



February 4, 2026

To: Arlington County Board

c/o Mason Kushner, Clerk to the County Board

BY EMAIL: countyboard@arlingtonva.us

Dear Chair Takis Karantonis, Vice-Chair Matt de Ferranti, Member Maureen Coffey, Member Susan Cunningham, and Member Julius D. Spain, Sr.:

We, the members of NOVA Catholic Community, are writing to you about our concern regarding the lack of affordable housing in Arlington County, especially for those with average median incomes below 40% AMI.

NOVA has made Arlington its home for almost 60 years, and many of our members have worked professionally and volunteered in Arlington in a variety of ways. Our commitment to Arlington is strong and longstanding. So too is our commitment to working for social justice where all are respected and basic rights protected and upheld.

Since 2007, NOVA as a Catholic Community has partnered with Arlington County Public Schools social workers to provide emergency rental assistance for Arlington students' households who do not qualify for additional County assistance. The requests grow with each year; (

We recognize that the County faces significant budget challenges for FY 2027. Nonetheless, we ask the County Board to approve two proposals that are formally supported by the Nova Catholic Community.

Proposal 1 asks the Board to make every effort to fulfill its adopted 2011 target to furnish housing for those households earning 40% area median income (AMI) or less when using funds from the Affordable Housing Investment Fund (AHF) beginning FY 2027.

Proposal 2 asks the County to maintain the current level of funding for housing grants to households earning 40% area median income (AMI) or less and find ways to significantly increase funding beginning in FY 2027.

Please find the full text of the two proposals in Attachment 1.

We appreciate your time and your work. We are in this together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeanne Clarkson".

Jeanne Clarkson

Co-Chair, NOVA Catholic Community

Clarkson.jeanne@gmail.com

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Clair Lamb".

Clair Lamb

Co-Chair, NOVA Catholic Community

lambletters@gmail.com

Attachment 1

Nova Catholic Community Proposals to the Arlington County Board on Affordable Housing Assistance

February 1, 2026

1. We urge the Arlington County Board to make every effort to achieve the Board's adopted 2011 target to furnish housing to those households earning 40% area median income (AMI) or less when utilizing funds from the Affordable Housing Investment Fund (AHIF) beginning FY 2027.

2. We urge the Arlington County Board to maintain the current level of funding for housing grants to households earning 40% area median income (AMI) or less and to find ways to significantly increase it beginning FY 2027.