

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON HOUSING  
ERIC BERKEY, CHAIR

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October 20, 2022

Hon. Katie Cristol, Chair  
Arlington County Board  
2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 300  
Arlington, VA 22201

RE: Joint Subcommittee on the Status of Aging Properties

Dear Chair Cristol:

In June 2021, the Citizens Advisory Commission on Housing (Housing Commission) and the Tenant-Landlord Commission (TLC) voted to form a Joint Subcommittee on the Status of Aging Properties (JSSAP) to identify (1) the conditions leading to the poor health and safety environment for some residents at the Serrano Apartments; (2) why attempts to address the issues from 2019 until May 2021 were not successful; and (3) develop recommendations to ensure that a similar situation does not reoccur. The JSSAP held three hearings from October 2021 through December 2021 to gather relevant information for the enclosed report.

At its September 8, 2022, public hearing, the Housing Commission reviewed and discussed the draft report. During the discussion, several Commissioners expressed concerns about the cost of the recommendations provided by the report and expressed a desire for Arlington's affordable housing development partners and housing advocates to be given a formal opportunity to provide a response to the report.

Accordingly, the Housing Commission voted 11-0 to approve the report for submission to the County Board with two amendments accepted within the successful motion. First, the Housing Commission strongly encourages County Staff and the County Board to investigate and consider the financial costs, both to the County and affordable housing development partners, of implementing the recommendations provided within the report. Second, a copy of the report was provided to Arlington's affordable housing development partners and housing advocates for consideration and possible comment. Responses from three such entities were received and are included with the report, with the express understanding that neither the Housing Commission nor the TLC has endorsed the content of any of these responses.

At its September 14, 2022, public hearing, the TLC voted 6-2 to approve the draft report without the two amendments approved by the Housing Commission.

Thank you for your consideration of the recommendations provided by both Commissions. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Eric Berkey  
Chair, Citizens Advisory Commission on Housing

David Timm  
Chair, Tenant Landlord Commission