



Friends of Huntley Meadows Park

3701 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria, VA 22306
703-768-2525, www.friendsofhuntleymeadows.org

January 26, 2018

Dear FOHMP Members and interested friends,

I write this to provide FOHMP Members and interested Friends with suggestions for public comments on the new Plan Amendment that has resulted from the EMBARK Richmond Highway planning process. Fairfax County is accepting comments up until the Planning Commission decision on **February 22, 2018** and the public hearing of the Board of Supervisors on **March 20, 2018**. Comments should be submitted by email to: dpz-richmondhighway@fairfaxcounty.gov or you can provide comments at the public hearings as noted here: (1) <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planningcommission/> or here (2) <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/>

Friends of Huntley Meadows Park and Friends of Historic Huntley have been actively engaged in the EMBARK Richmond Highway planning process for the past two years. We have been working very hard to positively influence this work and feel that the Plan Amendment is substantially better than earlier versions. However, there are still areas where language could be added or strengthened; we include some suggestions in the pages that follow.

Projects resulting from the EMBARK Richmond Highway project will impact Huntley Meadows Park and we all need to stay informed to protect HMPs unique natural and historic resources going forward. FOHMP's comments are intended to improve the Plan Amendment, to help ensure that development or redevelopment in the Community Business Centers along the Richmond Highway corridor will be balanced with improved environmental conditions including adequate protections for our natural and historic resources resulting in a healthier environment for us all.

Our goal is to protect the unique natural and historic resources at Huntley Meadows Park, Historic Huntley, and the surrounding area from the direct and indirect impacts of development projects, including road and transit projects that will result from the EMBARK process. Our focus also includes protecting the Dogue Creek Wildlife Corridor that is Huntley Meadows Parks' lifeline for non-flying wildlife traveling between the Potomac River, Huntley Meadows Park, and other nearby natural areas.

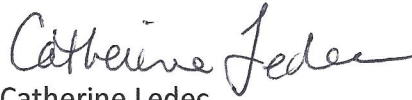
FOHMP is grateful for the opportunities that have been provided to participate in the public process through the open EMBARK Advisory Group Meetings, community meetings, and online feedback opportunities. We congratulate the county staff and all who worked hard to improve the proposed Plan Amendment. We look forward to further collaboration as we seek to realize the goals and objectives described in the amended Comprehensive Plan. As the area redevelops, we seek balance that will result in improved environmental conditions for current and future residents of the Lee and Mount Vernon Magisterial Districts.

FOHMP
January 26, 2018
EMBARK

I very much encourage FOHMP members and friends to add your own comments to those provided by FOHMP on the Plan Amendment that has resulted from the EMBARK process, before it is voted on by the Planning Commission on February 22, 2018 and the Board of Supervisors on March 20, 2018.

For your reference, here is the Fairfax County Staff Report and the proposed Plan Amendment: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-zoning/sites/planning-zoning/files/assets/documents/compplanamend/embarkrichmondhwy/documents/2015-iv-mv1.pdf>

Sincerely,



Catherine Ledec
President