Jackie Henderson

From:

Eric Barr

Sent:

Tuesday, March 11, 2014 9:42 AM

To:

Paul Smedberg; Justin Wilson; Allison Silberberg; William Euille; Timothy Lovain; John

Chapman; Del Pepper

Cc:

dbui@courts.state.va.us; Jackie Henderson

Subject: Attachments: Statistics - Alexandria & Arlington JDR District Court's and another Revenue Idea 2011 Alexandria Arlington JDR Statistics.pdf; 2012 Alexandria Arlington JDR

Statistics.pdf; 2013 Alexandria Arlington JDR Statistics.pdf

Hello Mayor, Vice Mayor and City Council Members,

At Councilman Smedberg's request, I am providing caseload information for our court as compared to Arlington JDR. This information was obtained from the Department of Judicial Planning at the Supreme Court of Virginia. Each file has either 2011, 2012 or 2013 data. The data is consistent in showing that we have a larger caseload, and we hear our cases in less hearings, making us more efficient. Less hearings benefits the public as there is less requirement to make appearances in court.

On another note, just last night, I came up with another revenue idea. Not sure if anyone in the City has ever thought of this, but if the City of Alexandria promoted a license plate - much like the City of Fairfax, or City of Virginia Beach for example - we can revenue share with the Department of Motor Vehicles. For example, each license plate renewal seems to generate up to an additional \$15.00 per year for the cities mentioned.

We could involve the public schools by letting students have a contest to come up with a design the city can use. This would help promote the idea too, by involving the school and parents. Once they start purchasing the plates, others may see it and want to follow suit to support the City! Given how many residents we have in the city (and how many cars!), if just 5,000 people signed up for this plate (out of 145,000 plus population), the city has a chance to bring in an additional \$75,000 in revenue each year. This revenue could then be put towards schools or libraries - or some type of other public good that benefits all of the citizens with a need that we have and government is in a position to help provide.

I came up with this idea after renewing my license plates last night. I was looking to see if there was a City of Alexandria license plate - like the City of Fairfax has. I did not see one.

I would be happy to be a part of seeing this come to life if council thought this was a good revenue idea?

Thanks again, for hearing us out last night. It was a good experience for all of us - I hope we made a positive impression on everyone? Please do not hesitate to contact me If you have any questions that I can help answer. If I am not available, my Supervising Deputy Clerk, Dominika Bui, can help out as well.

Regards,

Eric

Christopher Eric Barr, Clerk of Court Alexandria J&DR District Court 520 King Street, 1st. Floor Alexandria, VA 22314 (703) 746-4141

Commonwealth or Virginia Caseload Statistics of the District Courts 01/11 - 12/11

El01 Report

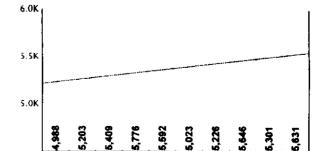
Alexandria J&DR	(418510)								Eighteen	ith District
	New	Cont	Einel Judomt	Wvd/ Remyd	Cont	Trans actions	Hmgs/ Held	Hmgs/ Case	Cases Conc	Cont Rate
	- Cases o	n Docket -								
IUVENILE										
ABUSE AND NEGLECT	80	176	79	0	177	256	256	3.20	79	69.1%
CAPIAS	5	5	5	0	5	10	10	2.00	5	50.0%
CHILD AT RISK	1	1	1	0	1	2	2	2.00	1	50.0%
CHILD NEED SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	- %
CUSTODY/VISITATION	1,563	2,021	1,631	0	1,953	3,584	3,584	2.29	1,631	54.5%
DELINQ FELONY	1 6 6	444	216	0	394	610	610	3.67	216	64.6%
DELINQ MISDEMEANOR	408	1,007	484	0	931	1,415	1,415	3.47	484	65.8%
EMANCIPATION	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	- %
ENTRUSTMENT AGREE	12	2	12	0	2	14	14	1.17	12	14.3%
FOSTER CARE REVIEW	149	11	145	0	15	160	160	1.07	145	9.4%
NIT FC REVIEW	38	3	38	0	3	41	41	1.08	38	7.3%
JUVENILE SUPPORT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	- %
PATERNITY	22	20	24	0	18	42	42	1.91	24	42.99
PERMANENCY PLANNING	64	20	67	0	17	84	84	1.31	67	20.29
RELIEF OF CUSTODY	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ō	0.00	0	- %
REMAND CUSTODY	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1.00	1	- 9/
REMAND VISITATION	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1.00	1	- %
SHOW CAUSE	17	13	17	0	13	30	30	1.76	17	43.3%
STATUS	593	417	604	Ō	406	1,010	1,010	1.70	604	40.2%
TPR	19	12	24	ō	7	31	31	1.63	24	22.6%
TRAFFIC	94	66	90	Ö	70	160	160	1.70	90	43.8%
TRUANCY/RUNAWAY	0	Ō	0	Õ	ō	0	0	0.00	0	- %
Total Juvenile	3,233	4,218	3,439	Ö	4,012	7,461	7,461	0.50	3,439	- %
OMESTIC										
BOND FORFEITURE	7	1	4	0	4	8	8	1.14	4	50.0%
CAPIAS	223	391	292	0	322	614	614	2.75	292	52.4%
CIVIL SUPPORT	857	552	877	0	532	1,409	1,409	1.64	877	37.8%
CRIMINAL SUPPORT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	- %
FELONIES	107	168	110	1	164	275	274	2.56	111	59.6%
MISDEMEANORS	473	840	473	0	840	1,313	1,313	2.78	473	64.0%
OTHER	95	31	99	0	27	126	126	1.33	99	21.4%
REMAND SUPPORT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	- %
RESTRICTED LICENSE	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1.00	1	- %
SHOW CAUSE	439	546	428	0	557	985	985	2.24	428	56.5%
SPOUSAL ABUSE	196	233	191	0	238	429	429	2.19	191	55.5%
Total Domastic	2,398	2,762	2,476	1	2,684	5,160	6,189	2.15	2,476	62.0%

New Cases

JUVENILE 57.4% DOMESTIC 42.6% Total: 100.0%

Total JEDIT District 5,631





New Cases

2,24 5,018 81.1%

2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011

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El01 Report

Arlington J	&DR (4	17013)
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SHOW CAUSE SPOUSAL ABUSE

Total Demostic

JUVENILE

Total:

DOMESTIC

Total JEDR District

Arlington J&DR (41	17013)								Seventeen	th District
	New	Cont	<u>Final</u> Judamt	Wvd/ Remyd	Cont	Trans actions	Hrngs/ Held	Hmgs/ Case	Cases	Cont Rate
	Cases o	n Docket								
JUVENILE										
ABUSE AND NEGLECT	124	480	106	0	498	604	604	4.87	106	82.5%
CAPIAS	29	53	32	0	50	82	82	2.83	32	61.0%
CHILD AT RISK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	- %
CHILD NEED SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	- %
CUSTODYMISITATION	753	722	731	0	744	1,475	1,475	1.98	731	50.4%
DELINQ FELONY	237	763	288	0	712	1,000	1,000	4.22	288	71.2%
DELINQ MISDEMEANOR	1,145	2,314	1,163	0	2,296	3,459	3,459	3.02	1,163	66.4%
EMANCIPATION	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	- %
ENTRUSTMENT AGREE	1	2	1	0	2	3	3	3.00	1	66.7%
FOSTER CARE REVIEW	122	34	122	0	34	156	156	1.28	122	21.8%
INIT FC REVIEW	38	5	34	0	9	43	43	1.13	34	20.9%
JUVENILE SUPPORT	2	5	3	0	4	7	7	3.50	3	57.1%
PATERNITY	52	28	49	0	31	80	80	1.54	49	38.8%
PERMANENCY PLANNING	4	0	4	0	0	4	4	1.00	4	- %
RELIEF OF CUSTODY	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ó	0.00	Ò	- %
REMAND CUSTODY	6	Ō	6	Ō	Ö	6	6	1.00	6	- %
REMAND VISITATION	0	0	Ô	Ó	Ö	Ō	Ö	0.00	Ö	- %
SHOW CAUSE	107	137	109	0	135	244	244	2.28	109	55.3%
STATUS	110	537	114	0	533	647	647	5.88	114	82.4%
TPR	17	37	16	0	38	54	54	3.18	16	70.4%
TRAFFIC	191	93	139	38	107	284	246	1.29	177	37.7%
TRUANCY/RUNAWAY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	- %
Total Juvenile	2,938	5,210	2,917	38	5,193	8,148	8,110	0.00	2,955	- %
DOMESTIC										
BOND FORFEITURE	1	6	2	0	5	7	7	7.00	2	71.4%
CAPIAS	167	438	219	0	386	605	605	3.62	219	63.8%
CIVIL SUPPORT	542	498	504	0	536	1,040	1,040	1.92	504	51.5%
CRIMINAL SUPPORT	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1.00	1	- %
FELONIES	67	187	74	0	180	254	254	3.79	74	70.9%
MISDEMEANORS	448	1,049	451	0	1,046	1,497	1,497	3.34	451	69.9%
OTHER	13	2	11	0	4	15	15	1.15	11	26.7%
REMAND SUPPORT	8	0	8	0	0	8	8	1.00	8	- %
RESTRICTED LICENSE	0	0	0	0	Ó	Ó	Ō	0.00	Ŏ	- %
SHOW CAUSE	293	450	298	0	445	743	743	2.54	298	59.9%
				_						

New Cases

63.1%

36.9%

100.0%

1,718

178

1,718

202

4.687

1,770

0

221

2,823

8,016

423

4,503

12,741

245

2,875

New Cases

2.38

2.67

202

1,770

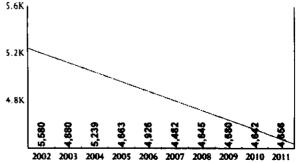
2.73 4.726 92.9%

52.2%

61.5%

423

12,703



Department of Judicial Planning

Commonwealth of Virginia

Caseload Statistics of the District Courts

Jan 2012 - Dec 201.

Alexandria

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		Filings	Hearings	Transactions	Concluded	Hearings per	Clearance
e Gar						Case	Rate
P	Non-Family Abuse Prot Order	3	6	8	3	2.00	100.0%
F	Bond Forfeiture	0	, ,	4	3	2.67	0.0%
A.	Capias	170	446	446	235	2.54	138.2%
F	Felony	96	259	259	94	2.67	97.9%
:M	Misdemeanor	386	1,233	1,233	438	3.03	113.8%
P	Family Abuse - Prot Order	112	265	265	99	2.38	88.4%
, AP	Motion - Prot Order	25	31	31	25	1.24	100.0%
IC	Non-Case	24	28	28	23	1.13	95.8%
)T	Other	89	100	100	90	1.13	101.1%
·C	Protective Order	14	15	15	14	1.07	100.0%
28	Remand Support	8	8	8	8	1.00	100.0%
BA	Protective Order	59	164	164	80	2.44	135.6%
SC	Show Cause	380	903	903	434	2.32	114.2%
SL	SL/Other	15	17	17	15	1.13	100.0%
VS	Civil Support	627	1.116	1,116	665	1.79	106.1%
	t Total	2,007	4,595	4,595	2,226	2.25	110.9%
			-,	.,			
	Abuse or Neglect	60	222	222	70	3.64	116.7%
N.	-		2		0	0.00	
\P	Non-Family Abuse Prot Order	1	1	2 1	1	1.00	0.0%
A	Capias	2	3	3	2	1.50	100.0%
CR	Custody Relief CHINS	2	3	3	1	2.00	100.0%
S		_	-	· ·	1,403		50.0%
V	Custody Visitation	1,358	3,049	3,04 9 347	1,403	2.20 3.37	103.3%
)F	Felony	102 361	347 1,093		386	3.02	98.0%
MC	Misdemeanor	301 6	1,093	1,093 9	300 6	3.02 1.50	106.9%
ΞŤ	Entrustment	-	•	~	=		100.0%
C	Foster Care Review	71	81	81	75	1.13	105.6%
F	Initial Foster Care	29	32	32	29	1.10	100.0%
JS	Juv Support	3	8	8	2	2.50	66.7%
MP	Motion - Prot Order	3	3	3	3	1.00	100.0%
NC.	Non-Case	8	8	8 70	8 56	1.00	100.0%
H	Permanency	54	70			1.29	103.7%
7	Paternity	29	44	44	30	1.53	103.4%
₹C	Remand Custody	13	13	13	13	1.00	100.0%
٤٧	Remand Visitation	12	12	12	12	1.00	100.0%
3C	Show Cause	34	53	53	31	1.61	91.2%
ST.	Status	422	722	722	435	1.70	103.1%
Γ	Traffic	90	199	200	97	2.18	107.8%
ΓP	Term Parental Rights	43	72	72	39	1.74	90.7%
TR.	Truancy	11	20	20	5	2.20	45.5%
JUVO	nile Total	2,715	6,066	6,067	2,804	2.21	103.3%
A (andria Totals	4.722	10.661	10.662	5.030	2.23	106.5

Department of Judicial Planning

Commonwealth of Virginia

Caseload Statistics of the District Courts

Jan 2012 | Dec 2012

Arlington

111		
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/II	1	
745	1	

		Filings	Hearings	Transactions	Concluded	Hearings per Case	Clearance Rate
					A Year	C256	Rate
	Bond Forfeiture	1	3	3	1	3.00	100.0%
3F	Capias	225	762	762	254	3.39	112.9%
CA CF	Felony	97	314	314	90	3.49	92.8%
OM.	Misdemeanor	498	1,478	1,478	476	3.02	95.6%
-m :p	Family Abuse - Prot Order	110	243	243	91	2.31	82.7%
VP	Motion - Prot Order	15	18	18	15	1.20	100.0%
NC	Non-Case	1	4	4	2	2.50	200.0%
TC	Other	27	39	39	28	1.36	103.7%
PC	Protective Order	8	14	14	6	1.67	75.0%
PV	Violation of PO	1	1	1	1	1.00	100.0%
RS	Remand Support	12	12	12	12	1.00	100.0%
sa Sa	Protective Order	46	158	158	82	2.87	178.3%
SC	Show Cause	223	620	620	234	2.99	104.9%
SL	SL/Other	2	2	2	2	1.00	100.0%
/S	Civil Support	468	1,055	1,055	534	2.17	114.1%
	Total	1,734	4,723	4,723	1,828	2.74	105.4%
					A STATE OF THE STA		(00000)
4.5				<u></u>	a transport was a second		
AN	Abuse or Neglect	80	386	386	92	5.26	115.0%
CA	Capias	60	154	154	63	2.52	105.0%
CS	CHINS	6	17	17	1	1.00	16.7%
CV	Custody Visitation	831	1,595	1,595	831	1.95	100.0%
DF	Felony	163	719	719	212	4.30	130.1%
DΜ	Misdemeanor	971	3,012	3,012	1,063	3.13	109.5%
EP	Emancipation	3	4	4	2	2.00	66.7%
ET	Entrustment	2	2	2	2	1.00	100.0%
FC	Foster Care Review	154	189	189	152	1.23	98.7%
F	Initial Foster Care	42	49	49	40	1.18	95.2%
NC	Non-Case	30	38	38	27	1.22	90.0%
PH	Permanency	2	3	3	3	1.33	150.0%
P\$	Violation Fam Abuse PO	1	1	1	0	0.00	0.0%
PT	Patemity	21	58	58	31	2.23	147.6%
RC	Remand Custody	11	11	11	11	1.00	100.0%
RV	Remand Visitation	1	1	1	1	1.00	100.0%
SC	Show Cause	73	161	151	84	2.04	115.1%
ST	Status	80	538	538	120	5.71	150.0%
T	Traffic	176	256	293	198	1.64	112.5%
TP	Term Parental Rights	22	41	41	21	1.76	95.5%
TR	Truancy	2	10	10	1	3.00	50.0%
Juve	nile Total	2,731	7,235	7,272	2,955	2.74	108.2%

ALEXANDRIA J&DR 418510

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA CASELOAD STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT COURTS 01/12 - 12/12

