

6
6-13-26



Re: [EXTERNAL]June 13, 2026 Alexandria City Council File No. 26-1085 Hotel Heron SUP #2026-00009

From Connaughton, Sean <sconnaughton@vhha.com>

Date Fri 6/12/2026 5:26 PM

To Kendra Jacobs <Kendra.Jacobs@alexandriava.gov>

Cc CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov <CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov>; Sean Connaughton <seanconnaughton@verizon.net>; PZ-Commission Staff <PZ_-_Commission_Staff@alexandriava.gov>; Paul Stoddard <paul.stoddard@alexandriava.gov>; Barbara Harris <barbara.harris@alexandriava.gov>; Lanning J Blaser <lanning.blaser@alexandriava.gov>; Tony LaColla <anthony.lacolla@alexandriava.gov>; Rachel M Drescher <rachel.drescher@alexandriava.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from sconnaughton@vhha.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Thanks Kendra.

Regarding the service list, I was referring to this requirement:

What documents must be submitted to show that I sent notice correctly?

After you have sent the notice letters for the public hearing, the following documents must be submitted to the Department of Planning and Zoning:

- The attached Certification of Notice form, correctly filled out. This form tells the City that you have sent the appropriate form to the correct list of owners and that you have sent it at the right time. You must sign this form.
- A copy of the Notice of Public Hearing form that you sent to property owners.
- A copy of the Property Owners List, filled in with the names and addresses of the properties to whom you have sent notice.
- Copies of the certified or registered mail receipts from the post office. The receipts must be stamped by the post office.

On Jun 12, 2026, at 5:13 PM, Kendra Jacobs <Kendra.Jacobs@alexandriava.gov> wrote:

CAUTION: This email originated from outside VHHA. Please be careful with opening links or attachments

Hi Mr. Connaughton - My apologies for the delayed response. Written notice must be provided to any properties that are abutting, regardless of whether those properties are commercial or residential uses. Unfortunately, I don't know what you mean by a service list. Thanks.

<image.png>

Kendra M. Jacobs
Boards and Commission Unit Manager
Planning and Zoning
703.746.3920 – Desk
703.746.4666 - Main
kendra.jacobs@alexandriava.gov

From: Connaughton, Sean <sconnaughton@vhha.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2026 3:27 PM
To: Kendra Jacobs <Kendra.Jacobs@alexandriava.gov>
Cc: CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov <CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov>; Sean Connaughton <seanconnaughton@verizon.net>; PZ-Commission Staff <PZ_-_Commission_Staff@alexandriava.gov>; Paul Stoddard <paul.stoddard@alexandriava.gov>; Barbara Harris <barbara.harris@alexandriava.gov>; Lanning J Blaser <lanning.blaser@alexandriava.gov>; Tony LaColla <anthony.lacolla@alexandriava.gov>; Rachel M Drescher <rachel.drescher@alexandriava.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL]June 13, 2026 Alexandria City Council File No. 26-1085 Hotel Heron SUP #2026-00009

You don't often get email from sconnaughton@vhha.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

So they provided written notice only to the abutting commercial property on Prince street and the one on South Washington?

Can I get a copy of service list? I didn't see it in the Council package.

Thanks

On Jun 10, 2026, at 3:18 PM, Kendra Jacobs <Kendra.Jacobs@alexandriava.gov> wrote:

CAUTION: This email originated from outside VHHA. Please be careful with opening links or attachments

Hi Mr. Connaughton - Thank you for your comments regarding 699 Prince St. The City Clerk's Office will ensure that your comments are distributed to City Council.

I wanted to respond to your concern regarding the written notice. Written notice as required by the Zoning Ordinance was sent to all abutting property owners. Your property at 709 Prince Street is not an abutting property to 699 Prince Street. You are welcome to attend this Saturday's City Council Public Hearing to make your concerns known before a final action on this Special Use Permit.

Thank you.

Kendra M. Jacobs
Boards and Commission Unit Manager
Planning and Zoning
703.746.3920 – Desk
703.746.4666 - Main

kendra.jacobs@alexandriava.gov

From: Connaughton, Sean <sconnaughton@vhha.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2026 3:02 PM
To: CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov <CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov>
Cc: Sean Connaughton <seanconnaughton@verizon.net>; PZ-Commission Staff <PZ_-_Commission_Staff@alexandriava.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] June 13, 2026 Alexandria City Council File No. 26-1085 Hotel Heron SUP #2026-00009

Some people who received this message don't often get email from sconnaughton@vhha.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Members of the Alexandria City Council:

I am writing to **oppose the application for a special use permit for live music on the rooftop of the Hotel Heron, 699 Prince Street (SUP #2026-00009).**

I am the **owner of an adjacent property at 709 Prince Street**. I only became aware of this application after noticing the posted placard on South Washington Street, which was **after** the Planning Commission had already considered and recommended approval. **I was not provided notice by registered mail as required under applicable zoning and planning requirements and therefore was denied a meaningful opportunity to participate earlier in the process.**

The proposed live music would occur on the Hotel Heron's 7th-floor rooftop. I already experience significant impacts from the existing rooftop bar, including **audible music and patron noise, as well as bright lighting that remains on late into the night**. From the top floor of my home, I have a direct line of sight to the rooftop, and both the noise and lighting are clearly perceptible and disruptive. **Expanding to include live music will only intensify these existing impacts and further diminish the quiet enjoyment of my property.**

In addition to the noise and lighting concerns, **there are ongoing issues related to parking and late-night disturbances**. Patrons of the hotel and bar frequently park on Prince Street in front of nearby residences. When they return to their vehicles after closing time, there is often loud and disruptive behavior that carries into the street and surrounding homes. The hotel's valet operations also contribute to congestion, particularly on weekends, and **should not be permitted to utilize Prince Street for parking**.

At a minimum, strict conditions should be imposed to mitigate these impacts. Live music should not be permitted past 9:00 p.m. on any day of the week. Additional enforceable conditions should address noise levels, lighting intensity and duration, parking restrictions for patrons, and clear limitations on valet operations within the surrounding residential streets.

Given the already significant impacts from the existing rooftop use, I respectfully urge the Council to **deny this application or, at the very least, impose meaningful and enforceable restrictions to protect the surrounding neighborhood.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sean T. Connaughton

Sean T. Connaughton
709 Prince Street
seanconnaughton@verizon.net
804-366-5184

CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov

DISCLAIMER: This message was sent from outside the City of Alexandria email system.

DO NOT CLICK any links or download attachments unless the contents are from a trusted source.