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Mr. Chris Clemente
Chief Executive Officer
Comstock Companies
1886 Metro Center Drive
Fourth Floor
Reston Station
Reston, Virginia 20190

Dear Mr. Clemente,

I recently learned that Comstock has engaged in some very shocking and disturbing conduct at the Reston Station Plaza. Specifically, I understand that you have been allowing political campaigning at the Plaza, but only by your own employee. Comstock has excluded all other candidates in the upcoming Democratic primary from the same unrestricted access to this public space.

Upon learning of this behavior, I immediately asked the County Attorney to evaluate the County's legal remedies against Comstock. The County Attorney's preliminary research suggests that the Plaza area may constitute a public forum under the First Amendment, notwithstanding the ground lease. If this area is a public forum, then Comstock may be violating the civil rights of the excluded candidates and their supporters in not allowing them to campaign in the Plaza in the same unrestricted manner as Comstock's own employee.

As the County Attorney completes her research and the Board evaluates its legal remedies, I ask Comstock to do the right thing without the necessity of legal action. We all know that political speech is the most highly protected form of communication under the First Amendment. Allowing one's own employee to engage in such highly protected activity in a public area, while excluding other candidates from doing the same, is clearly wrong and cannot be tolerated.

I look forward to hearing that Comstock has immediately opened up the Plaza for campaigning by *all* of the candidates. If this assurance is not forthcoming, then appropriate actions will be taken to ensure that the Plaza area is open in the future for all activities protected by the First Amendment.

Sincerely,

Sharon Bulova
Chairman