

7
6-14-23

6/14/2025 #7: Boyd Walker registered

From noreply@alexandriava.gov <noreply@alexandriava.gov>

Date Fri 6/13/2025 4:27 PM

To Gloria Sitton <Gloria.Sitton@alexandriava.gov>; Keia Waters <keia.waters@alexandriava.gov>

Individual Boyd Walker has registered to speak before City Council on 6/14/2025 regarding item number 7.

Currently there are 22 individuals signed up for this meeting, including 1 speakers for item number 7.

Details

Meeting Date: 6/14/2025

Docket Item #: 7

Speaker's Name: Boyd Walker

Phone #: +1 (703) 732-7269

Email: boydwalker2012@gmail.com

Address: 1307 King St.

Representing: Self

Position on the item: *Against*

Nature of interest: Property owner and civic

Are you being compensated? No

Speaker comments:

I am opposed to the city selling this property. The developer went through the approval process and then tried to sell the approved project for many times what was paid to the city, without ever purchasing the property. As a neighboring property owner and resident on King St, and since it is 5 years since this project was approved, I think it is incumbent that this site should be reconsidered in the fall and that there is a robust discussion of the best use of this property and whether the city should still dispose of it for a very short term financial gain. Personally I would like to see a park there. Diagonal parking could still be provided at the back and elimination of curb cuts would provide additional street parking. Parks also increase the value of the real estate around them, and a park would provide a welcoming space halfway between the metro and the river, where visitors and residents could rest or come together, and provide needed green space, environmental benefits, and could be an exciting feature. The proposed renovations to market square are going to greatly enhance the visitor experience in front of city hall, so shouldn't that sort of effort be replicated elsewhere. Lower King St, now blocked off, has become a destination, so it would be great to have a worthy

attraction in the middle. I do not believe it is the city's job, or elected official's jobs to help developers make more money. I believe it is their job to enhance our communities, help strengthen our civic fabric, and make the lives of citizens better. This new council can do just that. As we know, the world is full of animosity, anger and division right now, and parks can bring us together. I propose we honor Mildred and Richard Loving (many of us just celebrated Loving Day) with Loving Park, a place where we can come together and celebrate the shared space we all live in. So I ask you to reconsider extending the approval of this project.