

GOOSE CREEK



ASSOCIATION

March 8, 2022

Loudoun County Board of Supervisors
bos@loudoun.gov

RE: Piedmont Environmental Council Purchase Offer for "Aldie Assemblage"

Dear Madam Chair and Supervisors,

The Goose Creek Association (GCA) was founded in 1970 and our mission is to protect and preserve the environment and quality of life in the Goose Creek Watershed. We work diligently alongside other preservation and conservation organizations to protect the integrity of our natural landscape and we endorse fully the Piedmont Environmental Council's (PEC) offer to purchase the Aldie Assemblage. PEC has worked tirelessly to protect Loudoun's environmental resources for the past 50 years and they have a sterling reputation for outstanding environmental stewardship.

A large portion of the Aldie Assemblage is in the floodplain and several interested parties have proposed inappropriate development on these parcels that would threaten Little River, an important tributary of the Goose Creek Watershed which feeds Loudoun's water supply. PEC would take environmental considerations into account at every level in their planning and avoid threatening the river with grading that would lead to erosion, large impermeable surfaces, or steep slope alterations. One only has to look 1 mile east to "Roundabout Meadows" at the intersection of Route 50 and Route 15 to see their commitment to protecting Loudoun's environmental resources. They saved the 239 acres around the intersection from unwanted development and turned 141 of those acres into publicly accessible trails and a community farm growing fruit and vegetables that are donated to Loudoun Hunger Relief. PEC's acquisition of the Aldie Assemblage would be a natural expansion of this effort and mission.

The future of the Aldie Assemblage has been a frustrating issue for several years and we applaud PEC for stepping forward to guarantee an appropriate future for these important parcels. GCA stands with the preservation community and Aldie residents in supporting PEC's purchase offer which would ensure that the years of effort to protect this land will not have been in vain and alleviate the county from any further resource burden. This ideal solution would be celebrated across Loudoun and we sincerely appreciate your consideration on this important matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Lawrence
GCA Co-Chair Loudoun County

Lori McGuinness
GCA Co-Chair Fauquier County