



333 N. Fairfax Street
Suite 302
Alexandria, VA 22314
703.549.1000

May 24, 2023

Mayor and Members of City Council
City of Alexandria
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council,

On behalf of The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, which represents almost 900 member businesses in the City of Alexandria and region, we are writing to express our support for the proposed Old Town Business Improvement Service District (BISD).

We have engaged with our members through conversations and a broad request for comments via email survey. The responses represent a diverse group of Alexandria businesses, including businesses within the proposed service district specifically. Most Chamber members engaged in these ways expressed a supportive view, noting an Old Town BISD would positively impact their businesses.

As seen in many jurisdictions throughout our region, business improvement service districts do successfully provide models of service and financial support that assist with promotion, appearance, place making and events for business owners in the defined district.

We are all aware that the pandemic has changed people's behaviors and that in order for a jurisdiction to remain competitive it must employ creative strategies to attract and retain businesses, employees, customers, and residents. We believe that the creation of an Old Town BISD would be an asset in helping Alexandria thrive for years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nicole McGrew".

Nicole McGrew
2023 Board Chair
Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Haggerty".

Joe Haggerty
President & CEO
Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

Cc: James Parajon, City Manager
Karl Moritz, Director of Planning & Zoning, City of Alexandria
Charlotte Hall, Managing Director, Old Town Business
Patricia Washington, CEO, Visit Alexandria
Stephanie Landrum, President & CEO, Alexandria Economic Development Partnership