PAGE: 173 DATE: 03/04/13 SCVDCBR1

***** J&DR COURT *****

	CASES ON DOCKET			-HEARING RESULTS							
	NEW	CONTINUED	FINAL/ JUDGMT	DEFLT WAIVED/ JUDGMT CV/REMOVED	CONTINUED	TRANS ACTIONS	HRNGS HELD	HRNGS/ CASE	CASES CONCLUDED	CONT RATE	
JUVENILE											
TRAFFIC	90	110	96	1	103	200	199	2.21	97	0.52	
DELINQUENCY	492	9 9 8	518	_	972	1,490	1,490	3.03	518	0.65	
CUSTODY/VISIT	1,606	1,839	1,703		1,742	3,445	3,445	2.15	1,703	0.51	
STATUS	463	331	479		315	794	794	1.71	479	0.40	
**TOTAL JUVENILE	2,651	3,278	2,796	1	3,132	5,929	5,928	2.24	2,797	0.53	
DOMESTIC											
MISDEMEANORS	385	846	437		794	1,231	1,231	3.20	437	0.65	
FELONIES	94	165	94	0	165	259	259	2.76	94	0.64	
CAPIAS/SHOW CAUSE	642	813	772	·	683	1,455	1,455	2.27	772	0.47	
CIVIL SUPPORT	841	744	897		688	1,585	1,585	1.88	897	0.43	
CRIMINAL SUPPORT	0	0	0		0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	
**TOTAL DOMESTIC	1,962	2,568	2,200	0	2,330	4,530	4,530	2.31	2,200	0.51	
****TOTAL J&DR DIST	4,613	5,846	4,996	1	5,462	10,459	10,458	2.27	4,997	0.52	

J&DR MISCELLANEOUS	
J&DR APPEALS PROCESSED	182
J&DR RECEIPTS WRITTEN	0
J&DR CHECKS WRITTEN	0
JUV. OPER LICENCES ISSUED	0
JUV. WORK PERMITS ISSUED	0
J&DR MENTAL COMMITMENT HEARINGS	16
SPOUSAL ABUSE	59

ARLINGTON JEDR 417013

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA CASELOAD STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT COURTS 01/12 - 12/12

PAGE: 167 DATE: 03/04/13 SCVDCBR1

***** J&DR COURT *****

	CASES ON DOCKET			-HEARING RESULTS						
	NEW CO	ONTINUED	FINAL/ JUDGMT	DEFLT WAIVED/ JUDGMT CV/REMOVED	CONTINUED	TRANS ACTIONS	HRNGS HELD	HRNGS/ CASE	CASES CONCLUDED	CONT RATE
JUVENILE										
TRAFFIC	176	117	161	37	95	293	256	1.45	198	0.32
DELINQUENCY	1,251	2,790	1,425		2,616	4,041	4,041	3.23	1,425	
CUSTODY/VISIT	1,145	1,124	1,151		1,118	2,269	2,269	1.98	1,151	0.49
STATUS	111	516	155		472	€27	627	5.65	155	0.75
**TOTAL JUVENILE	2,683	4,547	2,892	37	4,301	7,230	7,193	2.68	2,929	0.59
DOMESTIC										
MISDEMEANORS	497	981	475		1,003	1,478	1,478	2.97	475	0.68
FELONIES	97	217	90	0	224	314	314	3.24	90	0.71
CAPIAS/SHOW CAUSE	474	950	520		904	1,424	1,424	3.00		0.63
CIVIL SUPPORT	653	835	737		751	1,488	1,488	2.28	737	0.50
CRIMINAL SUPPORT	0	0	0		0	0	0	0.00		0.00
**TOTAL DOMESTIC	1,721	2,983	1,822	0	2,882	4,704	4,704	2.73	1,822	
****TOTAL J&DR DIST	4,404	7,530	4,714	37	7,183	11,934	11,897	2.70	4,751	0.60
J&DR MI	SCELLANEOUS -									
J&DR APPEALS PROCE			83							
J&DR RECEIPTS WRIT			0							
JADR CHECKS WRITTE			0							
JUV. OPER LICENCES			0							
JUV. WORK PERMITS			0							
JADR MENTAL COMMIT	MENT HEARINGS	5	2							
SPOUSAL ABUSE			46							

March 10th, Public Hearing

Christopher Eric Barr, Clerk of the Court, Alexandria Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court (JDR)

Return Salary Supplement Funding to JDR Local Budget.

Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor, and City Council Members. This coming May will be my tenth year as Clerk of the Court for the Alexandria Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court. I'm proudly here with four of our seven staff members, and today we hope to make you aware of the impact our positions have on the Administration of Justice to Alexandria citizens and City and State agencies. Most importantly, we hope to garner your support to fund salary supplements that will help improve the competitiveness of our salaries, and work to resolve retention and turnover concerns.

I stand here minus one staff member, tendering her resignation to me almost two weeks ago. This will be the nineteenth vacancy I have had to fill. With the exception of four or five of these past individuals, all have left employment to accept positions with significantly higher compensation.

It's all about competitiveness... Right now, I need your help to make us competitive. We should be competitive with the Arlington County District Courts. They currently provide a 15% supplement for their employees and have done so since 2011. I need your help to make us competitive with the U.S. District Court, the DC Superior Court, law firms around the Washington Metropolitan area, even similar positions in the Alexandria Circuit Court Administrators Office. I need your help, to keep trained & professional people here in the City of Alexandria – in the Alexandria Juvenile Court – assisting Alexandria Citizens and Alexandria City Agencies. Our Court should not be a training ground for other neighboring courts, law firms or agencies.

We have always taken a very conservative approach to our court's local budget. Since 2008, we have had the ability to pursue the requested supplement. However, understanding the funding challenges facing the City, we've held off.

We cannot afford to hold off any longer on making an investment in the most important resource our office has – its people. We are often the face of the court system. We are often the face of government for many people. We are the ones that help individuals have access to justice. We are the ones that make things happen in the courts.

Respectfully, I ask that the funding of a staffing supplement removed from our proposed budget be returned. It will go a long way at helping to stop the cycle of turnover. It will help properly compensate staff for doing very demanding and complex work. It will help immensely at keeping positions in our office competitive. Please help me keep knowledgeable staff here in Alexandria assisting Alexandria citizens and agencies with efficient, delay free service.

Thank you for your consideration, and I appreciate your time.

March 10th, Public Hearing

Dominika Bui, Supervising Deputy Clerk, Alexandria Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court (JDR)

Return Salary Supplement Funding to JDR Local Budget

Good Evening, Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor and members of city council. My name is Dominika Bui, Supervising Deputy Clerk with the Alexandria Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Thank you for allowing me to be here tonight to provide some comments regarding the work that our court does for the City of Alexandria. Ensuring exceptional customer service is paramount to the Alexandria Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. Yes, we are state employees but 99% of our work directly impacts the residents of this City. Our staff is in contact with City of Alexandria residents every day, therefore it is critical that we provide accurate and timely responses in a highly professional manner. In addition to City residents, we also provide legal services to numerous City of Alexandria departments to include the Police Department, Sheriff's Office, Circuit Court and all other local law enforcement agencies as well as Departments of Human Services. It is not uncommon for our customers to believe that we are in fact City employees.

Despite our status, our entire staff feels extremely connected to the City of Alexandria and we strongly believe that our services directly influence those two City strategic goals:

Goal 4 of the City Strategic goals: Alexandria is a community that supports and enhances the well-being, success and achievement of children, youth and families.

And then Goal 6: The City protects the safety and security of its residents, businesses, employees and visitors.

The Alexandria Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court has the same goals as the City to achieve this long term goal to Ensure all community members are treated justly and protected under the law. We hope that you strongly consider our request to return funding to our budget enabling a salary supplement, recognizing that the work that we do on a daily basis positively impacts the community as well as City government.

As you can see we are seen and perform as city employees working towards achieving the same goals as this city. We want to ask to be looked at and to be treated by city the same way as most of the agencies, especially state agencies that are supplemented by the city for the last few years. I believe that we are as important as Magistrate's office, Public defender's office, Court Service, Circuit Court and others...

Thank you

March 10th, Public Hearing

Renata Narcisco, Deputy Clerk, Alexandria Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court (JDR)

Return Salary Supplement Funding to JDR Local Budget

Good evening, Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor and members of city council.

My name is Renata Narciso and I work in the Alexandria Juvenile Court as a Deputy Clerk.

Each day, we work on entering and updating the courts case management system with detailed information from petitions, motions and warrants. The dispositions made on these cases must be recorded timely. Information must be accurate and correct. Attention to detail is very important – a mistake with this information can have a negative impact on someone's life.

We work to prepare judges final orders, and similar to what magistrates do, we issue warrants, criminal and civil capias', and orders that can place adults in jail, and juveniles into detention. Through accurate recording of judicial decisions in all criminal and civil cases before the court, we transmit case disposition information in a timely manner to other agencies such as DMV and the Virginia State Police. These dispositions can affect citizens driving privileges and can prevent illegal purchase of firearms.

One of the more complex and important duties is processing and preparation of child and adult protective orders. Timely entry of these petitions is imperative so Law Enforcement has up to date information in The Virginia Criminal Information Network. If a weapon is involved, orders need to accurately reflect this – in addition to SSN, DOB and other information – insuring other agencies have the information necessary to make informed decisions at a traffic stop or in case they may be on a domestic violence call to someone's address.

In our positions, we work as a neutral party, making sure things are fair and all individuals coming before the court have access to our services. We work with both sides of every story. From the parents that may have their parental rights terminated and the city agencies that have custody of our children in foster care, victims and defendants in a domestic battery charges, mothers, fathers and other interested individuals seeking custody and visitation of a child, and countless other case types with impact on a child or family before the court.

As you can tell, the work is challenging. Please help us be competitive, by supporting the return of proposed funding to our budget. So staff can be fairly and properly compensated for the difficult and important work we perform each day. Thank you.

Respectfully.

Katie Turner, Deputy Clerk, Alexandria Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court

Return of Salary Supplement Funding to JDR Local Budget.

Good evening, Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor, and members of the City Council

My name is Katie Turner and I work as a Deputy Clerk for the Alexandria Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court. I want to bring some interesting facts to your attention concerning those of us working in the Alexandria Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court.

As you heard from my Clerk a few minutes ago, the District Court's in Arlington provide salary supplements to their staff. They have done so now since 2011, currently providing a 15% salary supplement to all District Court employees. Did you know that in 2011, we handled almost 1000 more cases than the Arlington Juvenile Court? While working with more cases, we did so in almost 100 less hearings — making us more efficient than Arlington with scheduling and working with cases.

In our court, we go the extra mile and try to work with all individuals involved in our cases to schedule matters effectively, taking into consideration other peoples time and the availability of other City Offices and Agencies that have work to do before the court. So, we work with more cases and do it more efficiently than in Arlington. However, we do not have a similar supplement from the City of Alexandria for similar positions as Arlington provides to the District Courts there. We feel we should be similarly compensated for our extra efforts and work, just like Arlington. Will you please help us by allowing the return of the proposed funding that was removed from the Proposed Budget given to you February 25th?

Doing this, will help make things fair and equitable – or even go a step further and make Alexandria stand out as a leader by making us the place people want to stay and work. You can help us with that by providing a better supplement than in Arlington.

Having a background working with Domestic Violence, I was drawn to the Alexandria Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. But right now, just like me, others in the office have had their salary go down over the last year or two. We have not received any Cost of Living Adjustments. We have not had any merit increases. Just like me, others in the office are finding it necessary to work a second job to try and make ends meet. It makes it very difficult for us to have to handle two different jobs. Those of us in this position are really limited with time available to spend with our own family and friends. Some of us work up to 65 hours a week and often don't get home until after 8:00pm. I find this ironic, being that we are a family court trying to promote keeping families together as well as support the best interests of the children and families we help. Thank you.

Ellen M. Dague, Esq. – For Alexandria Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court (JDR)

Impact of Clerk/Deputy Clerk Positions on access to Justice, Administration of Justice, etc.

- 1. Child and Family Safety
- 2. Clerks are not fungible
- 3. Attrition of Clerks results in City not having benefit of investment
- 4. Hidden costs of dysfunctional Clerk's Office
- 5. Language and interpreter issues
- 6. Issuance of Court Orders
- 7. Service and Sheriff's department
- 8. Transportation
- 9. Multi- and foreign- Court coordination
- 10. Defendants' and Respondents' Liberty Interests
- 11. Responding to the public and Customer Service
- 12. Calendar Management
- 13. Professional Witnesses and hidden costs
- 14. The ramifications of errors
- 15. Managing multiple court orders and documents per case
- 16. Criminal and Civil standards

Matthew W. Green, Esq.

Impact of Clerk/Deputy Clerk Positions on access to Justice, Administration of Justice, etc.

Examples of when things go wrong – impact on service of public, ability of individuals having work with court to do their job. Importance of keeping folks in Alexandria, how well Alexandria JDR is run and need to make sure it stays that way.

Honorable Uley N. Damiani, Judge, Alexandria Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court

Return Salary Supplement Funding to JDR Local Budget.

Talk about impact work of Clerk's Office has on access to justice and ability of Judge(s) to do their job.

Constance H. Frogale, Chief Judge, Alexandria Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court

Return of Salary Supplement Funding to JDR Local Budget.

To talk about importance of properly compensating Court's staff, impact on access of justice and problems with turnover and how that can impede timely service to public and other agencies.

Talk about need to fairly and adequately compensate individuals for complex demanding work done for all Alexandria Citizen benefit.

City Council Public Hearing on the City of Alexandria's Proposed Annual Operating Budget for FY 2015

March 10, 2014

Comments by Isaac Post

- (1) The Alexandria City law library provides access to necessary legal resources for people who cannot pay \$500/hour to hire a lawyer
 - Yes, the statutory laws of Virginia, and the many rules and administrative regulations that government uses to actually enforce the statutes are available on the internet
 - but for a citizen to fully comply with the law, one has to know what these laws and regulations mean
 - the main tools for deciphering the meaning of laws and regulations are the various subscription-based databases offered by LEXIS and WESTLAW
 - these databases allow people who are used to using Google – a tool to find cases, treatises, legal briefs, forms, jury instructions and other sources to help them interpret laws and regulations
 - but, comprehensive and hence, useful subscriptions to LEXIS & WESTLAW services for a library can cost tens of thousands of dollars per year
 - a publicly funded law library that offers these resources thereby provides people who lack the money to hire a lawyer a reasonable chance to navigate the criminal and civil justice systems
- (2) A knowledgeable legal librarian is essential to a public law library, such as the Alexandria City law library, for three main reasons:
 - 1. A librarian helps the library patron use the electronic resources correctly and efficiently

e.g. -which databases to use, how to search, what the different information sources are

-this is also very valuable for attorneys who can learn more efficient research techniques thereby lowering the cost of their services to the public

- 2. A librarian identifies and helps acquire the most cost effective and efficient information sources
- 3. As a member of the local legal community, a law librarian can answer questions about local court procedures, where to obtain particular court forms, how to go about finding a private attorney or a legal aid service

In general, as electronic legal resources become more expansive and complex, a law librarian remains an essential part of a public law library: namely, to help the public and attorneys make effective and efficient use of the expensive and complicated electronic legal databases.

(3) Instead of eliminating the Alexandria City law library, the City of Alexandria should simply increase the size of its own administrative staff by one less person.

The FY 2015 Proposed Budget proposes to cut funding to the law library by almost 70% - from \$177,000 down to \$56,000. This includes cutting the full-time position of the law librarian and then restricting the hours of operation.

At the same time, the Proposed Budget increases the budget of the City's Human Resources department by over 30% - from just over \$3 million to almost \$4 million. This includes adding 2 full-time equivalent human resources personnel – one year after the City already added 2 other full-time equivalent personnel to the human resources department.

Thus, over the course of 2 years, the City wants to add 4 full-time people to staff its own internal bureaucracy, but wants to eliminate a service – a public law library - that provides actual benefits to the public, especially benefits to low income individuals.

My proposed solution is the following:

- (1) Keep funding the Alexandria law library at its current level from the General Fund; and
- (2) Forego increasing the size of the City's human resources department by 1 person.

