

*Located in Darden Towe Park*

P.O. Box 281  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902



# LEWIS & CLARK

## EXPLORATORY CENTER

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*In partnership with*

*the Home Front Chapter*

May 11, 2015

**By Email (c/o EJordon@Albemarle.org)**

Ron Gentry, Chairman

County of Albemarle

Economic Development Authority

Re: Loan Extension

Dear Mr. Gentry:

I write this letter on behalf of the Lewis and Clarke Exploratory Center of Virginia in connection with our requested loan extension.

We are extraordinarily appreciative of the Economic Development Authority's (EDA) thoughtful forbearance over the last couple years in connection with our loan's due date. We recognize that the \$1250 interest payment each six months is fair, reasonable and appropriate. We apologize for being late with the payment.

I will not repeat here our unfortunate history in connection with contractor disputes and issues concerning our IRS 501(c)(3) status. As of March 11, 2015 we entered into a global completion agreement with our contractor and a new contractor to complete the site, and, as of February 22, 2015, our tax exempt status was restored, retroactively so that we were never without such status.

We still do not have an occupancy permit, and do not expect one until the site work is completed. Notwithstanding that, we have completed most of our building improvements and fixtures and furnishings necessary for opening and in addition, throughout all of this, we have continued our outside programming. I will deliver updated financials tomorrow morning and will have a photo essay of our Center to show the EDA on Tuesday.

We have done some fundraising in the last couple of months, but we believe that an effective and significant campaign cannot be launched until we have our occupancy permit.

Upon opening, we have a substantial grant coming from the Charles Foundation, which will help us in both our activities and our fundraising.

We respectfully request another six month extension upon the same interest terms.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Francis McQ. Lawrence

FML/wfm

CC: Greg Kampner, Esquire  
Jack Kelsey  
Trevor Henry  
Alexandria Searls