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Justin M. Wilson
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March 18, 2020

The Honorable Michael R. Pence
Vice President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Vice President Pence:

We are writing to you in your capacity as the Chair of the Federal COVID-19 Task Force to communicate our support for the request of the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland, and the Commonwealth of Virginia to add the National Capital Region to the priority locations for federally-supported COVID-19 testing sites.

Protecting the health of the residents and workers in the National Capital Region is critical to ensuring the stability of federal government functions, the provision of federal services, and the continuity of our government. The National Capital Region is home to over 6 million residents, with hundreds of thousands of employees and contractors working to support our federal government and our nation as a whole.

Now more than ever, we must ensure our residents and workers have ready access to COVID-19 testing. Establishing the National Capital Region as a priority testing site, along with Boston, New York City, Atlanta, Chicago, New Orleans, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, Santa Clara and Seattle, will help accomplish this goal.

With the support of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization, our local and state health departments, police, fire, and emergency responders have been working together to combat COVID-19 from the beginning of the crisis. Given our extensive planning efforts and regional coordination, we are well-positioned to make the best possible use of federal support for this virus testing in the National Capital Region.

As you work to create the most effective strategy to combat COVID-19 in our region and across you to add the National Capital Region to the priority locations for federally-supported COVID-19 testing sites. We stand ready to assist and coordinate this critical initiative.

Sincerely,

Justin M. Wilson
Mayor, City of Alexandria, Virginia

CC: The Honorable Mark Warner, U.S. Senate, Virginia
The Honorable Tim Kaine, U.S. Senate, Virginia
The Honorable Don Beyer, Congressman, Virginia
The Honorable Ralph Northam, Commonwealth of Virginia