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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 447

Offered March 4, 2016

Commending the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization.

Patrons—Lopez, Hope, Levine, Rasoul and Sullivan; Senators: Ebbin, Favola and Howell

WHEREAS, in 2016, the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization celebrates its 30th anniversary of working to improve and revitalize Columbia Pike and the adjacent neighborhoods that compose one of Arlington County's main transportation corridors; and

WHEREAS, the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization (CPRO), which was formed in 1986, is a coalition of businesses, civic groups, property owners, and the Arlington County government; its mission is to champion and connect businesses and communities along Columbia Pike; and

WHEREAS, Columbia Pike was first authorized in 1808 by an Act of Congress, which chartered a private company to build a road so that supplies could be delivered to Washington, D.C., from the Virginia countryside; the road has been a main thoroughfare in Northern Virginia ever since; and

WHEREAS, the neighborhoods and businesses along the road make Columbia Pike one of the most culturally diverse transportation corridors in the world, and the nonprofit CPRO helps guide development along Columbia Pike in Arlington County; and

WHEREAS, the CPRO supported zoning changes designed to encourage appropriate types and levels of redevelopment within four revitalization areas along Columbia Pike; the group also worked closely with the Columbia Pike Streetscape Task Force, which focused on specific improvements, including upgrades to the highway and sidewalks; and

WHEREAS, mixed-used communities are springing up along Columbia Pike; the CPRO has helped facilitate the relocation of utilities underground and the construction of new and wider sidewalks; and

WHEREAS, in the last 30 years, the efforts of the CPRO have resulted in a more vibrant and pedestrian-friendly community; today, there are more business opportunities along Columbia Pike, new residential buildings, and more restaurants in walking distance for residents and visitors to enjoy; and

WHEREAS, the CPRO hosts a variety of community events, including a blues festival, year-round Farmers Market, summertime movies, holiday bazaar, home show, and a fall beer and wine festival; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization on the occasion of its 30th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for its dedication and unwavering efforts to improve and revitalize one of Arlington County's oldest thoroughfares.

INTRODUCED

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