This still allows the City to increase its Human Resources staff by 3 people over the course of 2 years and to increase its budget by about \$900,000 over 2 years.

At the same time, Alexandria can continue to offer its citizens a public law library, just like Fairfax County and Arlington County.

City of Alexandria Fire Stations Station 203 Engine 203 Truck 203 Station 209 Engine 209 Station 206 Engine 206 Medic 206 Station 202 Medic 202 Station 204 Engine 204 Truck 204 Station 201 Engine 201 Station 207 Station 208 Engine 207 Station 210 Engine 208 Medic 207 Truck 208 Engine 210 Station 205 Medic 208 Medic 210 Engine 205 Medic 205

F.C. Hammond PTA Testimony Alexandria City Council Public Hearing on the 2015 Proposed Budget March 10, 2014

Good evening. My name is John Lennon. I am a resident of Alexandria's West End. My wife and I have a daughter at Hammond Middle School and a son who will soon graduate from TC Williams. I am speaking tonight on behalf of the Hammond PTA in support of funding for the Alexandria City Public School System in the full amount proposed by ACPS.

Since 2008, data show that ACPS enrollment has gone up, yet the money spent by the City per pupil has gone down. In the last two fiscal years, enrollment has gone up almost ten percent, while spending for each student has dropped by about three-and-a-half percent. We expect another enrollment increase this Fall, and without full funding, per pupil spending for education will decline again.

This spending pattern is at odds with public positions taken by our City's leaders.

- Mayor Euille, in his 2013 State of the City Address at GW Middle School, told students, "one of the things that makes Alexandria a great place to live is the support we provide to young people." He said the City and ACPS are partners in improving facilities planning, accommodating the growing student population, and enhancing educational programs and services.
- Also, Alexandria's Strategic Plan includes a goal to support and enhance the well-being, success, and achievement of children, youth and families.

These commitments should be reflected in full funding of the 2015 ACPS budget.

Looking beyond the coming school year we also request that the Council and ACPS work together to review the City's long-range Housing Master Plan. We believe that it does not adequately reflect a commitment to public education. It does an admirable job of supporting its principal goal – to provide affordable housing for Alexandria's population, including city workers – and it reaffirms the

link between student achievement and a stable and supportive home environment. But it's hard to find policy commitments in the Master Plan to require school construction or renovation in major new developments; to ensure that residents of affordable housing have easy access to public schools; or to emphasize the City's responsibility to make public education an essential part of every community in every part of the city. We believe this is a serious deficiency, and request a joint review with ACPS of plans and procedures bearing directly on long-term economic, community, and housing development.

As Mayor Euille said at GW Middle School last year, ACPS students are the "future residents and leaders" of the City of Alexandria. We need to plan for a future that provides opportunity for the next generation of residents and leaders. We need to invest in our children's education, and in the future of Alexandria.

Thank you.

Frances C. Hammond PTA Executive Board

Janese Bechtol, President Ramee Gentry, Vice President, FCH-1 Rob Goss, Vice President, FCH-2 John Lennon, Vice President, FCH-3 Christine Brown, Treasurer Kathie Eggleston, Secretary Suzanne Johnson, PTAC Representative

CITY MANAGER'S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2015 GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

Good afternoon Mr. Mayor, members of Council and City management. My name is **Anthony Barone** and I represent myself today, a resident of the City of Alexandria. I am here today to share with you my concerns of the City's Proposed Fiscal Year 2015 General Operating Budget (henceforward *Proposed Budget*), specifically regarding the proposed adjustments to city services for the **Fire Department** as described on page **13.41**.

As a resident of the City Alexandria, I am pleased that my community leaders continue to find solutions to important issues concerning quality schools; economic development and stimulation; maintenance and development of critical infrastructure; and the enhancement of city aesthetics. However, what matters most to me is when my leaders prioritize first the health, safety and security of each and every citizen and visitor by standing behind our emergency responders, emergency managers, public safety and public health professionals. While I'm excited to read about beneficial propositions captured in the Proposed Budget, I am deeply concerned for the sustainability and resilience of our City as a result of proposed cuts to our City's Fire Department.

On page 13.41 of the Proposed Budget you will find proposed eliminations of: (1) one Public Information Officer; (2) two general fund Emergency Management positions; (3) a Peak-time Medic Unit; (4) three Fire Marshals; and (5) ten vacant firefighter positions.

Alexandria City Council Public Meeting | 4:00pm, Monday, March 10, 2014

All of these positions and programs make up a core foundation of our community, safety. To strip away our capability and capacity to effectively prepare for, prevent and protect against, mitigate the impact of, response to and recover from an emergency or disaster degrades our community's foundation and is nothing less than a catastrophic proposal that the City must irrefutably avoid. These cuts are unacceptable simply because this community demands to be kept safe, engaged and informed by community leaders and agencies, especially in times of crisis.

Whereas we have worked so hard over the last several years to create firefighter positions based on past, current and projected deficiencies in staffing that put the City at risk for falling below National standards, we now propose eliminating these critical positions and vacancies. The citizens of this City demand a forward vector in advancing our emergency services, not compromising them.

We can do better. This community demands we do better. In doing so, we must not compromise our current Public Information Officer, Emergency Management and Fire Service positions, or their associated programs. This is our opportunity make certain the health, safety and security of this community is kept at the forefront of each and every decision we make. This is how we become a better, more resilient Alexandria.

As a resident of the City of Alexandria, I thank you Mr. Mayor, members of Council and City management for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Anthony A. Barone

Alexandria City Council Public Meeting | 4:00pm, Monday, March10, 2014

Background and Current Capabilities

Currently the City of Alexandria has 7 total full-time positions in their Office of Emergency Management which includes:

- 1 Emergency Management Coordinator
- 1 Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator
- 5 Deputy Emergency Management Coordinators (note: 3 of these positions were retitled by City HR during the Watson Wyatt study to reduce the numbers of titles used in Emergency Management)
- 3 of the Deputy positions are grant-funded by UASI (Urban Area Security Initiative) and have very specific deliverables and responsibilities according to the grant.

 These 3 positions include:
- NIMS Officer: responsible for providing ICS training to City employees, regional response partners, and others, maintaining a database of all employees and their emergency management and homeland security training, developing additional curricula for ICS training, developing a regional and local resource management system, and credentialing of first responders in accordance with Federal Requirements.
- Regional Planner: works with other regional planners in NOVA and NCR to create regional plans. Some of the plans created include: evacuation, SNS, special events and mass gathering, school preparedness, cyber security and long-term recovery.
- Training and Exercise Officer: this position conducts training and exercises for City departments, the entire region, and partners to ensure that plans are tested appropriately.

The Emergency Management Coordinator is responsible for oversight and day to day operations of the entire office and during an emergency, reports directly the City Manager and is responsible for providing guidance and support to all City departments on emergency management issues. This position is also responsible for the maintenance and management of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). A major duty of this position is the coordination of City emergency management activities with the Commonwealth, and the Federal Government.

A City funded deputy position provides grant management support to the 3 grant positions, as well as several other grants including grant funds provided to Volunteer Alexandria for emergency preparedness. This position also oversees the CERT program, provides staff support to the Citizen Corps Council and is responsible for outreach and education efforts on preparedness.

The other City funded deputy position is responsible for planning efforts and works with the Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator, who oversees the Planning Division, and also the Regional Planner. These 3 positions work on a variety of planning efforts, including the City's Emergency Operations Plan and any associated operational plans. Plans that have been created include: Regional mitigation plan, ethanol plan, extreme cold plan, extreme heat plan, shelter operations plan and many more. One initiative they have worked on over the past two years is ensuring that every City department has COOP plans. These plans are now in the process of being exercised and the next step is to ensure all these plans are integrated to account for departmental interdependencies and City departments that provide support to all departments such as IT, Communications, etc. There are still a number of City Departments that do not have

Alexandria City Council Public Meeting | 4:00pm, Monday, March10, 2014 a COOP plan. This position also serves as the lead planner and subject matter expert for active shooter response and coordinates the efforts with Police, Sheriff, Fire/EMS, Schools and our community partners.

The Assistant position, in addition to overseeing the Planning Division, is responsible for all FEMA grant reimbursements post emergency. This is a very arduous and lengthy process to ensure the City gets reimbursed for money spent during emergency response efforts. Over the past 7 years this has accounted for many millions of dollars being reimbursed to the City.

All non-grant-funded positions (4 total) share the Emergency Manager Duty responsibility. This involves being on-call and assisting in the coordination of any small and large-scale emergencies that may occur. This also includes sending alert notifications to other City staff, serving as the liaison with outside utility companies and any other response partners, such as Red Cross. Duties also include facilitating any City conference calls to coordinate during an emergency and serving as the EOC manager if EOC is activated.

All team members participate in weekly staff meetings. All full-time staff members routinely answer questions from the public, respond to inquiries and provide planning support to all City agencies and other outside partners, including senior high rise, apartment buildings, faith-based organizations, day-cares, etc.

Impacts if Positions are Eliminated

Elimination of two of these full-time deputy coordinator positions would greatly reduce the capability of the City to adequately prepare for and respond to emergencies.

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The duties held by these positions cannot be absorbed by any of the three grant funded positions as they have specific deliverables related to the grant. These duties would fall to the Assistant and the EM Coordinator who are already taxed with their own day-to-day responsibilities and responsibilities during emergencies.

- Only 2 people will share the on-call duty which does not provide enough redundancy for this role.
- Outreach will not be able to occur at the same level it is currently, e.g. to civic associations, professional groups and other boards and commissions.
- OEM will not be able to assist facilities like senior high rises (Annie B. Rose, Ladrey, Claridge House) or any of the health facilities, in their emergency planning efforts.
- OEM will not be able to assist private partners like day cares, faith-based organizations, businesses, etc.
- OEM will not be able to support the LEPC
- OEM will not be able to support FEMA cost recovery
- OEM will not be able to support the active shooter preparedness activities
- · City Departments will be required to develop their operational plans in support of the City's EOP without OEM support
- OEM would no longer be able to support City Special Events

In order to determine the appropriate level of staffing for emergency management, a comprehensive study that reflects the threats, hazards and risks both in Alexandria, as well as the National Capital Region, is necessary. Such a study would identify any gaps in our capability to prevent, protect, prepare, respond, recover and mitigate the identified

Alexandria City Council Public Meeting | 4:00pm, Monday, March10, 2014 events. Such a study has not been conducted in Alexandria. Alexandria does have a great number of identified opportunities for improvement in emergency management in several documents that are available. One is a summary of our corrective actions needed based upon real world events and exercises in Alexandria. This document dates back to Hurricane Isabel in 2003. Another document was a strategic plan developed under contract issued by City Manager Hartmann by the James Lee Witt consulting firm. This document outlines the necessary components of a comprehensive emergency management program. Yet another document that is available is the results of the Emergency Management Accreditation Program assessment completed for Alexandria as a part of a NCR effort. All of these documents and a comprehensive study of our current risk and identified gaps in capabilities would clearly show the need for a well-staffed and resourced emergency management system in Alexandria.

Statement for Public Hearing Melynda Wilcox, President, Alexandria PTA Council March 10, 2014

Good evening, Mayor Euille and City Council Members. My name is Melynda Wilcox and I am President of the Alexandria PTA Council. On behalf of the 3,400 PTA members in ACPS, I am speaking tonight in support of increased funding for our public schools for the 2015 budget year.

Our schools are at a crossroads. T.C. Williams High School has emerged from a persistently low-achieving status to fully-accredited. Our middle schools are being restructured. The new Jefferson-Houston building will open in September. We have a new superintendent. And we anticipate another enrollment increase of 500 students or more for the coming school year.

We were heartened to see that the city manager increased ACPS funding by \$5 million in his proposed budget. But here's why that \$5 million will cover only two-thirds of what we need for next year.

For the past seven years, the dollar amount appropriated by the city per pupil has been sloping steadily downward, from more than \$15,000 in 2008 to \$13,500 last year. During that same period of time, the percentage of students receiving free or reduced-price meals and the percentage of English Language Learners has increased. These two categories of students require additional resources; for ELL students, that difference is \$3,500 more per student per year. As a result, over time, ACPS has been doing more and more with less and less. Last year, elementary class sizes were increased by two students per class in an effort to do more with less.

Under the city manager's proposed increase of \$5 million, the downward trend in spending per pupil would continue. The budget passed by the school board on Thursday night, which requests a modest additional \$2.4 million, would not increase spending per pupil...it would merely hold it constant. The total \$7.4 million request from ACPS represents a 4% increase in funding to keep pace with the 4% expected growth in enrollment.

Many comparisons are made between Arlington and Alexandria because we compete against them in the real estate market for homebuyers, and in the labor market for teachers. Our school populations are quite different, however. About 60% of our students are economically-disadvantaged (as measured by their eligibility for free or reduced-priced meals); in Arlington, it's 31%. In Alexandria, 27% of our students are English Language Learners; in Arlington, it's 19%. And yet... Arlington spends \$3,300 MORE per pupil than we do here in Alexandria.

Tomorrow, we ask you to remain flexible on the property tax rate cap so that you leave open the option for funding ACPS at the level necessary to maintain current per pupil spending. As more students pour through our doors and hallways, our responsibility to provide them with the education that they need and deserve has not diminished. And nor should our funding. Thank you.

City Council Statement March 10, 2014

Mr. Mayor, Madame Vice-Mayor, City Council Members, Mr. Young,

My name is Rebecca Grueneberger, and I'm a volunteer with Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center. I know you have worked hard to maintain current funding levels for direct services to clients of DCHS. I'm grateful for that, especially since you've had to cut other areas.

I am concerned, however, about insufficient funds for the prevention of mental and substance use disorders. This includes anxiety, depression, early substance use, antisocial or aggressive behavior, and violence.

Why is prevention important? Because these disorders:

- · Are frequent
- Are treatable
- Affect the child, family, and community

According to the Surgeon General and The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), one in five children in the U.S. suffer from a mental illness. Sadly, only one in five gets the treatment he or she needs. Left untreated, mental and substance use disorders don't improve; they worsen. They are also likely to lead to disorders in adulthood. Society and the individual pay a high price for inadequate mental health services. In 2010 alone, suicide was the second leading cause of death among children 12-17 years old. In the last nine months, T.C. Williams experienced two youth suicides, one accidental death by alcohol, and one Alexandria police officer lost a child to suicide.

Early intervention during childhood and adolescence can delay and even prevent mental and substance use disorders. According to the SAMHSA, the first symptoms occur two to four years prior to a disorder. Just think what we could do if we could identify people when symptoms first appear and help them locate the services they need. Maybe we could stop the 12-year-old girl from experimenting with drugs. Maybe we could encourage the 15-year-old boy to delay that first drink. Maybe we could identify the 16-year-old girl or boy who has lost interest in activities they used to love and keep them from sinking further into depression and even suicide. In November-December 2012, DCHS Emergency Services saw 24 youth referred for imminent risk to themselves or others, and during November-December 2013, the number jumped to 35 youth.

Prevention requires money—money for developing printed materials, staff, programs, screening, and more. Over time, this will save the city money by

decreasing the demand for treatment for mental and substance use disorders and juvenile justice. Even better, it will ensure our children—here in Alexandria—have a positive quality of life and function well at home, in school, and in the community.

Maintenance is great, but expanding funds to include prevention services would better ensure a thriving and healthy community.

BUDGET COMMENTS FOR PUBLIC MEETING – MARCH 10, 2014

There are some positive aspects of Mr. Young's budget proposal for 2014, but once again he and his budget staff leaves debt too high for this very small town of Alexandria. Cutting some Parks & Rec hours is fine, ensuring that all city employees pay for their own life insurance is good, etc. However, I would like to address a few items I believe our elected officials really need to scrutinize and ask relevant questions before approving budget.

