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5-18-13

**Gloria Sitton**

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**From:** Jackie Henderson  
**Sent:** Friday, May 17, 2013 10:40 AM  
**To:** Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** FW: Call.Click.Connect. #34302: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council The Waterfront Market concept being pres

**From:** ginabaum@aol.com [mailto:ginabaum@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 17, 2013 10:36 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #34302: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council The Waterfront Market concept being pres

Dear **Call.Click.Connect.** User

A request was just created using **Call.Click.Connect.** The request ID is 34302.

**Request Details:**

- Name: Gina Baum
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-338-1557
- Email: [ginabaum@aol.com](mailto:ginabaum@aol.com)
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council
- Request Description: The Waterfront Market concept being presented at tomorrow's Council meeting, is a small step in the right direction to improving the waterfront as a whole, and one amenity as a resident, I will frequent. I would like also to stress the importance of returning any rental funds collected from renting the City's "open space" on the marina pier go back into the Open Space fund, like it would anywhere else in the City. Anything else, would be a shift in policy and could be interpreted as supporting wealthy boat owners at a cost to other areas of the City where Open Space funds are needed most. Moreover, should Council adopt the Greenplay policy – this policy shift, putting the funds into the Marina rather than the Open Space Fund, is entirely contrary to the tenants of the Greenplay policy. Unfortunately, a school commitment will prevent me from attending tomorrow's meeting. Should you have any questions please feel free to give me a call.

Many thanks,

Gina Baum

- Expected Response Date: Friday, May 24

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at [the Call.Click.Connect. staff interface.](#)

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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**Sent:** Thursday, May 16, 2013 10:36 AM  
**To:** Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** FW: The Waterfront Market

*submitted by  
Judy Noritake*

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**From:** Judy Noritake [<mailto:jnoritake@nka-arch.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 16, 2013 10:31 AM  
**To:** Allison Silberberg; Del Pepper; John Chapman; Justin Wilson; Paul Smedberg; Timothy Lovain; William Euille  
**Cc:** Jackie Henderson; Mark Jinks; James Spengler; Faroll Hamer  
**Subject:** The Waterfront Market

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of City Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Park and Recreation Commission (P&RC) regarding the proposed Waterfront Market, 101 N. Union Street, which you will consider shortly. The P&RC was briefed by staff on this project and asked to weigh in with our thoughts.

One of the important components of this proposal is the use of a portion of the existing marina board walk. This board walk is publically owned open space, and highly valuable waterfront open space at that.

The Commission has weighed in before on the use of public open space to support private commercial interests. In those instances we have strongly recommend to Council that any rents received for the use of these spaces be deposited into the Open Space Fund and not the City's general fund.

As a matter of public policy we believe that the rent paid on the board walk by the Waterfront Market *must* go into the open space fund. We understand that the staff recommendation in this case is to use the income from the lease of this waterfront open space to offset maintenance of the marina. We wholly disagree. The funds to maintain the marina should come either from the general fund or from the marina users – the boat owners. The City heavily subsidizes the boat slip rentals which the Park & Recreation Commission finds troubling.

Using any funds generated by leasing open space for commercial activities to maintain parks and open space is a slippery slope. At one end of that spectrum we could then imagine in difficult times the renting out half of, say, Ben Brenman Park for commercial activity in order to take care of the rest of it. While this proposed use on the waterfront will not generate a lot of money, it is the precedent that concerns us. We believe strongly that if public open space is rented to a private use, diminishing the public use of public land, then that revenue must come into the open space fund to go toward more open space resources.

Aside from this fundamental and important policy issue, the Park & Recreation Commission is supportive of this proposal which will bring a well-suited commercial use to a critical site located at the very center of our Waterfront, a location that has struggled for years to find a suitable and successful tenant. We believe this proposed use will indeed prove to be successful, will serve to enliven the foot of King Street and will offer a suite of services to residents and tourists that is currently unavailable in this heavily visited part of Old Town.

Sincerely,  
Judy Noritake, Chair  
Park & Recreation Commission

Cc: Park & Recreation Commissioners

Judy Guse-Noritake, AIA, LEED AP  
Managing Principal

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