



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER

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July 22, 2014

The Honorable Michael P. Huerta, Administrator
c/o John Speckin, Airport Obstruction Standards Committee
Region and Center Operations
Office of Finance and Management
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20591

Re: FAA Docket No. 2014-0134
Proposed Changes to FAA One Engine Inoperative Policy

Dear Administrator Huerta:

As Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) is within our boundary, Arlington County is closely following the proposed policy change cited in Docket No. FAA 2014-0134 to consider one engine inoperative (OEI) procedures in standard CFR part 77 reviews.

We share the FAA's interest in ensuring that air navigation in and around airports is safe, with appropriate plans and procedures in place to account for emergency situations. We also support the long-term economic sustainability of DCA, and recognize the mutual benefits of a healthy local economy and smooth airport operations.

At the same time, Arlington is committed to our long-established smart growth and transit-oriented development policies, which includes creating mixed-use high-density neighborhoods around investments in transit. Our planning is regularly referenced as a national model for economic and environmental sustainability. Just this month Arlington was heralded in a national magazine as "The Suburb of the Future" for creating a place where less than half of residents drive to work, and where seven percent of the land generates fifty percent of the real estate tax revenue.

Over many years Arlington has worked hard to balance the land use planning that produced such outcomes with airport operations at DCA. As a result, we have a significant stake in how our land use plans may be affected by the proposed policy change.

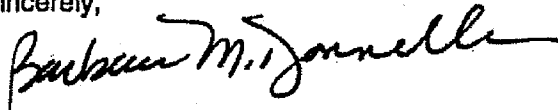
Specifically, the land use plan for central Rosslyn anticipates the addition of 4.5 million square feet of office use and more than 1,000 new housing units over the next 25 years. With more than 9 million square feet of office space, 6,000 residential units and 2,100 hotel rooms already in place, Rosslyn's importance to economic development and sustainability is well-established. Yet its future depends on realizing the development plans, as a means to be economically competitive and overcome the 4,000 jobs lost in Rosslyn due to federal Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC).

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Therefore we share the view of other potentially-affected communities that the impacts be thoroughly evaluated through the formal rulemaking process before any change is made. If a change is enacted, we expect to be a full partner with the airport, FAA and other stakeholders in determining how the change would take effect. We have a productive history of working with the airport and the FAA and look forward to continuing this relationship in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara M. Donnellan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "D".

Barbara M. Donnellan
County Manager