## OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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## TOWN OF ARLINGTON MASSACHUSETTS 02476-4908

November 9, 2015

Governor Charlie Baker Massachusetts State House Office of the Governor Room 280 Boston, MA 02133

Governor Baker,

We have learned that the Green Line Extension and its terminus at Route 16 are under severe financial pressure. The Town of Arlington is a strong advocate for this project and its ultimate terminus at Route 16, which would provide Arlington and its neighboring communities with the following advantages:

- The Route 16 station would be within walking distance for a significant number of our residents, including our lowest income group in the northeast corner of Arlington (also true for Medford and Somerville).
- The Route 16 station is within bicycling distance for all of Arlington. The recently built DCR Alewife Greenway Bike Path further increases its accessibility for bicyclists and pedestrians.
- The Route 16 station could relieve congestion at the Alewife Red line station, where the garage and bicycle facilities regularly fill to capacity on weekdays.
- The Route 16 station could reduce vehicle trips going through Arlington to Cambridge, Somerville, Medford, and beyond.
- Without more financial support for the project, the allocated Route 16 funds will probably be used for the base project, jeopardizing the terminus at Route 16.

We urge you to find ways to support the Green Line Extension at this critical time when its future is in question. It would be very short-sighted of our Commonwealth to abandon or reduce the project, especially when the Federal Transit Administration contribution of \$1B could be lost if the project is significantly curtailed.

Thank you for all the work that you are doing on behalf of the cities and towns of the Commonwealth, and in particular the attention that you are paying to our transportation systems.

Sincerely,

Kevin F. Greeley, Chair Arlington Board of Selectmen

Cc: Senator Kenneth Donnelly Representative Sean Garballey Representative Dave Rogers