 Clarendon Blvd.
Arlington, VA 22201

Subject: Arlington's Clean Energy Financing Ordinance

Dear Chairman Fiset:

The Environment and Energy Conservation Commission (E2C2) strongly endorses the County Board adoption of the Clean Energy Financing Ordinance to authorize creation of the Arlington County Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) program.

The C-PACE program, the first of its kind in the Commonwealth of Virginia, is a financing alternative that fulfills a financing gap that no other public sector or private sector program completes today. Arlington County's C-PACE program would enable low-cost, long-term funding for energy efficiency retrofits and upgrades, the addition of renewable power sources such as solar PV panels, and water conservation measures at commercial properties. Over 1,000 commercial buildings around the U.S. have taken advantage of local C-PACE programs. E2C2 encourages the County Board to adopt the ordinance and help set up a similar program to assist Arlington commercial building owners and developers.

C-PACE programs can have multiple benefits for Arlington's residents and businesses including:

- Creating Jobs: C-PACE has created thousands of jobs across the country in states implementing the programs. A C-PACE program would spur local job growth and expertise as energy consultants, engineers, skilled laborers, and others complete energy efficiency and clean energy projects on commercial properties.
- Saving money: Businesses and property owners can save money on utility bills and increase the value of their properties. C-PACE programs enable jurisdictions to work with private lenders that provide long-term, low-cost financing to property owners for energy efficiency and clean energy improvements to their properties.
- Protecting our environment: Our environment and local communities are made healthier because of greater energy efficiency and use of renewable energy systems.

We thank you for your January 2017 commitment to see the C-PACE program launched. We look forward to seeing C-PACE projects go to closing, which will add value to those buildings and improve the lives of the Arlington residents.

Sincerely,



Christine Ng
E2C2 Chair