



April 22, 2024

The Honorable Gerry Connolly

United States House of Representatives

2265 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Connolly,

I am writing to express my full support for the proposed central plant project for the Annandale Campus of Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA). As a member of the Northern Virginia region and community, I understand the significant impact that Annandale's deteriorating pipes have had on the College's ability to provide an effective learning environment for its students.

The pipes in question play a crucial role in providing hot and cold water in multiple buildings on the Annandale Campus. The current state of the water pipes has posed considerable challenges, with multiple leaks resulting in the temporary closure of instructional buildings while repairs are performed. These disruptions not only inconvenience students, faculty and staff, but also hinder the College's ability to deliver classes effectively and maintain a sense of continuity in its educational programs.

It is evident that the existing pipes are at the end of their life cycle, and the frequency of leaks — and subsequent repairs — underscores the need for immediate replacement. By investing in the central plant project, the College can comprehensively and proactively address the Annandale Campus's infrastructure deficiencies, ensuring the long-term sustainability of this campus's heating and cooling system. An efficient and reliable system will create a comfortable learning environment for NOVA's Annandale Campus students.

I enthusiastically support the central plant project for NOVA's Annandale Campus. This critical infrastructure upgrade ensures the continued excellence and accessibility of education at NOVA, thereby benefiting students, faculty/staff and the broader community.

Thank you in advance for your attention to and action on this matter. I look forward to seeing the positive impact of this project on NOVA's Annandale Campus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Coons". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Julie Coons

President and CEO

Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce