

**From:** Matthew Smith <mjsmith@jbgsmith.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 3:57 PM EDT  
**To:** CountyBoard <countyboard@arlingtonva.us>  
**Subject:** Support for Amazon

March 14, 2019

Arlington County Board  
2100 Clarendon Boulevard  
Suite 300  
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Chair Dorsey,

My name is Matt Smith and I live in the Yorktown neighborhood with my wife. I have been a resident of Arlington for 2 1/2 years, although I've worked in the county for 33 years, 25 of which were for the county. I am writing to support Arlington's incentive agreement with Amazon to build their new headquarters in Arlington. I believe this is a valuable investment in Arlington's future for the following reasons:

- Amazon's new jobs will offset the job losses Arlington has experienced as a result of BRAC, Sequestration, and federal budget cuts
- Amazon's presence in Arlington will help create and support thousands of additional jobs (including mine) across many different industries
- Amazon will help lower Arlington's office vacancy rate which will mean increased commercial tax revenue which will help us pay for schools and balance the County budget while lessening the burden on residential taxpayers
- Amazon's headquarters will help revitalize Crystal City
- Amazon will solidify Arlington's reputation as a leader in innovation and will help us attract other companies in the future
- There will be more job opportunities for local graduates to remain in Arlington and Northern Virginia
- By attracting Amazon, Virginia has agreed to invest more in K-12, higher education, and computer science programs in Arlington and across Northern Virginia
- By attracting Amazon, Virginia has agreed to invest more in new and improved transportation infrastructure in Arlington and Northern Virginia

I am proud to make Arlington my home and believe that Arlington will be a great home for Amazon. Amazon's headquarters will help us build a future that provides opportunity for all Arlingtonians. I encourage you to vote for the incentive agreement for the Amazon headquarters.

Sincerely,

Matt Smith

CC: County Board Vice Chair Libby Garvey, County Board Member Katie Cristol, County Board Member Matt de Ferranti, County Board Member Erik Gutshall, County Manager Mark Schwartz

**Matthew J. Smith | Director of Security**

JBG Smith

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