

City of Alexandria, Virginia

# Virginia American Water Company – Rate Increase

Docket #16

February 13, 2024





# The Issue

- VAWC is seeking a 29% rate increase
- Awarded an interim increase effective May 18
- Average bill is ~\$35/month, anticipated annual increase approx. \$10.42/month or \$125/year

Lower than  
average usage:

~20% Increase

Average usage:

~30% Increase

Higher than  
average usage:

~50% Increase

# Trend of Increases



- VAWC's 2<sup>nd</sup> request of over 20% rate increase in <5 years
- 2021 request was 28%, this request is an additional 29%
- Intervention by City in 2021 led to nearly \$420,000 in refunds

# Next Steps & Staff Actions



- Submit a notice of participation with SCC (April 19, 2024)
- Submit City's testimony (June 28, 2024)
- Coordinate community comments via writing (Sep 18) and phone (Sep 24)
- Commission staff comments Aug 16, VAWC rebuttal Sept 6.
- Settlement Conference &/or hearing will follow

# Staff Recommendation



- Staff recommends Council:
  - Support the City’s intervention as a respondent in the pending SCC matter, and
  
  - Authorize the City Attorney’s Office to retain outside counsel and experts to oppose VAWC application to increase rates