



March 29, 2026

To: Arlington County Board and Staff
From: Crystal City Civic Association

Subject: CCCA Feedback on the CC2DCA Design Framework

We are writing to provide the Crystal City Civic Association (CCCA) formal response to the current design framework for the Crystal City to Reagan National Airport (CC2DCA) pedestrian bridge. During our March 18th meeting, the CCCA reviewed the proposed designs and we are supportive of the overall concept. However, we have some concerns.

The CCCA strongly urges that CC2DCA be fully covered from end to end. The distance of nearly 1000 feet makes weather protection a necessity, but the current design proposal shows that almost half of the bridge is exposed to open air. We believe it important to prioritize user experience and safety over aesthetics to ensure the project's greatest chance for regular use as a multi-modal connection node.

The CCCA believes that the bridge's value as an amenity is tied directly to its reliability as an all-weather connection to our neighborhood. If travelers with luggage or commuters in professional attire are exposed to rain, snow, or extreme heat, they will likely continue to rely on other ways of getting to the airport, undermining the project's goals and purpose.

We believe there are options for construction materials that will help address concerns about the bridge's visual impact on the George Washington Memorial Parkway. For example, a transparent bridge that also allows for more natural light, or natural materials and plantings around the bridge's footings and on the bridge itself to soften its impact.

Finally, given the narrow 20 feet of usable width, the CCCA believes the design must prioritize the needs and safety of pedestrians that will likely be the majority of regular users. Specific features include signage and design elements that emphasize a pedestrian-first environment, while still offering cyclists an option to use the bridge.

The CC2DCA bridge has potential to provide utility to our residents, visitors and businesses. By ensuring it is fully covered and designed with a primary focus on pedestrians, the County can ensure this project fulfills its promise as a beneficial multimodal hub.

We look forward to the design updates this fall and opportunities to provide further input into its architecture and amenities.

Sincerely,

Tarsi Dunlop
President, CCCA