



02/28/24

PO Box 911
Charlottesville Va. 22902

Via email

Mayor Wade and members of Council:

I am writing to address any questions or concerns you may have based on the comments made by Mr. Ertl during the Community Matters agenda item at your February 20, 2024 meeting. As you may know, Jaunt has served the community for 49 years and has partnered with the City of Charlottesville to meet ADA paratransit needs for 37 years. Mr. Ertl did contact the Jaunt CEO and Board of Directors in the Fall of 2023. He received correspondence from the Board Chair on 9/26/23 and an email from the CEO on 11/1/2023. I have served as Jaunt's CEO since January 2, 2024 and have never been contacted by Mr. Ertl. We have previously communicated the complex structure of Jaunt as a public service corporation. The organization's structure is crucial to understanding our key messaging that Jaunt does not believe it has the legal authority to recognize or bargain with the ATU. This has been affirmed by our attorney, outside counsel, and members of the General Assembly. I consulted with Delegate Callsen on the language for [HB 780](#) that would have provided clarity to the eligibility of Jaunt to recognize and bargain and designate a decision-making authority. This legislation was later incorporated into [HB 1001](#) and was left in appropriations. I reject Mr. Ertl's inferences that Jaunt does not care for our employees or share the values of the City of Charlottesville. The wellness of our team members and the growth of a positive and inclusive culture are top priorities. We have created new pathways for employee communication and have a strategy to address compensation concerns. We are committed to a future for Jaunt and transit in our region that emphasizes service through collaboration. I welcome the opportunity to discuss Jaunt and our partnership at any time with members of Council, Mr. Sanders, and/or his team. My thanks for all you do to serve the community.

Be well,



Michael C. Murphy
Interim CEO

Cc: Jordan Bowman, Brad Burdette, Sam Sanders, Garland Williams