- 1. AHDC, another housing group was given a loan by the city in the amount of \$14 million dollars in 2011 as start-up monies. Have they paid any of this money back to date? If not, why not? When I need to get a car loan, I have to start paying back on that loan almost immediately. It is time to get this loan refunded to the city. Don't know if Wesley is housing is going to be requesting another loan. If so, your answer is no as I believe they are being investigated in Richmond for financial issues similar to RPJ.
- 2. Mr. Young is requesting \$60,000.00 dollars be set aside for his staff to continue the civic engagement process. Eliminate these funds they're unnecessary as was the \$100,000+ dollars Alexandria taxpayers paid for the What's Next Alexandria. Move on and save us some money.
- 3. Division on Aging: What does this dept. do? Job responsibilities, etc. Perhaps its time to cut some staff here due to unclear job duties and responsibilities.
- 4. When the city combined the Dept. of Human & Social Services with Mental Health, the Office of Women run by Lisa Baker was moved to the Dept of Health & Community Services as it no longer needed to be a stand alone office. Ms. Baker was earning over \$100,000+ dollars to manage the office and suspect she is still earning that amount of money today. My understanding, and I could be wrong is that Assistant City Manager Debra Collins moved this office to Dept. of Health without advertising the position, no job description changes for this new position and no authorization to advertise. Is this SOP? I would suggest that you request Mr. Young to look at all department administrators and assistant administrative jobs in order to get a clearly defined job description for these positions, to do a full audit in order to reduce the budget. Mr. Young can hire without your approval, but you have the authority to cut the city managers budget. I know that Ms. Collins who was promoted to Assist. City Manager under former City Manager Hartmann and recently received an award for starting up a child advocacy center in Alex. However, this program is not new and already established in other cities, i.e., Seattle, etc. So the question needs to be asked about what are Ms. Collins' job description, duties and responsibilities? If senior social work staff/ph.d's are being supervised by her and/or report to her, that's insulting since she has no clinical social work background.
- 5. Salary/step increases. Mr. Young is proposing 3.2% increase in salaries for senior staff in his office and others based on performance, which is higher then the Federal govt. of 1.2% along with cutting 33 positions, with the majority in the Parks & Rec Dept. and some lower level employees. Yet, once again, he is not requesting any cuts in his dept. I have emailed him to find out the number of staff he might be cutting in his office and have not received a response. If anything, he has increased staff in the city mgrs. office, hiring a COS, another assistant city mgr., which I believe brings a total of about 8 assist. City mgrs. earning over \$100.000+ dollars along with Mr. Young's salary of \$250,000 dollars plus benefits. You all really need to look into these positions as the city managers office is beginning to look like central office staff for ACPS and request clearly defined job descriptions and continued need for these senior positions. Saving \$100,000+ dollars by either eliminating these positions or looking into early retirement for some senior staff who have worked for the city for a long time is another saving. I suspect that Mr. Young is just moving these positions around to other depts. i.e., just moving the deck chairs

around even though he has stated he is not filling open positions. We should not be cutting lower level positions that are needed in order to save senior staff positions with very little job responsibilities. There should be no salary/step raises for Mr. Young nor any assistant city managers.

In conclusion, when Mr. Young presented an over-view of his budget at the Feb. mtg of the Federation, he stated that his budget reflects the goals of the 2010 strategic plans wherein Mayor Euille and members of council wanted to show measurable outcomes, achievements, transparency, correct expenditures and investments. The city spends 32% of its budget on personnel, 30% for ACPS, has a 1.6% for growth which is greater then the current budget expenditures. It is now time for all of you and Mr. Young to show some real leadership as related to this budget during these very difficult financial times and have the courage to say No, we can't afford this, make further cuts within the ACPS budget, eliminate funding for AEDP and request that this group seek outside partnerships for funding rather then Alex. Taxpayers as they continue to not show future commercial investments and to stand up and be counted. Its time for tough love from all of you. Remember, the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and house times and results. What appears clear to me and perhaps others is that our elected officials and ACPS school board members are push-overs when it relates to handing out money. I will either submit and/or email you further comments/suggestions for budget should I feel you all are going to make real changes and are listening. Alexandria taxpayers can no longer afford some non-essential jobs/employees.

Annabelle Fisher



in Northern Virginia

March 10, 2014

Alexandria City Council 301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314-3211

Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilmember Pepper, Councilmember Smedberg, Council Member Lovain, Councilmember Wilson, and Councilmember Chapman:

I am writing as the Executive Director of SCAN of Northern Virginia, a local nonprofit organization that partners with the City of Alexandria through the Alexandria Fund for Human Services, to provide Parent Education and the Court Appointed Special Advocate (or CASA) Program for abused and neglected children in our community.

Several of our surrounding jurisdictions provide Parenting Classes and Support Groups as part of their Department of Human Services or Social Services budget. Alexandria has long chosen instead to partner with SCAN. As a nonprofit organization, we are able to leverage foundation funding and individual/local business contributions as well as significant volunteer hours. As a result, we have been able to provide these core services in a much more cost-effective way for the City.

Our City's Juvenile Court Judges rely on SCAN's CASA Program to train and supervise community volunteers appointed to each abused or neglected child to collect information on the child's needs, parents' needs/abilities, services, and extended family members who can support that child and family. The judges rely on these volunteer investigations, reports and recommendations in order to facilitate more timely and more appropriate decisions for children under the court's protection. They also rely on our parenting classes as a key strategy for building parents' skills so that they can reunite with (or keep) their children at home, reducing City costs in terms of foster care and the more dire long-term consequences of child abuse and neglect.

The City forecasts a 5.1% increase in revenues for FY15, so I would like to propose a 5.1% increase in the AFHS in recognition of the fact that our nonprofit organizations must wrestle with the same need to invest in personnel and keep up with increasing rent and operational costs. However, I am not naïve and recognize that is not likely.

As an Administrator, I have had to make very difficult decisions in terms of personnel and reducing services over the last several years as the AFHS funding was cut and then maintained at only a level amount even as we face the same inflationary pressures that are now causing the City to make cuts even with an overall increase in the total budget. However, I am always conscientious about the impact of those cuts.

SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now) of Northern Virginia

1705 Fern Street, 2nd Floor Alexandria, Virginia 22302 Phone 703-820-9001 Fax 703-820-9002 info@scanva.org

An affiliate of Prevent Child Abuse Virginia

UNITED WAY #8349 CFC #79235 / CVC #8216

www.scanva.org

I was disheartened to read the City Manager's budget proposal noted no programmatic or FTE impact of the nearly \$112,000 reduction to the Fund for Human Services. I understand that City staff capacity limits the ability to calculate the impact of this reduction and that the 5.5% across the board cuts to different nonprofits will have a variety of different impacts. But City Council should be aware that this proposal "passes the buck" on the hard decisions and the cutting of personnel and services on to those of us running the nonprofits that serve the most vulnerable of our City neighbors.

Furthermore, I believe that as a community we have to begin to address human development needs in the same way we address economic development needs. We cannot be short-sighted. We have to recognize the long-term cost-savings of investing in prevention and in the health of our community members. In addition, we have to recognize the reverberating effect of small actions. City Council should be aware that the impact of this cut exceeds \$111,829 worth of services because every nonprofit who receives those funds leverages them to pull down additional state funding, foundation grants and contributions from City residents and local businesses. In addition, we multiple these dollars with contributions in volunteer hours by your neighbors. We multiply the valuable impact of every dollar you contract to us; but the same will also be true with cuts. A reduction in the City grant will have a ripple effect on our capacity to leverage these additional resources to serve your citizens most in need.

SCAN joins the Alexandria Council of Human Services Organizations (ACHSO) in urging that the funding for the Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS) for FY2015 be restored to the flat FY2014 level.

As nonprofit organizations, we employee your citizens, engage your community members as volunteers, and serve your most vulnerable neighbors. Our services are more cost-effective and more flexible in nimbly serving the changing needs of our community. Our services directly impact the City's success in achieving the City Council Strategic Plan as revised in 2010.

In closing, I reiterate compassion for the difficult decisions you must weigh. As you do so, I hope you will protect those in our community least able to protect themselves, like the abused and neglected children served by SCAN's programs in part through funding from the Fund for Human Services. I urge you to protect level funding for such programs in FY15.

Thank you

Sonia Quiñónez, MSW .

Executive Director, SCAN of Northern Virginia

cc: Jackie Henderson

Commission on Aging Budget Testimony March 10, 2014

Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council: Thank you for this opportunity to speak to you today. My name is Bob Eiffert, I live at 1418 Juliana Place, and I am here today representing the Alexandria Commission on Aging.

We thank you for your past support of older adults in Alexandria, and we appeal for your continued support even in these tight budget times. We have several concerns with the City Manager's Proposed Budget that we will address today. Jane King, the Chair of the Commission on Aging, will also speak on our behalf immediately after me.

I want to address the proposed cut of \$1.3 million to the Tax Relief for the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities. This nearly 40% (39.393939%) cut to the program will create a certain hardship for those affected. Lowering the asset limit from \$540,000 to \$340,000 is a serious reduction. Adding a cap of \$500,000 to the value of the home is even more serious. According to the Department of Finance's report to City Council on February 11, 2014, the average assessment for a single family home is just over \$677,000. Residential real estate values increased 4.48% in the last year. We all know individuals who are "house rich and cash poor." To place such a low value cap of \$500,000 on the allowable amount for property tax relief is not reasonable. If there must be a cap, then I suggest it be at \$700,000 AND that the cap be indexed to the average annual rate of change in residential real property values.

We would like to see a budget memorandum that shows how the Department of Finance determined the separate impacts of the asset reduction limit and of the cap on the value of the residence. Specifically, we would like separate projections of how many households would be affected by the asset limit reduction, and how many households would be affected by the new cap on the value of the home. We believe these changes will cause real hardship to older residents and those with disabilities who could be forced from their homes due to these cuts.

The City Manager emphasizes the importance of services for older adults in the "Healthy and Thriving Residents" section of his budget message. We agree, and we urge you to reject or significantly modify these changes to the Tax Relief program to keep Alexandria a "livable community for ALL ages."

Thank you.

Remarks to City of Alexandria City Council

March 10, 2014

Mr. Mayor, Honorable Members of City Council, City Manager Young, Deputy City Manager Evans, and City Officials:

I am here today on behalf of more than 1,000 Alexandria retirees, to strongly object to the 2015 Proposed Budget recommendation to eliminate City funding for retiree life insurance.

Life insurance is a long standing benefit that was offered to all full time city employees before I began my career, and it continued through my career with Alexandria. I was promised this benefit in writing from the first day I began working in the OMB in July, 1987, until the day I retired from the Police Department. I received training and written documents that outlined my benefits and the requirements for vesting in each one. When I retired, the terms of my life insurance were clearly explained, and the benefit is in effect today.

To eliminate funding for this benefit violates a commitment made by the City to us. I met the requirements for my life insurance benefit, I worked for you for more than 20 years, and I earned this benefit. I ask you to keep your side of the bargain and maintain funding for this benefit. To do anything else is to break your promise and commitment to me and to all other former City employees, many of whom served you for 25, 30, 35 or more years.

The life insurance benefit is extremely important. Some of us have dependent children in college or still at home. Some of us have dependent parents or other relatives. Most of us have spouses and families. If I die before 65, and some of us will, my life insurance payment is a critical part of supporting my daughter until she completes her education and becomes fully self-sufficient. It is an essential piece of our portfolio that would enable my husband to pay our mortgage and bills until he could relocate. Even after the age of 70, it provides valuable protection for final expenses and bills, which is of great importance especially for lower paid retirees.

In response to Budget Memo #3 and its weighted average figures, we do not get a clear sense of the true cost of this benefit to us. More important, we have no guarantee that we will keep the same premiums or coverage we now receive, once we are insured as individuals. The umbrella of the city is what makes this life insurance relatively low cost and predictable. We have no price protection once we are kicked to the curb. Therefore, to eliminate this benefit places an enormous hardship and burden on retirees who now cannot afford a simple term life policy. Simply stated, we are too old to buy life insurance affordably. Many of us have health issues that would affect our insurability and drive up insurance costs. Many of your retirees, especially those who are lower paid, have no hope of replacing this benefit themselves while living on a fixed pension income.

Let's look at the savings. Depending on whether you check the budget or the budget memo, the savings from this proposal are \$250,000 to \$260,000. Looking around me this evening, I see several people who, if you turn us loose on your 3 largest departments, or the schools, take your pick, we can find you a quarter million dollars in savings in about an hour. And it would cost no one to lose their job, go without critical equipment, or essential services. I know it can be done because we did it many times at the Police Department during the 20 years I was budget commander. And I will donate an hour of my time to you if you like, so it will cost you nothing.

This proposal sends a message of betrayal to us, and a treacherous message to your current work force as well. These employees are 5 years older, that much further from purchasing affordable life insurance, and were also promised the life insurance benefit.

We helped make this city the fine organization it is today. We performed in a trustworthy, highly ethical and honorable manner, or we did not keep our jobs. So please — consider the commitments that this government made to us, and maintain your commitment to trustworthy, ethical and honorable leadership.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Amy Flenniken
Retired, Alexandria Police Department, Finance and Fleet Management Division
Former senior analyst, OMB

Former consultant, Department of Emergency Communications

Good afternoon. I'm Kathleen Schloeder, the Chair of the Alexandria Library Board.

We'd like to thank the City Manager and Council for the extra cleaning days at Beatley. With over 300,000 visits a year, you can imagine the need for restroom cleaning and trash collection. And we REALLY appreciate the capital improvement funds to fix the leaks at Beatley central library.

It appears that the problems have now been solved and we have been able to move ahead with the renovation of the children's area, one of the hardest hit. We are in the midst of installing new flooring, new furniture, painting and putting in some wonderful new interactive murals. And this is not all city funding. The Library Foundation is partnering with the Beatley Friends organization to pay for much of this work.

But this area is only going to be complete with books. Research shows a solid connection between recreational reading and academic achievement. And so I want to ask, if there is any way you can restore the cuts to the book budget. The materials budget has been cut almost 40% in the last 4 years, and of course, everything costs more. This is especially true of electronic books which are increasingly popular with adults. E book circulation has been increasing 60% a month yet eBooks cost more than physical ones. We continue to do more with less. The per capita spending in the Alexandria system on all materials last year was \$3.25—that's less than the \$3.77 Virginia average (for FY 2010, the latest year statistics are available) and the national one of \$4.22 provided in statistics from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Materials are not just books. I don't know if you saw the article in the Alexandria Times last month written by Bill Reagan, the executive

director of the Alexandria Small Business Development Center. He informs his members about the many research databases specifically geared to the business community which the library subscribes too. This is invaluable for our small businesses which don't have the funds for their own R&D departments.

I also can't fail to mention the Burke library building. We don't have confirmation yet from the City that the library will have possession of the whole building when the public schools move out of the ground floor. Nor was there any money in next year's CIP for renovations. We certainly suggest that at the very least, the school system return the ground floor to us in the same condition in which we gave it to them.

- Honorable Mayor, Members of City Council, Greetings.
- For the record, I am Michael A. Conner, Sr., Retired Deputy Fire Chief and Chief Fire Marshal of the Alexandria Fire Department with a total career spanning 40 years of service (1965 to 2005) less 4 years as a shipboard firefighter in the United States Coast Guard during while I maintained an active volunteer firefighter status in Alexandria while I completed my enlistment, serving four years at sea, including nearly two years in Viet Nam.
- I am currently a resident of the City's West end and this evening, I wish to address each of you on behalf of the City of Alexandria Retired Police, Fire and Sheriff's Association, Inc, which represents 320 members of the aforementioned departments. Like many of my former colleagues, I am here to speak to you about the City Managers' FY2015 proposed general fund budget.
- As I noted in my March 4, 2014 email correspondence to each of you on the City Council, we stand together this evening in staunch opposition to the City Managers' recommendation to "eliminate" the funding for the retirees life insurance benefit.
- This valuable program, which represents less than ½ of 1% per cent of the total FY2015 proposed general fund budget, is a proverbial "drop-in-the bucket" program many of us paid into throughout our careers.
- All of us have seen or heard of some major cities throughout the United States who have faced more drastic fiscal challenges due to their over expenditure in employee salary and benefit packages. No doubt, Alexandria has had to keep a close eye on those trends so to not fall victim to similar mistakes and I applaud your efforts in accomplishing that difficult task.
- However, I, along with many of my colleagues, ask the City Council to intervene and take this opportunity to reflect on a group of employees who helped make Alexandria what it is today, rather than now turn your backs on us during difficult economic times.
- To use some of the City Managers comments regarding about Alexandria being a "clean, vibrant, diverse, safe and just community," didn't just happen! And, it certainly didn't happen overnight.
- Each of those accomplishments were achieved by a workforce, working in concert with each other and the City Council, (both former and current,) to ensure every task was accomplished in a fair and balanced manner. You gave the edict and we got it done!

