



**CHESAPEAKE
ALLIANCE™**

December 12, 2024

Dear Members of Chesapeake City Council, City Manager and Planning Staff:

As you know, the Chesapeake Alliance Leadership Circle is a pro-business group made up of [90 influential businesses leaders](#) from more than 70 companies operating in Chesapeake. More than 90% of our members also reside in Chesapeake.

Our main focus is to support projects that will help the business community grow in Chesapeake.

We are writing in full support of **PLN--PUDC-2023-001** also known as Springton at Grassfield.

Despite the creation of the Dominion Corridor Plan, this area continues to struggle to provide enough housing to support businesses as well as provide affordable housing for our citizens.

More than 40% of the retail units in the Cahoon Commons Shopping Center remain vacant due to the lack of residents in this area.

Our Affordable Housing Task Group completed a study which shows that 20,424 new residential units will be needed to support Chesapeake's growing population over the next ten years.

The Springton at Grassfield development includes 1,292 units starting in the high \$200,000's. The project is an excellent example of following our Dominion Corridor Plan with its various types of mixed housing, fifty acres of open space, pedestrian trails, recreation centers and parks.

In addition, \$25 million in private investment is included to make improvements in public infrastructure including road improvements and water and sewer improvements.

Helen Dragas and the Dragas Companies have been excellent corporate citizens for many years providing affordable housing in several boroughs of Chesapeake.

We appreciate your support in moving this project forward for our business community and our City.

Sincerely,

David K. Ropp, Chairman
Chesapeake Alliance
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