

Madam Mayor and Members of Council:

On behalf of your Ad Hoc Code of Conduct Review Committee, I am pleased to submit a draft City of Alexandria Code of Conduct and draft ethics pledge for your review.

Since its organization in early March, the Committee has worked intensively on these documents as we considered the ways that our work might add to the strong culture of ethics in our City. We appreciate the opportunity to serve on the Committee. We have been encouraged by each of you, and we have been ably supported by City staff.

Along with these short draft documents, your Committee returns to you the challenge of continuing to foster a culture of ethics in Alexandria. Our studies have revealed many practices across the country that promote good and inclusive government through sustained attention to ethical conduct and ethics education and advice. We urge you to continue to explore these practices along with regular attention to the terms of the Code of Conduct.

As Chair of the Committee I am pleased to report that our own deliberations and decision-making represented the best traditions of thoughtful and civil citizen participation in our City's governance, and I thank my fellow members of the Committee for the good spirit and hard work they all brought to our task.

The members of the Committee will attend the presentation of the documents at your April 12, 2016 meeting, and all remain available for any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

George M. Foote, Chair
Ad Hoc Code of Conduct Review Committee