

Update and discussion on the Interim Fitzgerald Square Park

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To: PlanComm <PlanComm@alexandriava.gov>;

RE: Docket Item 3, June 7th ; Update and discussion on the Interim Fitzgerald Square Park

Dear Chairman Lyman and members of the Planning Commission

Connie and I were invited to a viewing of the remnants of a boat discovered at the waterfront, and it appears that the City is missing a unique opportunity, since there is more material than was originally found in a similar situation in Denmark, and which formed the foundation for a world famous museum at Roskilde (see <http://www.vikingskibsmuseet.dk/en/>).



The remnants found at the Alexandria Waterfront were surprisingly interesting and educational, and they could easily form the basis of a venue similar to Roskilde that would be a tremendous draw. I can easily envision a glass-walled museum structure

encircling the ship, it would be lit at night, beckoning the interested and curious to the Waterfront. The envisioned structure is surely radical, but with some thought, a striking and appropriate structure could be feasible. However, the City needs to start thinking in terms of capitalizing on its storied legacy, which is coincidentally what will be the biggest bang for the buck in the long run.



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