- As a result, Alexandria now stands at the vanguard of communities throughout the Washington Metropolitan Region with its head held high due to a small, yet declining group of employees.
- However, for the City Manager to expect this group of retired employees to absorb the \$262,000 of our life insurance benefit out of a \$4.6 million dollar general fund budget while living on a fixed income, is grossly unfair and a total abrogation of your rudimentary responsibility.
- Unlike many of the larger surrounding jurisdictions with their more lucrative budgets, it's
 the elimination of benefits such as these, that will have a long-term "ripple" effect on the
 attraction and retention of a quality workforce like the City has had to keep in stride with
 over the years.
- Working for the last several years as a Subject Matter Expert in the areas of Fire Administration and a Licensed Private Investigator, I have traveled throughout the United States helping many communities trying to answer many of these same challenges, but not on the backs of their employees. Yes, there are challenges; but one's we can creatively solve rather than consider a drastic proposal such as the one being made by OMB and the City Manager.
- Many of you have asked me to identify some areas where you could make reductions in the FY2015 budget and I have sent you another email in response to your request rather than extend my dialogue here this evening. I hope you will consider each of them carefully as the annual budget process is one of the most difficult challenges you face each year. Please allow me to change hats for a moment at speak to you as a voting citizen. I would point out that the 3% proposed merit increase as the FY2015 general fund budget recommends is three times what the Federal Government is proposing in FY 2015 and should be reconsidered. The City employees are more than deserving of an adequate merit increase, but I can never recall a time where we received an increase three times that which the Federal Government proposes.
- In closing, I wish to thank the members of the City Council who responded to my email transmission(s). If you have any questions, I will be more than happy to address them.

Respectfully submitted, Michael A. Conner, Sr.



Rashad Young, City Manager 301 King Street, City Hall, Room 3500 Alexandria, VA 22314

January 8, 2014

Dear City Manager Young and Deputy City Manager Collins:

The Alexandria Council of Human Service Organizations' (ACHSO) purpose is to improve human services through cross sector collaboration to benefit the entire Alexandria community. Thus, we send this letter to convey our interest in the Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS).

On behalf of the Alexandria Council of Human Service Organizations, we thank you for appointing the AFHS Review Committee. This team did a remarkably fair and thorough job. It is clear from their report that they listened to all parties and all concerns, including research of neighboring jurisdictions. They presented recommendations that are well-reasoned.

ACHSO is interested in participating in the process of developing the AFHS plan. We appreciate that our comments have been heard and hope that we will continue to be valued partners in the process.

There are a few points that we would like you to keep in mind as you prepare for the presentation of your plan to City Council.

The work of ACHSO nonprofits is essential work of the City on behalf of our most vulnerable residents. We are quicker and leaner than City agencies and are able to give a big bang for the buck. This work requires resources so we want to assure that there should be no decrease in funding; in fact, the fund should expand for innovation. We have noted the recommendation for a dedicated employee to staff AFHS. We wish to ensure that the funding for this position will not diminish the portion available for nonprofits.

The ability to plan for our future ability to serve our clients is essential. We therefore applaud the recommendation for multi-year grants. At least 3 years would give the time (particularly for new programs) to roll out in year 1, evaluate in year 2, and run the fine-tuned program in year three. For budgetary purposes, notice in a timely manner before the end of the fiscal year is essential.

ACHSO nonprofits value the obligation of accountability, both to our clients and to the City staff and Council. Having support from the Department of Community and Human Services, either with a dedicated member of staff or with a coalition of staff, would be most welcome. We would wish feedback from the department regarding our performance and the needs of the community, as well as technical assistance to ACHSO.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Fay D. Slotnick

Chair, ACHSO's Education & Advocacy Committee

....on behalf of the Nonprofit Members of Alexandria Council of Human Service Organizations

Please reply to: Fay D. Slotnick, Board Chair, Parent Leadership Training Institute of Alexandria 400 Madison Street #2203, Alexandria, VA 22314 703-409-6872 (cell) fay@PLTI-ALEX.org

Cc: Mayor, Vice-Mayor, Members of Council Clerk of Council

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council,

I am writing in reference to the City Manager's Proposed 2015 Budget that calls for the elimination of the Retiree Life Insurance Benefit. I respectfully request that you restore the funding for this retiree benefit.

I know this proposal affects all City retirees, but I would like to point out a few personal and professional details about me as one of your retirees. When I became a police officer in 1980, City residents experienced more that 10,000 Part I Crimes per year. This was not the total number of reported crimes, but is what the FBI uses as a barometer to compare crime rates around the country. The last time I checked, Part I Crime rates in Alexandria were in the low 3,000's. Many of the employees and former employees attending tonight's meeting helped make this City safer, and did it for pay and compensation insufficient for most of them to live where they work. I remember when the area of Queen & Fayette was so dangerous that officers were required to wait for their back-up when going on calls. I understand that a very nice Bistro or coffee house is located where Sarge's Restaurant once was. Across the street there used to be a "Winehouse", a speakeasy that often generated crime victims on a regular basis. I remember this area to be a place with lots of victims of violent crime and injured officers—not anymore.

In 2004, I retired at the rank of captain. This was a few years after being diagnosed with cancer, going through surgery, treatment, and recovery. I hated retiring, but I left to fulfill my wife's desire for and our children to move closer to her family in case I suffered a relapse. Through God's grace I remain cancer free. But the Red Cross and local hospital won't take my blood anymore after I had been a regular donor for years. I have similar fears that no life insurance company will offer me an affordable insurance policy for the same reasons the Red Cross doesn't like me now. My story is only one example, but many cops don't normally retire in the best of health, and I am sure there are other examples where they would find it difficult to secure affordable life insurance coverage. I assume my resourceful wife could make it if something happened to me after my

two daughters graduate from college and get married. But she is now underemployed for a woman of her age with a college degree because her career took a backseat to mine so she could care for our children while I worked midnights, evenings, weekends, holidays, and overtime to make up for her lost income.

I was your police department liaison for four years and watched your predecessors struggle to run this City and balance priorities. So I understand the challenges you face, but I urge you not to overlook the employees who helped make this City the wonderful place it is today. A place that I return to regularly to visit the friends I love and employees I miss. In fact, I was there February 27-March 2, and had lunch with one your former colleagues during my visit. I didn't know about this issue until the next day.

In closing, I remember when two current council members were on the council when I was the liaison. It was common to hear them and their colleagues characterize their approach to difficult issues as the, "Alexandria Way". This phrase was intended to portray the City government as a compassionate one that strived to do the right thing for its public servants, and its citizenry.

I pray that the "Alexandria Way" spirit is still alive, and that it means the same thing now as it did then. There must be a reasonable alternative to preserve the retiree life insurance benefit.

Sincerely,

APD Captain Dennis P. Butler, Retired



Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center

200 S. Whiting St. • Alexandria, VA 22304 Phone: 703.751.3700 • Fax: 703.823.3842

Honorable Mayor William Euille and Members of City Council City of Alexandria 301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

March 1, 2014

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of City Council,

This letter is written with the approval of the Commission for the Juvenile Detention Center Of Northern Virginia (hereinafter, JDCNV Commission) and the Sheltercare Program for Northern Virginia regarding the serious impact of the City Manager's FY'15 proposed budget cuts on our regional facility and programs.

As you know, the JDCNV located on S. Whiting Street in Alexandria houses juveniles who are ordered there by the Courts of three jurisdictions for a determinate period of incarceration. Twenty years ago, Fairfax County decided to build its own facility and left the JDCNV Commission, leaving the present day members of Alexandria, Arlington and Falls Church. The remaining three jurisdictions agreed at that time that the most equitable way to fund the local contribution to JDCNV would be to base it on a utilization formula. Since then, the fiscal year contributions are computed based on the previous three years utilization rate to account for fluctuations in usage. This formula has worked well for the past twenty (20) years with no problems. In fact, the City of Alexandria, whose utilization of JDCNV has steadily declined over the last ten (10) years, has benefitted the most from this arrangement.

The Alexandria City Manager FY'15 budget proposes a cut 13.1% or \$194,079.00 from the JDCNV budget. We are very concerned that Alexandria's proposed budget cuts to JDCNV clearly indicates that there was a unilateral decision made to breach our inter-jurisdictional agreement without any prior discussions or planning with the partner jurisdictions. The impact of the Alexandria budget proposal will cause the JDCNV Commission to make deep cuts in programs and services which will not only affect Alexandria's youth, but the youth of the other two partner jurisdiction Each year, we invite the Budget Directors from each of the jurisdictions to discuss the JDCNV and Sheltercare budgets and the Alexandria Budget Director has attended these meetings every year except this year. The Budget Directors from Arlington and Falls Church were in attendance to discuss the FY'15 budget and took the opportunity to ask questions and make any adjustments at that time – in the presence of the partner jurisdictions.

The cost to house a juvenile is higher than adults in jail due to the programs and state regulations that need to be addressed for juveniles that are not required for adults. The juvenile system is based on the belief that it is society's best, and many times final, chance to rehabilitate youth offenders and turn them away from a criminal life. In that vein, there are more services offered to juveniles to

promote rehabilitation. Even with these considerations, the Commission has maintained a reasonable per diem rate over the years. The cost of a bed for the JDCNV is \$178.62. Compared to Fairfax County Detention Facility which has \$226 per diem and Prince William County Detention Facility which charges \$217.23 per diem, we provide the lowest cost per bed per day in Northern Virginia. The only increase in service this year is due to the enactment of new federal law (Prison Rape Elimination Act) which requires additional oversight and monitoring. In order to comply with the federal law, we raised our per diem cost by 5.83% in FY'15.

Four years ago, the Commission became concerned about the declining utilization rate and we sought a contract with the federal government to reserve one whole wing of the Detention Home for federal juvenile prisoners. This contractual arrangement has saved all of the partner jurisdictions several thousands of dollars over a four year period. In creating our FY'15 budget, we saved the City of Alexandria \$412,547.20 from the revenue from this arrangement. Only a percentage of the revenue gleaned from the federal contract is set aside for capital improvements as requested by Bruce Johnson, a previous Alexandria Budget Director.

The Sheltercare program is an Alexandria group home program operated by the NVJDC Commission which provides temporary housing and services to Alexandria youth who are chronic truants, runaways and exhibit other problems that cause them to be a danger to themselves. It is the only program of its kind in the City. For the most part, these youth are ordered into the program by an Alexandria Juvenile Court Judge or Circuit Court Judge with recommendations from the Commonwealth Attorney, Public Defender, probation officers and social workers. Since Sheltercare has an in-house school program, it also accepts referrals of chronically truant youth identified by Alexandria Public Schools. The cost of a placement at our Sheltercare per day is \$218 in FY14 as compared to the cost of a placement at Fairfax Sheltercare which cost \$355 per day.

Sheltercare has been underfunded for over six (6) years with staff not receiving a salary increase as did their peers in City agencies. In order to defray the shortfalls in the budgets, Sheltercare employees pay a larger portion of their health insurance than that of City employees and NVJDC employees. The FY'15 City budget proposes to cut \$31,123.00 which is reflective of the 3% salary increase that the NVJDC Commission proposed for Sheltercare employees. This salary increase is significantly less than City and non-City agencies employees who stand to receive a merit and percentage increase in their salaries according to the FY'15 proposed budget. We are requesting that \$31,123.00 be restored to the Sheltercare budget.

We understand that the City is facing budget issues in FY'15 and that City agencies and contributions will sustain major budget and service delivery adjustments. However, the FY'15 proposed budget cuts to the JDCNV was made without any discussions or planning with the partner jurisdictions. The decisions were made unilaterally, disregarding a 20 year inter-jurisdictional agreement. Among the many other consequences of this budget decision, this action jeopardizes ours, and the City's credibility, trust and good working relationship, especially when it comes to making inter-jurisdictional agreements in the future. As for Sheltercare, the budget cuts are very unfair to the employees of that program who have made sacrifices for six (6) years in order to continue providing much needed services to Alexandria's troubled youth. We are requesting that the budget cuts proposed for both programs be restored.

We would like to fully explain our position to you and ask that a work session be arranged to discuss this matter, or in the alternative, we would be open to meeting with City Council members in a

separate meeting prior to the Safe, Secure and Just Group work session scheduled for March 26, 2014.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter and we look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Dorathea Peters

Dorathea Peters

Lillian Brooks KK

Alexandria Representative to the Commission

Lillian Brooks

Alexandria Representative to the Commission

cc. JDCNV Commission Members Rashad Young, City Manager Krystal Kimrey, Executive Director, JDCNV



Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center

200 S. Whiting St. • Alexandria, VA 22304 Phone: 703.751.3700 • Fax: 703.823.3842

Impact Statement of Alexandria Reduction of \$194,079 to the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center

Direct Impact to Security and Residents of NVJDC

This would be the first time in the history of NVJDC operations that there would be a reduction in our workforce due to a unilateral decrease in locality funding from one of the participating jurisdictions. This will have an extensive negative impact on overall staff morale as well as the level of quality of service provided to the youth entrusted to our care and custody. Less staff would be available to provide services and security. Loss of security staff also creates a less secure environment for youth and staff in emergency situations, i.e., hospital transports, internal emergencies, creating a potential rise in assaults or injury to staff or detained youth.

The funding formula has been in place for over twenty (20) years and has allowed the NVJDC to plan for upcoming fiscal budgets based on the utilization rates over the three (3) previous years. Without the formula to depend on, what plan will we use for the budget regarding the mandates from the Department of Juvenile Justice?

The Juvenile Detention Commission for Northern Virginia administers a Post Dispositional Program at the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center. New Beginnings is a court-ordered, 180 day program designed to offer treatment services and help our youth develop skills for ongoing success after release. Youth placed in the New Beginnings Program have often been unsuccessful in other programs and have committed offenses that are eligible for DJJ commitment, but the local Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court judges, probation officers and commonwealth attorneys want to give the youth a final opportunity to make positive changes and avoid being placed in the state correctional facility located in Richmond, Virginia.

The New Beginnings program is a co-educational program for youth ages 14 up to their 18th birthday. These residents are housed in a separate unit to allow for the additional programming mandated by the Department of Juvenile Justice. All residents develop goals

that must be attained to successfully complete the program. They are assigned a mental health clinician from the participating community service boards and receive individual and group therapy services throughout the program. All treatment services are evidence-based and the treatment team meets every 30 days to review a resident's progress. Court reviews are held every 30 days to ensure the judges, probation officers and other stakeholders are kept informed of his/her progress and/or difficulties.

The behavior management levels are designed to encourage residents to improve their behavior and decision-making, earning privileges such as going on educational outings and home passes. The highest level of our behavior management system allows for youth options to transition back to the home school and/or begin employment. Each level within the program involves the completion of tasks and is overseen by our licensed Program Coordinator. Changes in level are determined in biweekly program staff meetings. A consistent team of security staff is assigned to this program to maintain the continuity of programming and services and to provide modeling/mentoring for these youth.

While the Code of Virginia does not mandate that juvenile detention facilities provide a local post dispositional program option, in 1997 the participating jurisdictions agreed that they wanted this option and would fund it. The City of Alexandria has five (5) beds available for use in this program. Because the youth are sentenced into the program for six months, there are a fewer numbers of youth who participate. Alexandria's utilization has been 1065 child care days in FY11, 786 child care days in FY12 and 616 child care days in FY13.

As a result of the decision the City of Alexandria made to reduce funding to the NVJDC by \$194,079, four (4) security staff will be laid off and Alexandria will no longer be allowed to place youth in this program.

