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[EXTERNAL]Opposed to closure of King

27
9-9-25

CW

corinne winburn<bird22314@gmail.com>

     ...

To: CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov

Thu 9/4/2025 6:31 PM

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To whom it concerns,

As a resident and property owner living in Old Town for over four decades, I am wholly against closing the block of King street (200 block) that is being proposed .

Such a closure would not only be unsafe for the community, but would also have a negative impact on many of our local businesses .

I am opposed to this closure proposal. Thank you .

Corinne Winburn

417 Prince Street

Warm regards,

Corinne

Corinne Birdsong Winburn

Birdsong Communications Group | Creative Global Communications

www.birdsongcommunicationsgroup.com

[571.263.9805](tel:571.263.9805)

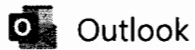
"I've never believed that [arts and technology] are separate. Leonardo da Vinci was a great artist and a great scientist. Michelangelo knew a tremendous amount about how to cut stone at the quarry. The finest dozen computer scientists I know are all musicians. Dr. Land at Polaroid said, "I want Polaroid to stand at the intersection of art and science," and I've never forgotten that."

—Steve Jobs, Time, October 10, 1999

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 Reply

 Forward



[EXTERNAL]King Street Closure

From Anita Winsor <anwinsor@gmail.com>

Date Thu 9/4/2025 4:08 PM

To CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov <CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov>

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I support opening King St 200 block.

Anita Winsor
213 South Pitt St
Alexandria, 22314

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Outlook

[EXTERNAL]King Street Closure- I'm opposed to closure

From Montague, Latane <latane.montague@morganlewis.com>**Date** Thu 9/4/2025 3:47 PM**To** CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov <CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov>

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I am a life-long resident to the 200 Block of Prince street, which is one block over from the 200 Block of King.

I am strongly opposed to the permanent closure of the 200 block of King Street. Closure will have serious adverse impacts on traffic flow on adjacent streets, reduce parking, make transportation in Old Town more difficult, and make it more difficult for property owners and customers to access property and businesses in this block.

Unlike the 100 block of King, the 200 block is steeply slanted and is not an ideal block to convert to additional restaurant seating. During the trial period I have found the 200 block to be poorly utilized by pedestrians and businesses, and the negative impacts of eliminating cars is simply NOT offset by any advantages to closure.

Please don't approve permanent closure!

Latane Montague

Resident at 207 Prince Street

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Outlook

[EXTERNAL]200 block of King Street closure proposal.

From Don Santarelli <dsantarelli@dsantarellilaw.com>**Date** Thu 9/4/2025 9:31 PM**To** CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov <CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov>

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old Town is mainly a Residential Community. Some people heavy business' can be tolerated but turning lower King St into a carnival must be carefully avoided.

I am a 50 year resident of Old Town.

I oppose closing the 200 block of King St.

Donald Santarelli

504 Duke St.

Sent from my iPhone

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Outlook

[EXTERNAL]Closure of the 200 Block of King Street

From BRUCE SCHAFER <bsch511@aol.com>

Date Fri 9/5/2025 9:35 AM

To CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov <CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov>

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The time has come for the City Council to reinforce its role as the Guardian of this historic Scottish village. In the current desire to attract visitors and resulting revenue to the City by the creation of a pedestrian zone in the 200 Block of King Street, much like other zones in the DMV, the very fabric of the village is threatened. The two " test " closures have added new elements: illegal parking, difficult delivery of goods, non existent drop off and pick up congestion, increased noise and trash, and elimination of access to the residential units on the Block. The City has established a park and entertainment zone at the waterfront and a dining zone in the 100 Block of King. The 200 block of King adds only a pathway to the waterfront and adds nothing to the " Old Town Experience ". The resulting costs and the problems created exceed any benefits. It must be noted that visitors have come to the village for decades and decades and the residents of the village have enjoyed their " downtown " - the actions of the City in closing the 200 Block do not enhance this experience. The resulting problems are the direct result of the City's actions.

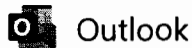
I urge the City to look beyond the immediate and focus of the long term impact to the historic fabric of the village. If the closure is made permanent the most important element to be addressed is enforcement - street maintenance, trash removal, police presence, ADA access, residents access, loading zones, traffic enforcement, noise abatement, vehicular movement (including bikes, scooters and skateboards) and most importantly public safety.

For want of a new chariot, the City stands poised to destroy the kingdom. As the owner of a 73 year old business on the block and a resident of 49 years in the village, I must ask " why ". I urge the City Council to guard well and protect the village for decades to come.

Respectfully,

Bruce Schafer

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Outlook

[EXTERNAL]King Street Closure

From Bridget S <bridge757@gmail.com>**Date** Fri 9/5/2025 12:33 PM**To** CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov <CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov>

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Dear Council,

I am a resident on the 100 block of Duke St and I am against the permanent closure of the 200 block of King St.

My concern is the resulting increased traffic congestion on Residential Streets and removal of more public parking spaces. A secondary concern is over the dramatic increase in public noise that these closed blocks seem to foster.

By diverting traffic off of King Street you are sending traffic down the residential streets. If you have ever observed the traffic streaming non-stop up and down Duke, Prince, Union, etc during the weekends and summer week nights, you would be as alarmed as the residents are. That additional traffic brings incredible increase in noise heard within our homes and risk to pedestrians. The reduction in parking spaces for visitors will just continue to stress the residential streets where owners already experience hardship looking for parking within the South Quadrant.

-Bridget Scanlan
112 Duke St.

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Outlook

[EXTERNAL]King Street Closure

From Kathleen Kalchthaler Oehler <kalchthaler@hotmail.com>

Date Fri 9/5/2025 3:49 PM

To CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov <CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov>

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I am a resident 2 blocks from the proposed 200-block of King Street closure. I am emailing to contribute my position on this proposal.

Note: contrary to what has been written in public documents, my opinion nor my neighbors' have been sought by the city.

I support the closure but would like the closure be deferred until after the market square underground parking garage renovation is completed.

I would also like traffic calming measures (eg local traffic only) be enacted on S Lee and surrounding streets (north and south) within a 2 block radius of 100-200 blocks of King.

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Outlook

[EXTERNAL]King Street Closure

From albongo@aol.com <albongo@aol.com>**Date** Fri 9/5/2025 7:47 PM**To** CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov <CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov>

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While I heartily support the closure of the zero and 100 blocks of King Street, the closure of the 200 block is much more questionable. It is currently seriously under-used as a pedestrian block, and the nature of the current businesses there does not suggest that that will change. I'd hate to see any more businesses forced out, and loss of any parking spaces and auto access in this area is VERY problematic.

So as a local resident (residing at 101 Wolfe Street) who very often patronizes the lower King Street restaurants and other businesses, I recommend that the 200 block of King Street be re-opened to cars.

However, sidewalk tables for the few restaurants on that block are nice. I suggest that you look at the approach taken further up King (e.g., by Murphy's, the Light Horse, and Majestic) as a model for the 200 block of King.

Respectfully,

William Berridge
101 Wolfe Street
Alexandria VA

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[EXTERNAL]King Street Closure

From Clare Barry Skarda <clare.skarda@gmail.com>

Date Sun 9/7/2025 2:00 PM

To CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov <CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov>

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Why?

Why?

Why?

I see no benefit to the permanent closure of the 200 block of King Street. And I see many down sides for the residents, the businesses, and tourists. (Insert comments from the residents and business owners here!) I could see an occasional closure for a festival or large holiday or market. I say NO to the permanent closure, especially before Market Square construction. This doesn't appear to be well thought out.

Clare Skarda

219 Prince St / 126 S Fairfax St

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