



February 11, 2025

The Honorable Robert M. “Bobby” Dyer  
The Honorable City Council  
Planning Commission  
City of Virginia Beach

Dear Mayor Dyer, Members of the City Council, and Planning Commission,

Virginia Beach is running out of developable land and with such limited resources, we must be strategic about how this land is utilized to drive economic growth and ensure long-term prosperity for our City. As we plan for the future, it is important that City property is developed at the highest and best use, which is essential to maintaining Virginia Beach’s economic vitality.

Currently, Virginia Beach has 4,237 acres of industrially zoned land, with only 115 acres (2.7%) available for development. Notably, 27% of this available land is located within Innovation Park. Given the limited supply of industrial land, careful planning is necessary to meet the City’s economic and community needs. Virginia Beach often faces challenges in attracting businesses due to the scarcity of shovel-ready industrial sites. Additionally, many existing companies require space to expand, and without available land, they may seek opportunities outside the City. Ensuring that Virginia Beach remains competitive in both economic and community development is key to long-term success.

We recognize that the City’s comprehensive plan is still in development, and we look forward to providing input as part of the public process. At the same time, we are also aware that a plan to develop a park on city-owned property is being proposed and advocated strongly. Parks and recreational spaces are essential to enhancing residents’ quality of life, just as economic growth and job creation are vital to sustaining the city’s economic strength.

Virginia Beach Vision encourages collaboration to find a solution that supports both economic growth and recreational needs. By working together, we can create a balanced approach that serves businesses, residents, and the broader community, ensuring Virginia Beach remains a vibrant and competitive City.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to continuing this discussion and working together toward a solution that benefits the entire community.

Respectfully,

Scott D. Miller, Ph.D.  
Chair, Board of Directors

Laura Chalk  
Executive Director and CEO