The Alexandria youth who would have been eligible for our program will be reprimanded to a Department of Juvenile Justice Correctional facility located in Richmond, Virginia for an indeterminate length of stay. The required travel to Richmond for family visitations will cause undue hardships on the families of the youth, the length of stay for committed juveniles is longer and it will result in a loss of local continuum of much needed services.

In order to maintain a co-education in-house Post D Program, the unit would be combined with female detainees to ensure same gender supervision required by PREA Regulations with the loss of the four (4) security staff or the program would then become available to male residents only. Field trips and off-site access to community services for Post D residents would be eliminated.

Capital Improvements

The Juvenile Detention Commission for Northern Virginia recently authorized a facility assessment with FEA as the building is reaching the twenty year (20) mark. Many of the capital improvements would have to be delayed with the reduction. FEA Facility Assessment anticipated cost for FY15 is \$204,000 which was not included in the JDCNV approved budget submitted to the participating jurisdictions. These monies will have to come out of the capital improvement fund.

Alexandria Bar Association's Position Statement Regarding Funding of the Alexandria Law Library in the City of Alexandria's Proposed FY 2015 Budget

March 7, 2014

Henry Ward Beecher once wrote, "A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life." It is hard to picture a courthouse without a vibrant law library. Having a free law library that is open to the public is vital to ensuring access to the justice system for all. In the law library, those who cannot afford legal representation can receive the resources and tools that they need in order to navigate the courts and seek justice. Moreover, the law library is a widely-used resource by attorneys and law firms, who maintain their businesses in the City, pay revenue-based taxes to the City and represent its citizens on a daily basis.. The law library also offers legal resources that are critical to high-quality litigation, but that are beyond the financial resources of government agencies, small firms or the City's public libraries to obtain on their own. Elimination of the law library will have a real and substantial, detrimental impact on the proper functioning of the Alexandria legal system.

As currently written, the City Manager's proposed FY 2015 budget would decimate funding for the library and imperil its continued functioning. Currently the law library receives funding from a variety of sources. In FY 2014, the City contributed \$121,287 from the general fund. Another \$56,165 was raised from a \$4.00 fee that is assessed on civil suits filed in the City's courts. The Alexandria Bar Association contributed \$19,837.50 based on an annual mandatory assessment of its members. Lastly, the library itself raised \$13,285.90 from voluntary donations and charging fees for various services. Pulling from these varied sources represents a true partnership between the public, the Alexandria Bar Association, the courts, and the City – working together to ensure access for all. The Alexandria Bar Association supports each of these entities maintaining their current contribution levels towards this collaborative effort. The City's current proposed budget, however, would eliminate the City's general fund contribution, resulting in nearly 3/5 of the existing library budget being wiped out. Simply put, the law library could not continue to function with cuts of those magnitude.

The Bar Association would respectfully remind the City of the vital role that our members play in this community. The Association has been in existence since 1928. Currently our membership stands at over 400 people. Many of our members are residents of the City and virtually all of our members either have their business in Alexandria or work for the City itself. These lawyers and law firms serve the residents of this City. Further, the Association's members directly contribute to the financial health of the City through the gross receipts tax that solo practitioners and law firms pay towards the General Fund. The City has recently articulated that one of its goals is increasing the portion of the budget that comes from taxes on businesses rather than residents. Continued funding of the Law Library is not only a partnership that benefits the citizens of Alexandria, but an *investment* that will ultimately attract more attorneys and law firms – and in turn other businesses – resulting in an increased tax base and

greater tax revenues. The availability of resources, both public and private, are real considerations for businesses and law firms considering Alexandria as a home. Successful attraction and retention of businesses, including law firms and attorneys, is linked to the overall appearance and availability of resources the City has to offer. The absence of a professional law library would have a deleterious effect on the City's ability to attract both fledgling and established businesses, resulting in the loss of tax revenues to local neighboring jurisdictions such as Fairfax and Arlington Counties.

Moreover, employees with Alexandria Commonwealth's Attorney, the Office of the Public Defender, the City Attorney and Legal Services of Northern Virginia are all counted among our membership. The work of our attorneys helps ensure the proper functioning of a court system that is known throughout the state for its efficiency and the quality of its litigation. Maintaining the law library is a critical component of that endeavor. Other members, include public employees who use the law library to access databases and print resources that are needed for legal research but which their respective departments could not afford to buy on their own. Even long-established firms in the City rely on the immediate availability of resources in the law library for ongoing work or litigation in the courthouse.

But all of this pales in comparison to the value that the law library offers to the general public. In 2013, over 2,200 members of the general public were assisted inperson by the library's staff. Another 1,763 phone calls from the public were handled as well as 276 emails. These are all non-attorneys who were offered vital legal assistance for free. If the Alexandria Law Library didn't exist, those members of the public would be without these critical services locally. Ensuring access to justice by all, regardless of income level, is one of the core values of our Association and its members.

As an Association we are mindful of the challenges the City faces with respect to its finances. We are not seeking a hand-out or free lunch. Rather, we are seeking to maintain our current ongoing partnership with the City that recognizes the vital role our members play in this community. We also seek to work together to preserve an investment that benefits the public and the courts. We are committed to working with our membership, the public, and the City to address issues and concerns with respect to the future of the law library. We would welcome a dialogue with all as we seek to work together to preserve this vital institution.

For our Members:

There are a number of ways that you can express your views on the FY 2015 proposed budget:

Online comments can be made that are publically available at http://apps.alexandriava.gov/WebComments/CommentBoardSummary.aspx?id=36

Comments can be made privately via web-based email at http://request.alexandriava.gov/CCC/#tab=Find&keyword=budget&service=OMB_COM MENTS

A public hearing is being held on Monday, March 10 at 4:00PM at City Hall. Those who are interested in speaking should complete the following form online http://survey.alexandriava.gov/s3/City-Council-Speakers-Form

Board of Directors' of the Alexandria Law Library Position Statement on Proposed City Budget

Alexandria's William P. Wools Law Library was established in 1965. The Library is operated by a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization whose primary exempt purpose is "to provide research facilities, a comprehensive and current collection of legal reference materials, and the assistance of a professional librarian for the benefit of the Alexandria community."

For nearly 45 years, in partnership with the City of Alexandria, the Library has strived to meet this mission statement, and in the process serves thousands of people each and every year. The Library provides access to the law that otherwise would not exist in the City of Alexandria. During the most recent fiscal year, the law librarian logged 6,605 reference assists (a reference assist is an interaction between a library patron and the law librarian). Of this total, more than half of the reference assists were with lay persons (non-lawyers). These requests for reference assistance could only be handled by a qualified law librarian.

The Library sits in the Franklin Backus Courthouse on King Street, and has been there since 1981. The Library is essential to the Courthouse and necessary to support the needs of the Citizens involved in the legal process. The Library's most popular resource is the Virginia collection including Virginia codes, forms, encyclopedias, and legal treatises. In addition, the Library provides free public access to professional grade electronic legal research with significant access to primary and secondary federal and state resources. This type of free legal resource is not otherwise available any place in the City. The Library has one full-time law librarian, Christine Hall, whose education (Juris Doctor and Masters of Science in Library Science as required by the City's job description) and experience allows the Library to maintain a collection that is relevant, current, and cost effective. Her presence on site provides a much needed gateway between the very specialized law collection and the lay public.

The City Manager's proposed budget would eliminate 100% of City funding to the Library, including eliminating the law librarian's position, rendering it impossible to have a fully functioning law library. Legal codes and court cases can be intimidating at a minimum. Having a qualified law librarian on site to guide visitors with search strategies and information sources is the key to insuring that all Citizens of Alexandria have equal access to justice.

The Board of Directors of the Alexandria Law Library, therefore, respectfully requests that the City Council restore full funding to the Library so that it can continue to meet the legal needs of the City's residents.

Michael L. Zupan, President Board of Directors

From:

kroboff@higherachievement.org

Sent:

Monday, January 27, 2014 9:27 AM

To:

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject:

Call.Click.Connect. #45264: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council Hello -I'm writing in

reference to t

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 45264.

Request Details:

Name: Katherine Roboff

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

• Phone Number: 202-544-3633

Email: kroboff@higherachievement.org

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

Request Description: Hello -

I'm writing in reference to the recommendations for the Alexandria Fund for Human Services Proposal.

Specifically, recommendation #9 has a floor that will adverselly affect many non-profit organizations currently receiving support for their work in the community.

I urge you to consider a lower floor (\$10,000-\$20,000) to ensure the sustainability of these organizations.

With thanks, Katherine Roboff Executive Director Higher Achievement DC Metro 202-544-3633

• Expected Response Date: Monday, February 3

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the Call.Click.Connect. staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov or call 703.746.HELP.

From:

kd@rebuildingtogetheralex.org

Sent:

Monday, January 27, 2014 10:24 AM

To:

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject:

Call, Click. Connect. #45269: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council Dear Mayor, Council

members, and City Ma

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 45269.

Request Details:

Name: katharine dixon

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 7038361021

Email: kd@rebuildingtogetheralex.org

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

Request Description: Dear Mayor, Council members, and City Manager,
Regarding the Alexandria Fund for Human Services, I write in support of the Alexandria Council of Human
Services Organization's recommendation (letter sent last week). Largely, the staff recommendations seem fair,
however #9 has a \$25,000 grant floor that might adversely affect many of the nonprofits currently receiving AFHS
funding. Approximately 2/3 of the grantees currently receive less than this amount. The ACHSO Review
Committee suggests a floor of \$10,000 or \$20,000: the Staff floor seems extremely high, perhaps to decrease the
amount of actual grants made, decreasing staff administration expense.

Thank you for your consideration to lower the grant amount provide per applicant.

Best regards.

Katharine Dixon (ACHSO member)

Rebuilding Together Alexandria

Expected Response Date: Monday, February 3

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the *Call.Click.Connect.* staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

From:

kelly and reae @ carpenters shelter.org

Sent:

Monday, January 27, 2014 2:58 PM

To:

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject:

Call.Click.Connect. #45283: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council RE: Alexandria Fund for

Human Services

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 45283.

Request Details:

Name: Kelly Andreae

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 703-548-7500 X 203

Email: kellyandreae@carpentersshelter.org

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

Request Description: RE: Alexandria Fund for Human Services

In response to the City Manager's recommendations following the report issued by the review committee, I would like to suggest that Recommendation #9 be lowered to \$10K-\$15K instead of \$25K.

Based on the past distributions from the AFHS, I would suggest that a \$10-\$15K funding floor would be much more reasonable. While Carpenter's Shelter would not be effected by this change, that does not means that that is what is right for the community as a whole.

I feel that too many of our partner agencies would be negatively effected by a \$25K funding floor, instead of the \$10K-\$20K funding floor recommended by the review committee. So I encourage you to accept all of the recommendations, with the exception of #9.

Thank you, Kelly Andreae Director of Development Carpenter's Shelter

Expected Response Date: Monday, February 3

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the *Call.Click.Connect.* staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact $\underline{CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov}$ or call 703.746.HELP.

From: mbrunken@volunteeralexandria.org

Sent: Monday, January 27, 2014 4:45 PM

To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #45288: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, and

City Council

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 45288.

Request Details:

Name: Marion Brunken

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 7038362176

Email: mbrunken@volunteeralexandria.org
 Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

Request Description: Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, and City Council-

The Alexandria Fund for Human Services proposal process has been reviewed and recommendations have been made. After further discussions and ACHSO's involvement, it seems we made great progress in streamlining the process in order to be more effective and efficient. However, I am concerned about recommendation #9 because it has a floor that I believe will adversely affect many of the nonprofits currently receiving AFHS funding. Approximately 60% of the grantees currently receive less than \$25,000 and I like to encourage you that the floor recommended by the Review Committee (\$10,000-\$20,000) will be accepted. Volunteer Alexandria is one of those agencies requesting funding under \$25 for serving youth within the City of Alexandria and while City funding will not be the only funding arm of this program, this program has and will continue to suffer without the City's support.

The members of the Education and Advocacy committee who have voiced an opinion, agree that the floor should be lower that the proposed \$25k.

Thank you for your consideration. Marion

Expected Response Date: Monday, February 3

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the *Call.Click.Connect.* staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

From:

t.dicesare@yahoo.com

Sent:

Monday, March 03, 2014 8:33 AM

To:

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject:

Call.Click.Connect. #46852: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council I see in the proposed 2015

City Budget,

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 46852.

Request Details:

Name: Anthony Di Cesare

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 7033800776Email: t.dicesare@yahoo.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

Request Description: I see in the proposed 2015 City Budget, the City Manager is proposing to cut the life
insurance benefit to retires. Having worked for over 30 years for the city and just retiring last year, I do not see the
fairness in this proposed cut.

Having been to numerous City Council Meetings over the years, I consistently hear how City Employees are valued by council. I have seen a consistent eroding of benefits and even understand paying a share of healthcare and retirement costs as occurred the past years to employees. Just to cut a benefit to retirees I feel is wrong after seeing this benefit offered to retirees for decades. I could understand a phasing out approach and grandfathering those who currently or will soon receive this benefit.

It is difficult to do financial/estate planning when there are such changes to benefits one planned on in retirement. The \$246,000 saved is significant but feel hitting retirees with this benefit cut is wrong and insensitive.

Expected Response Date: Monday, March 10

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the Call.Click.Connect. staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

From:

mmbromley@comcast.net

Sent:

Monday, March 03, 2014 2:28 PM

To:

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject:

Call.Click.Connect. #46857: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council Dear Mayor Euille and

members of the Cit

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call. Click. Connect. The request ID is 46857.

Request Details:

Name: Marilyn Bromley

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 703-548-6844
Email: mmbromley@comcast.net

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

Request Description: Dear Mayor Euille and members of the City Council,

As a concerned citizen of Alexandria, a law librarian and a former member of the Alexandria Law Library Board of Directors, I am writing in support of funding the Alexandria Law Library in the 2015 budget.

I was a member of the Board from 2009 to February 2012, and saw the good work that library director Christine Hall did and continues to do every day in providing excellent service to attorneys with business at the courthouse, local bar members and the citizens of Alexandria. She does all of this within a very small budget.

During my time on the Board, at every Board meeting we discussed how to get the most from the funds the Law Library receives from all sources, how to put gifts of law books to good use, ways to negotiate better contracts with legal vendors, and ideas for fundraising. As the library director at Bloomberg BNA, I am continually impressed with Ms. Hall's fiscal and creative efforts, and with how much she is able to accomplish with limited resources and staff time.

If the Law Library closes due to lack of funds, you may believe that local attorneys will find other sources for their legal research needs, but have you considered the impact on the citizens of Alexandria? There is no other public law library in the City for them to turn to. With few transportation options and without money for an attorney, many of them have no alternative but to represent themselves. And without the help of Ms. Hall and the resources of the Law Library, they won't be able to do that. Below are two examples from other public law libraries of their importance to their local communities.

***From SCCLL News, vol. 40 issue 1, Winter 2014. SCCLL is the State, Court & County Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries:

"The majority of litigants in family law cases across the country do not have legal representation, according to Professor Barbara Babb of the Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts at the University of Baltimore School of Law. These patrons frequently turn to law libraries for information that will enable them to operate within the court system."

***From a county law librarian in Washington state in 2005 [I'm sure Ms. Hall can provide you with similar statistics]:

"My primary users are members of the public with a case pending. I answered 3,535 reference questions last year. Of those, 85% were from non lawyers. I hear comments regularly from people who cannot afford an attorney, or even pay the \$10 fee to see the court facilitator for help....

One of the people who filled out my survey wrote the following in the comments section: "the library and the librarian have been invaluable to me as I have been working to defend myself as a pro se litigant. This is the one place in this courthouse where I can depend on competent, proactive assistance and information in navigating the legal maze of (non-family related) civil procedure."

We are providing a valuable component of the average person's access to justice. With each price increase, and each subsequent budget cut, our ability to help the community with their legal needs is diminished."

