



# INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

**Local 99, 99-A, 99-C, 99-O**

AFFILIATED WITH THE AFL-CIO

Engineer Center

9315 Largo Drive West, Suite 200, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

(202) 337-0099

Donald P. Havard  
*Business Manager*

Warren L. Watt  
*President*

Frank M. Brown, Jr.  
*Vice President*

Tarold D. Land  
*Treasurer*

Mark P. Sexton  
*Recording Corresponding  
Secretary*

Marc A. Olmsted  
*Financial Secretary*

March 15, 2019

Arlington County Board

2100 Clarendon Boulevard

Suite 300 Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Chair Dorsey,

I am Donald P. Havard, the Business Manager for the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 99. I am writing on behalf of approximately one thousand of our Members who work in Northern Virginia, and the many more who call Virginia home. We are asking that the Arlington County Board approve the County's performance agreement with Amazon for their new headquarters. There is simply no question that Arlington County has been a driving force in the growth of our region. Local 99, along with the entire Labor and Business Community know that the new Amazon headquarters will enhance the viability and strength of the county's economic future and indeed that of the entire Metropolitan Area. It is clear that we in this region can no longer count on Federal Government contracting to be the sole source of our growth. The most recent Furlough, BRAC and other downsizing have all made that clear enough. The Amazon Headquarters provides all of us the opportunity to diversify our economy by making it more resilient as well as providing good jobs.

Good jobs are the building blocks of a sustainable local economy. Local 99 has a long and mutually successful relationship with JBG SMITH and indeed with all of their predecessor companies. Including Consolidated Engineering Services, Vornado / Charles E. Smith Companies for approximately 40 years and our relationship with the JBG Companies also goes back decades as well. When the two companies merged, they became one of our largest commercial signatories. Between the merged companies and our union there is more 200 years of service and commitment to the Northern Virginia and Washington Metropolitan Areas.

JBG SMITH participates in our Joint Apprenticeship Training and Advanced Training and programs. Together we have trained thousands of facility engineers and maintenance staff who are receiving excellent wages and benefits enabling them the opportunity to provide for their families while supporting all of our neighborhoods. This is exactly the kind of meaningful program that is possible when Labor and Business partner.

The arrival of the Amazon headquarters is a golden opportunity to enhance the local economy in a way that will have positive dividends for the entire community. I encourage the County Board to approve the performance agreement for the Amazon Headquarters, and look forward to welcoming Amazon to Arlington.

Sincerely,

Donald P. Havard