

A BUILDING FOR NEW CRYSTAL CITY'S SKYLINE

On February 21st, the Site Plan Review Committee of the County Planning Commission conducted a meeting to consider the first redevelopment proposal under the Crystal City Sector Plan approved by the County Board a year ago. Vornado is proposing to demolish an existing structure located on Crystal Drive between 18th and 20th streets, and replace it with a massive new, 24-story office building, totaling 743,000 square feet, that would, at 340+ feet in height, tower over every other Crystal City structure. With two members on the CCCRC, ARCA is guaranteed a “seat at the table” during the SPRC’s consideration of Vornado’s proposal, as well as future proposals to redevelop Crystal City consistent with the County’s Sector Plan. Thus, while ARCA representatives will have the opportunity to offer suggestions about the size, height, location, design and utilization (e.g., office, residential, hotel, retail, etc.) to the Planning Commission and County Board, ARCA’s ability to influence in any significant manner the redevelopment of Crystal City over the coming years will be limited.