I hope that you will consider the issues I have raised in this email, and I am asking that you restore funding for the Alexandria Law Library in the 2015 budget.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Marilyn Bromley

>>>>>>>>
Marilyn Bromley
Library Director

Bloomberg BNA

Direct 703.341.3307 1801 S. Bell Street Arlington VA 22202-4501 mbromley@bna.com

302 Mansion Drive Alexandria VA 22302 703-548-6844

Expected Response Date: Monday, March 10

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the *Call.Click.Connect.* staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

From:

lmbarran@msn.com

Sent:

Monday, March 03, 2014 4:12 PM

To:

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject:

Call.Click.Connect. #46861: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council Dear Mayor Euille and

Members of Council

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 46861.

Request Details:

Name: Linda Barran

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 571-312-3198Email: lmbarran@msn.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

· Request Description: Dear Mayor Euille and Members of Council,

It has come to my attention that the proposed City budget eliminates all funding for the Alexandria Law Library at the Circuit Court on King Street. I understand that it is necessary for the City to limit expenditures to avoid raising taxes. Nevertheless, I hope you will consider restoring some funding for the Law Library.

The Law Library does not exist simply for the benefit of court personnel and lawyers residing in or practicing in Alexandria. The library and its staff librarian provide assistance to those who are unrepresented in various civil matters before the court. In addition, the library provides self-help kits that citizens may use in certain types of matters, such as for a no-fault divorce, and free access to an online legal research database.

These services may significantly assist those of limited means. Please closely scrutinize this proposed budget strategy to ensure it is in the best interest of the City as a whole, and restore as much funding as possible to the Alexandria Law Library.

Sincerely yours,

Linda M. Barran, Esq. Virginia State Bar No. 48072

Expected Response Date: Monday, March 10

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the *Call.Click.Connect.* staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov or call 703.746.HELP.

Dear Call Click Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 46860.

Request Details:

Name: Mari Lou Livingood

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 703-549-7078

Email: livingood@alexandriaseaport.org

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

Request Description: Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and Councilmembers,

Please see attached request from the Alexandria Seaport Foundation requests to fund the Fund for Human Services at the 2014 level.

Thank you for your support and consideration,

Kind regards,

Mari Lou Livingood

Executive Director

Alexandria Seaport Foundation

Boat Building Shop, 2 Duke St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Seaport Center, 0 Thompson's Alley, Alexandria, VA 22314

PO Box 25036, Alexandria, VA 22313

0-703-549-7078

C-703-297-5961

Expected Response Date: Monday, March 10

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the Call.Click.Connect. staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.



March 3, 2014

Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilmember Pepper, Councilmember Smedberg, Council Member Lovain, Councilmember Wilson, and Councilmember Chapman:

I am writing as the Executive Director of the Alexandria Seaport Foundation, a member of the Alexandria Council of Human Services Organizations (ACHSO). Our organization impacts the lives of nearly 40 young at-risk adults annually by providing career pathways and social services in our Boat Building Apprentice Program.

I am writing to ask that funding for the Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS) for FY2015 be restored to the FY2014 level, increasing the City Manager's proposed budget by \$111,829. A 5.5% decrease, following six consecutive years of decreased contribution by the City, will mean that some organizations must cut employees or hours thereby delivering fewer services to fewer Alexandrians.

Please honor goal #4 of the Plan by supporting and enhancing the well-being, success and achievement of young adults and youth.

We look forward to continuing our partnerships with the City to ensure that the most effective, efficient and critical services are delivered to our citizens and especially at-risk young adults.

Sincerely,

Mari Lou Livingood

Executive Director

Alexandria Seaport Foundation

2 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

livingood@alexandriaseaport.org

703-549-7078

From:

sarah row@hotmail.com

Sent:

Tuesday, March 04, 2014 11:06 AM

To:

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject:

Call.Click.Connect. #46903: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council As an Alexandria resident, I

want to voi

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 46903.

Request Details:

• Name: Sarah Mehaffey

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 703-399-4328Email: sarah row@hotmail.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

Request Description: As an Alexandria resident, I want to voice my STRONG support for the planned pedestrian and bicycle improvements on King Street between Russell Road and Janneys Lane. Last week, the Traffic and Parking Board asked for a compromise between the city's plan for King Street and the opposition's desire to preserve parking. However, the city has already accommodated both with a plan that retains 10 on-street parking spaces (rather than removing all 37) AND adds three spaces to adjacent streets. The city's plan IS the compromise. Since the Alexandria Transportation Commission, the Environmental Policy Commission, the Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and the Park and Recreation Commission have all submitted letters of support for this plan, the opposing vote by the Traffic and Parking Board seems to have ignoree the voices of the many stakeholders and fallen victim to a minority of vocal individuals intent on delaying and ultimately stonewalling ANY sort of improvement to the safety of this corridor.

I urge you to give appropriate consideration to the City's safety analysis and vote to go forward with the improvements without further delay!

Thank you for supporting safe and complete streets!

Expected Response Date: Tuesday, March 11

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the Call.Click.Connect. staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

From:

suzannebj@comcast.net

Sent:

Tuesday, March 04, 2014 4:22 PM

To:

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject:

Call.Click.Connect. #46939: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council Dear Mayor Euille, Vice

Mayor Silberberg

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 46939.

Request Details:

Name: Suzanne Johnson

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 703-823-7643Email: suzannebj@comcast.net

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

Request Description: Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg and City Council.

I am writing to you regarding the budget presented to you by City Manager Rashad Young on February 25th, 2014. While it is appreciated that the recommendation of an additional \$5 million was included for ACPS, I feel that this falls short of the amount required for adequate funding in FY 2015. In order to maintain per-pupil spending levels, an increase of \$7.4 million will be necessary (adding \$2.4 million to what has been proposed).

The reasons for this requested increase include the following.

- ACPS funding has been on a downward trend since 2008, declining from \$15,179 per student in 2008 to \$13,556 per student this year. Despite strenuous efforts by ACPS administrators and teachers to preserve the integrity of our public schools, Alexandria faces the prospect of failure to provide its growing, diverse, and transient population with adequate learning opportunities for the city's children.
- You may know that four of our five middle schools are accredited with warning; the ACPS community is focusing great efforts to change and improve these schools, but we cannot expect to be fully successful if per-pupil spending continues to decline.
- The strain on the ACPS elementary schools has also been substantial because of significant increases in enrollment. In the last two years per-pupil expenditures have dropped 3.47% even though the city's population has grown by 4.94% and overall school enrollment has jumped by 9.91% resulting in the need to increase class sizes at the elementary levels.
- Throughout our city, and specifically in the west-end, the number of our students requiring ELL (English Language Learner) services has increased significantly every year, from under 2,500 in 2011 to over 3,500 this year. Unfortunately, the cost for specialized education is greater to accommodate these students.
- What I find most shocking is the percentage of our city's budget spent on education in contrast to neighboring jurisdictions. While Falls Church and Fairfax allocate 48-49% of general revenues to meet their education needs, Alexandria only allocates 29%. I am having a hard time reconciling this large difference, because it is clear to me that Alexandria has greater needs than these two districts.

In your deliberations, please consider a property tax rate cap that will allow increases to provide the relatively small amount of funding required by our school system. Please don't fail our children – they are the future of our city.

Thank you,

Suzanne Johnson 492 Naylor Place Alexandria, VA 22304

Expected Response Date: Tuesday, March 11

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the *Call.Click.Connect.* staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

From: Fay Slotnick <fay@plti-alex.org>

Sent: Tuesday, March 04, 2014 4:29 PM

To: Wilson Justin; John Chapman; delpepper@aol.com; Allison Silberberg; Paul Smedberg;

William Euille; Timothy Lovain

Cc: Lillian Thompson; LaShawn Timmons; Mark McHugh; Nancy Lavalle; Nancy Lacey; Jane

McDonald; Wendy Donohue; Jackie Henderson

Subject: ACHSO Letter regarding Manager's proposed budget cuts

Attachments: 2014 Budget letter to Council re AFHS signed.docx; ATT00001.htm; unitedway.jpg;

ATT00002.htm

Dear Mayor and Members of City Council:

Please accept this attached letter on behalf of the nonprofit members of ACHSO. Your support is very important to all of us. The proposed budget cuts for the Alexandria Fund for Human Services, which have already been effectively cut by six years of level funding during a period of increased costs, will have a substantial, negative effect on our community.

Thank you for your consideration.



March 3, 2014

Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilmember Pepper, Councilmember Smedberg, Council Member Lovain, Councilmember Wilson, and Councilmember Chapman:

I am writing as the Chair of the Education and Advocacy Committee of the Alexandria Council of Human Services Organizations (ACHSO). As you know, ACHSO's purpose is to improve human services through cross sector collaboration to benefit the entire Alexandria community. Thus, we send this letter to convey our interest in the Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS).

We are asking that the funding for the Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS) for FY2015 be restored to the fy2014 level, increasing the City Manager's proposed budget by \$111,829. A 5.5% decrease, following six consecutive years of level contribution by the City, is an significant cut. We understand that the City has increased personnel costs and the Manager seeks to meet these obligations. We, too, have increased personnel costs. The impact of a cut will be devastating to our nonprofit members and, more importantly, those we serve.

It will mean that some organizations must cut employees or hours thereby delivering fewer services to fewer Alexandrians. For others, which live on shoestring budgets while providing valuable services, the string will break. The City is requiring families in need to leave, while professing to have DIVERSITY, including affordable housing, as a goal. How do we define diversity? Is it about color, country of origin, language spoken, sexual orientation, age, income, level of education? The Alexandria City Council Strategic Plan (Plan) as revised in 2010 includes all of those. In fact, one objective includes reducing poverty by 10% by the year 2015 (yes, this year) by maintaining prevention services, not by reducing city support for those services.

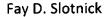
Our ability to leverage private resources, in-kind donations, and volunteer hours means our City's residents have even more benefit because of the City's investment. We are employers of nearly 11% of the City's employees; we are good-will ambassadors; we are consumers; we are residents. Not only do we bring funding to the City, well in excess of the AFHS budget, but we also get a great deal of in-kind assistance from our business community. Your support gives credibility to your partners.

We understand that times are tough; we understand that you are reconsidering your method of distributing funds with a revised AFHS. But we don't understand why those funds are being reduced before implementing the next steps, doing harm to those most in need.

Please honor goal #4 of the Plan by supporting and enhancing the well-being, success and achievement of children, youth and families. We are a good investment for Alexandria.

We look forward to continuing our partnerships with the City to ensure that the most effective, efficient and critical services are delivered to our citizens. Thank you for your attention to these important issues.

Sincerely,



Lap HVS

Chair, ACHSO's Education & Advocacy Committee

....on behalf of the nonprofit Alexandria Council of Human Service Organizations

Please reply to: Fay D. Slotnick, Board Chair, Parent Leadership Training Institute of Alexandria, 400 Madison Street #2203, Alexandria, VA 22314

571-257-8930 or 703-409-6872 (cell)

fay@PLTI-ALEX.org

Cc: Jackie Henderson

From: Joan Bondareff@spectrumgrp.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 05, 2014 3:04 PM

To: Willaim.Euille@alexandriva.gov; Aliison.Silberberg@alexandriava.gov; Timothy Lovain;

Paul Smedberg; delpepper@aol.com; John Chapman; Justin Wilson

Cc: Jackie Henderson

Subject: Appeal from Proposed Budget Cuts to the Alexandria Fund for Human Services

Attachments: PLTI --Letter to Mayor and Council on Budget.pdf

Dear Mayor Euille and Council Members:

With the attached letter, I am requesting that you restore the funds to the above Fund for 2015.

These cuts will harm small nonprofits, like the Parent Leadership Training Institute, which receives grant money from this Fund.

We and other small nonprofits cannot afford these cuts.

We are doing what we can as Board Members of PLTI to raise funds privately, but we desperately need the support of the City.

Through its excellent training programs and outreach, PLTI contributes greatly to the well-being of the residents of Alexandria and their families.

The residents we train, in turn, give back immensely to the City.

This work needs to be recognized by the City and the funds restored.

Thank you for your attention to this request on behalf of PLTI.

Sincerely,

Joan

Joan Bondareff 102 Princess St. Alexandria, VA (H)

Principal

The SPECTRUM Group

11 CANAL CENTER PLAZA, SUITE 300, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314 571.447.4325 DD | 703.683.0645 FAX | 703.989.8011 CELL

jbondareff@spectrumgrp.com

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102 Princess St.

Alexandria, VA 22314

March 5, 2014

Re: Proposed Cuts to the Alexandria Fund for Human Services:

Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Council Member Pepper, Council Member Smedberg, Council Member Lovain, Council Member Wilson, and Council Member Chapman:

As a recent Board Member of the Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI), I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed FY2015 budget cuts to the Alexandria Fund for Human Services. The proposed budget by the City Manager will result in a 5.5% cut to the Fund, and, in turn, a loss of more than \$1.000 to PLTI.

As a small nonprofit located in the City of Alexandria, and one that is providing a model for other communities, that provides important training and services to low-income parents, we simply cannot afford this level cut.

For this reason, I am asking that funding for the Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS) for FY2015 be restored to the FY2014 level, increasing the City Manager's proposed budget by \$111,829.

I understand that the City has increased personnel costs and the Manager seeks to meet these obligations. PLTI also has increased personnel costs. The impact of a cut will be devastating to those we serve.

Since I joined the Board of PLTI, I have been so impressed with the work the organization is doing and on a shoestring budget. The training we provide to the community enables parents to become more productive members of the community, not only for themselves but also for their children. It is so important to encourage these families to become an active voice in the community and to pass on this legacy to their children.

PLTI achieves these goals with its facilitated training program, and meals provided to needy families. The graduates of our program become, in turn, leaders in the community and supporters of a better Alexandria. They and we need all the help we can get.

Please do not balance the City's budget on the back of these fine nonprofit organizations.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Budang

From: Jean.antone790@gmail.com

Sent: Wednesday, March 05, 2014 4:47 PM

To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #47003: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council Why are we cutting

positions in the Park

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 47003.

Request Details:

Name: Jean Antone

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 703-2984420

Email: Jean.antone790@gmail.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

 Request Description: Why are we cutting positions in the Parks and Recreation Dept for Maintenance, tree trimming and grass cutting when there are so few Green spaces in the city for citizens to enjoy and when tree maintenance To prevent disease and the removal of dead limbs and/or dead limbs is Essential for the trees in the curb areas of the city.

In addition, to eliminate satellite police stations at a time when citizen concerns are increasing over public safety does not seem to be an appropriate Action at this time.

I am glad to see that the city manager is reducing the school budget By \$2,500,000; however, more reductions would seem in order when The new superintendent wants to add more personnel for middle schools When the school bureaucracy is already bloated and there is no effort On the part of the school board and superintendent to reduce staffing at The central office. And let us not forget that we are the hook for a \$42 million dollar school with a capacity of 800 students with a projected Attendance of only 356 students! The school superintendent and board Need to be reined in by you and the city manager.

AMD finally, I hope that the budget will fund what is necessary to Repair the potholes sprouting like weeds in the historic district and start Cleaning the streets in this area. The city looks dirty, in fact the Southeast quadrant has not had it's streets cleaned for the past two Years! Forget bikes are and food carts (which will generate more trash) And get back to basics!

Expected Response Date: Wednesday, March 12

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the Call.Click.Connect. staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

From: ron4520@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, March 05, 2014 9:34 PM

To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #47015: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council city manager has very poor

personnel

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call. Click. Connect. The request ID is 47015.

