



TIDEWATER APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB
MEMBER CLUB OF THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONSERVANCY

November 3, 2023

The Honorable Mayor Kenny Alexander
Patrick Roberts, City Manager
The Honorable Courtney R. Doyle
Norfolk City Council
810 Union Street
Norfolk, VA 23510

Dear Mayor Alexander, Mr. Roberts, Councilwoman Doyle, and City Council Members,

The Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club (TATC) strongly supports the initiative to turn Lambert's Point into a multi-use outdoor refuge for Norfolk's city dwellers. We believe no better use could be found for the land given its ideal location on the river and its undulating terrain.

TATC is a Norfolk based, all volunteer, 501(c)(3) organization that provides service to a variety of government bodies through the Hampton Roads area and stretching into the Appalachian Mountains. We were organized in 1972 to assist the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service maintain the Appalachian Trail and other wilderness areas. Our role has grown substantially. We now assist the City of Norfolk and other Hampton Roads municipalities with activities like tree planting and trail maintenance.

We also sponsor hiking, biking, and kayaking recreational experiences for our 350 plus members and anyone else who would wish to join us.

TATC's Norfolk roots run deep. We have been part of the city's community of service organizations for over 50 years, and a substantial portion of our membership lives and works in Norfolk.



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Given our range of interests and experiences, we see Lambert Point as an ideal location from which to bring the sorts of recreational opportunities we experience in the mountains to the residents of Norfolk.

Given the crowding and congestion that most city dwellers face in the 21st century, we strongly believe that governmental authorities should take every opportunity to create new recreational greenspace for everyone while understanding that the impact would be most pronounced for the disadvantaged. Consequently, we believe Lambert Point virtually cries out for development as an outdoor recreational facility.

Please consider our support for the Lambert Point initiative as an expression of 350 citizens' desire to make the best use of this land for the benefit of all.

Sincerely yours,

Lee R. Lohman
President
Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club