Request Details:

Name: ronald gochenour

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 5713128911Email: ron4520@aol.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

Request Description:

city manager has very poor personnel skills

this is my opinion

Ronald Gochenour March 05, 2014 at 01:17 PM

The following table shows the additions and reductions of positions in the FY 2015 Proposed Budget. FTE ADDITIONS & REDUCTIONS Department Position FTE Increase (Decrease) City Clerk ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT V -1.0 City Manager SPECIAL ASST TO CITY MANAGER -1.0 City Manager EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT -1.0 Finance REAL ESTATE ASSMNT DIRECTOR -1.0 DCHS PROJECT SUPERINTENDENT -1.0 DCHS PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST -0.5 DCHS HEALTH & COMMUNITY ED SPEC -1.0 DCHS REGISTERED NURSE -0.5 DCHS THERAPIST (Multiple) -1.5 DCHS RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR (Multiple) -0.8 DCHS FAMILY SERVICES SPEC III -1.0 DCHS FAMILY SERVICES SPEC II -1.0 DCHS ASST OFF OF EMPLOY & TRN DIR -1.0 DCHS COMMUNITY SERVICES PRG I COOR -1.0 DCHS FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST I -1.0 DCHS EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING SPEC (Multiple) -2.0 Health DENTAL SERVICES DIRECTOR -0.6 Health PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE (Multiple) -0.3 RPCA CUSTODIAN -1.0 RPCA ADMIN SUPPORT IV -1.0 RPCA LABOR SUPERVISOR -1.0 RPCA SCHOOL MAINT, LABORER II -1.0 RPCA HORTICULTURAL ASSTISTANT -1.0 RPCA HORTICULTURAL SPECIALIST I -1.0 RPCA TREE TRIMMER (Multiple) -3.0 RPCA APPRENTICE TREE TRIMMER -1.0 RPCA LABORER II -1.0 RPCA PARK MANAGER -1.0 RPCA REC MANAGER I -1.0 RPCA THERAPEUT REC LEADER (Multiple) -0.9 RPCA REC LEADER (Multiple) -3.5 T&ES AIR POLLUTION CONTROL SPEC -0.5 Court Services PROBATION OFFICER (Multiple) -1.5 Fire FIRE FIGHTER (Multiple) -10.0 Fire FIRE MARSHAL (Multiple) -3.0 Fire DEP EMER MANAGER (Multiple) -2.0 Fire PUBLIC INFO OFFICER -1.0 Law Library LAW LIBRARY DIRECTOR -1.0 Police SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER (Multiple) -2.0 Police RECORDS CLERK -1.0 Police CUSTODIAN -1.0 Police FAMILY SERVICES SPEC I -1.0 Police CSI SUPERVISOR -1.0 Police POLICE OFFICER I -1.0 Police POSITION TBD -1.0 Sheriff DEPUTY SHERIFF - CHIEF -1.0 Sheriff DEPUTY SHERIFF IV -1.0 Sheriff SENIOR RECORDS CLERK -1.0 Sheriff INMATE CLASSIFICATION COUNSEL -1.0 Sheriff POSITION TBD -1.0 Sheriff DEPUTY SHERIFF II -1.0 TOTALS REDUCTIONS -67.62 Department Position FTE Increase (Decrease) Finance MANAGEMENT ANALYST II 1.0 General Services ENERGY ENGINEER 1.0 General Services UTILITIES ANALYST 0.6 General Services BUILDING TECH (CITY HALL) 1.0 General Services LABORER III 1.0 General Services PROJECT MANAGER 0.2 Human Resources ERP MANAGER 1.0 Human Resources INVESTIGATOR 1.0 ITS PROJECT MANAGER 1.0 Performance & Acct PERFORMANCE ANALYST 1.0 DCHS THERAPIST 1.0 DCHS HS BENEFITS PROGRAM SPEC (Multiple) 2.0 DCHS EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING SPEC 0.3 Health NEW POSITION 0.2 Code RECORDS CLERK 0.5 Historic Alexandria DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT 1.0 Historic Alexandria ARCHAEOLOGIST 0.5 Historic Alexandria RECORDS MGT ANALYST 0.3 Planning & Zoning URBAN PLANNER 1.0 Planning & Zoning GIS ANALYST II (Multiple) 2.0 Planning & Zoning ADMIN SUPPORT 1.0 Planning & Zoning ADMIN SUPPORT II 0.5 Planning & Zoning WAYFINDING IMPLEMENTER 0.5 Project

Imp. CIVIL ENGINNER IV 1.0 Project Imp. URBAN PLANNER II 0.5 T&ES PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST 1.0 T&ES Inspector I (BMP MAINT.) 1.0 T&ES Labor Supervisor (BMP MAINT.) 1.0 T&ES Labor Supervisor (BMP MAINT.) 1.0 T&ES Equipment Operator I (BMP MAINT.) 1.0 T&ES Equipment Operator I (BMP MAINT.) 1.0 T&ES CIVIL ENGINNER 1.0 T&ES LABORER III 1.0 Emergency Comm COMPUTER AIDED DIS. (Multiple) 2.0 Fire COMPUTER AIDED DIS. 1.0 Human Rights HUMAN RIGHTS INVESTIGATOR I 0.5 TOTALS ADDITIONS 34.50 TOTAL REDUCTIONS - 67.62 TOTAL ADDITIONS 34.50 NET FTE CHANGE -33.12 FY 2015 PROPOSED FTE COUNT 2,536.41 City of Alexandria FY 2015 Proposed Budget 9.6 Personnel

Ronald Gochenour March 05, 2014 at 02:37 PM

CITY MANAGER WILL YOU HELP THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA VA AND CUT YOUR SALARY? REMOVE ALL CITY COUNCIL AIDES. REMOVE ALL RAISES TO UPPER MANAGEMENT. REMOVE 2 CITY ATTORNEY? ASK WHY THE LITTLE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA VA NEEDS 10 ATTORNEY. REMOVE 2 CITY DEPUTY MANAGERS.CUT 3 PERCENT OF UPPER MANAGEMENT PAY. CUT ALL NEW SPENDING FOR PLANNING AND ALL OTHER BOARDS.CUT 1.7 MILLION FROM CODE ADMINISTRATION.REMOVE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ON KING ST OR REMOVE STREET POLE LIGHTS THAT IS A WASTE OF MONEY REMOVE TROLLEY FROM KING ST A BIG WASTE OF MONEY AND SELL THEM. YOU ON COUNCIL SAY YOU NEED TO MAKE THE BIG CUTS why is it always cutting PERSONNEL THAT IS A BIG CUT 68 PEOPLE THAT WORKED FOR THE CITY I GUESS WHEN THEY WERE HIRED IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT NOW YOU DON'T NEED THEM? SAD. NOW THE CITY NEEDS TO HIRE ALMOST 35 PEOPLE I GUESS WHEN YOU HIRE THEM WILL YOU TELL THEM NEXT BUDGET YEAR WE MAY NEED TO CUT THEM. THE CITY MANAGER AND COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA VA DON'T CARE for the safety of the citizens. sad. one good thing I can say your time on council is running out this is my opinion Ronald gochenour this address to the mayor and city council

Expected Response Date: Wednesday, March 12

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the *Call.Click.Connect.* staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

From: leighatwrighttoread@gmail.com on behalf of Leigh@ Wright to Read

<leigh@wrighttoread.org>

Sent: Thursday, March 06, 2014 12:53 PM

To: William Euille; Allison Silberberg; Timothy Lovain; Paul Smedberg; delpepper@aol.com;

John Chapman; and Wilson Justin; Jackie Henderson

Subject: Alexandria Fund for Human Services Funding for local charities

Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilmember Pepper, Councilmember Smedberg, Council Member Lovain, Councilmember Wilson, and Councilmember Chapman:

I am writing as the Executive Director Wright to Read, a member of the Alexandria Council of Human Services Organizations (ACHSO). Wright to Read provides volunteer-based, one-on-one sustained literacy tutoring and mentoring services to City of Alexandria elementary school children in need, and collaborates with families, schools, and community partners to create a comprehensive support network that guides each child to success. We are one of many organizations that is able to provide important services to Alexandria residents through the support of the Alexandria Fund for Human Services. Thus, we send this letter to convey our interest in the Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS).

We are asking that the funding for the Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS) for FY2015 be restored to the FY2014 level, increasing the City Manager's proposed budget by \$111,829. A 5.5% decrease, following six consecutive years of level contribution by the City, is a significant cut. We understand that the City has increased personnel costs and the Manager seeks to meet these obligations. We, too, have increased personnel costs. The impact of a cut will be devastating to our nonprofit members and, more importantly, those we serve.

It will mean that some organizations must cut employees or hours thereby delivering fewer services to fewer Alexandrians. For Wright to Read, the number of students who qualify for our services is likely to increase, as it does most years. Serving fewer students, or giving students a less rich experience will leave a gap in an area of importance, helping children in need. One objective in The Alexandria City Council Strategic Plan (Plan), as revised in 2010, includes reducing poverty by 10% by the year 2015 (yes, this year) by maintaining prevention services, not by reducing city support for those services.

Our ability to leverage private resources, in-kind donations, and volunteer hours means our City's residents have even more benefit because of the City's investment. City funding and the rigorous process by which the city evaluated organizations gives credibility to your organizational partners.

We understand that times are tough; we understand that you are reconsidering your method of distributing funds with a revised AFHS. But we don't understand why those funds are being reduced before implementing the next steps, doing harm to those most in need. Please honor goal #4 of the Plan by supporting and enhancing the well-being, success and achievement of children, youth and families. We are a good investment for Alexandria.

We look forward to continuing our partnerships with the City to ensure that the most effective, efficient and critical services are delivered to our citizens. Thank you for your attention to these important issues.

Sincerely, **Leigh Hoyer**Executive Director, Wright to Read

414 N. Washington St., Ste.101 Alexandria, VA 22314 703-299-9855 wrighttoread.org

Giving the Gift of Literacy

From: Art League Development <develop@theartleague.org>

Sent: Thursday, March 06, 2014 4:22 PM

To: William Euille; Allison Silberberg; Timothy Lovain; Paul Smedberg; delpepper@aol.com;

John Chapman; and Wilson Justin; Jackie Henderson

Subject: Art League response to City's proposed funding reduction for Alexandria Fund for

Human Services

Attachments: Art League response AFHS City funding.pdf

Please consider the attached letter from The Art League.

Thank you for your time.



March 6, 2014

Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilmember Pepper, Councilmember Smedberg, Council Member Lovain, Councilmember Wilson, and Councilmember Chapman:

I am writing on behalf of The Art League, a cultural non-profit serving Alexandria since 1954, and a community partner of The City of Alexandria's Court Service Unit, and collaborator with several of the Alexandria Council of Human Services Organizations (ACHSO). In the last year, The Art League provided arts education for 1,240+ children through classes, creative camps, related scholarships, and life-changing outreach programs such as our *Space of Her Own (SOHO)*. *SOHO* is a collaborative program – managed by both The League and the Court Service Unit. *SOHO* has been successful for over 10 (ten) years, due in large part to funding provided by the Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS) since 2003. *SOHO* is an art-based mentoring program that has reached over 150 girls who have been identified by the City's school system, the City's social services and the City's Court Service Unit as high risk for delinquent behavior. The Art League provides a vehicle for changing children's lives through the transformative experience of the visual arts.

The Art League asks for your thoughtful consideration of the proposed restoration of funding for the Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS) for FY2015 to the FY2014 level, thereby increasing the City Manager's proposed budget by \$111,829.

While we are aware of the tough fiscal challenges currently facing the City, we are compelled to state that we believe a 5.5% decrease in human services funding would have a deep and lasting negative impact on at-risk children in Alexandria.

The City's investment directly affects our ability to leverage private resources, in-kind donations, and volunteer hours in our outreach programs. In turn, this investment benefits the City's residents. Organizations in the City of Alexandria — such as The Art League — are employers of nearly 11% of the City's workforce. The Art League currently engages over 150 full- and part-time staff and contractors in support of community programming. Moreover, hundreds more clock thousands of volunteer hours in service to our community programming. Nonprofit organizations are good-will ambassadors; are consumers; are residents. Not only do we increase revenue and funding to the City but we also strengthen the relationships within the City's economy through a significant level of in-kind assistance from the business community.

We look forward to continuing our harmonious, successful partnerships with nonprofits, agencies, artists and businesses, and the City of Alexandria to ensure that Alexandrians have access to the extraordinary life-changing services that our community is known for. Thank you for your attention and service to Alexandria's needs—we recognize your generosity and cultural spirit in taking on this important and challenging role.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Bethel Executive Director

suzanneb@theartleague.org

Sugare of Bethe

cc: Jackie Henderson

From:

Eliza Beth Engle <lovecatz69@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Thursday, March 06, 2014 9:25 PM

To:

delpepper@aol.com

Cc:

Jackie Henderson

Subject:

Funding the Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS)

Attachments:

PLTI letter to council 2014 budget cut.docx

Councilwoman Pepper -

Please see my attached letter regarding the funding of the Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS).

Thanks,

Eliza

Parent Leadership Training Institute of Alexandria

Board of Directors

Fay D. Slotnick
Chair
John H. Eisenhour
Treasurer
Chris Marston
Secretary

Dr. Herbert Berg
Joan Bondareff
Edith Enriquez
Adrienne Fikes
Hon. Sheryl Gorsuch
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Advisory Board Mayor William D. Euille Senator Adam Ebbin

Hon. Joyce Woodson

Board Liaisons

Margaret Lorber, ACPS Ron Frazier, DCHS Hon. William Campbell, ACPS Board

Adrienne Fikes

Executive Director 703-739-0233 PO Box 26294 Mexandria, VA 22313 www.plti-alex.org facebook.com/pltialexandria twitter.com/pltialex





Program funded in part by AFHS-Community Partnership Fund



March 6, 2014



Mayor and City Council Room 2300 City Hall Alexandria, VA 23314

Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilmember Pepper, Councilmember Smedberg, Council Member Lovain, Councilmember Wilson, and Councilmember Chapman:

I am writing as a recent, 2013, graduate of the Parent Leadership Training Institute of Alexandria (PLTI), a member of the Alexandria Council of Human Services Organizations (ACHSO). PLTI trains parents to advocate and create programs for children and families in the community.

My community service project is the new Garden and Outdoor Classroom at the new Jefferson-Houston School of the future. Even though I finished the program last year, I am spending this year working with ACPS to get grants for this new, important learning area at the school. I am also working to tie this new outdoor area into the curriculum of the school, the IB program, and STEAM focus—again tying this into the Eco-City Alexandria principles. PLTI teaches parents, like myself, to be the 'change' and to make our communities better from the ground up. Not only are we seeking grants for this project, we are also looking into creating a partnership with the National Science Foundation.

We send this letter to convey our interest in the Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS). We are asking that the funding for the AFHS for FY2015 be restored to the fy2014 level, increasing the City Manager's proposed budget by \$111,829. We know that this is a difficult budget season, but it seems each year has its challenges. PLTI already lives on shoestring budget. Nearly 1/3 of our budget is in-kind and we have volunteers in every aspect of the program. City support gives us the credibility needed to leverage funds and support. Because Alexandria has been so welcoming and our local PLTI remains a model, National PLTI is coming to Alexandria for facilitator training for the third year in a row. This brings goodwill and out-of-towners to our City and consumer dollars to our hotels, shops and restaurants.

I am baking cooking, printing banners and will be volunteering at our annual fundraiser this weekend. PLTI Alumni are very involved in the community. Please help us maintain this program!!

Sincerely,

Eliza Beth Engle

From:

Lucy Beadnell < lucy.beadnell@thearcofnova.org>

Sent:

Friday, March 07, 2014 9:21 AM

To:

William Euille; Allison Silberberg; Timothy Lovain; Paul Smedberg; delpepper@aol.com;

John Chapman; and Wilson Justin; Jackie Henderson

Subject:

Alexandria Fund for Human Services

Attachments:

ACHSO budget concerns 3.7.14.docx

Mayor Euille and Council,

The Arc of Northern Virginia would like to submit the attached comments related to the City's budget and the Alexandria Fund for Human Services. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Lucy Beadnell

Lucy Beadnell Director of Advocacy (703) 532-3214 x116 (703) 208-0906 (Fax)



The Arc of Northern Virginia 2755 Hartland Rd., Suite 200 Falls Church, VA 22043

T 703-532-3214 F 703-208-0906 www.thearcofnova.org

March 7, 2014

Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, Councilmember Pepper, Councilmember Smedberg, Councilmember Lovain, Councilmember Wilson, and Councilmember Chapman:

I am writing as the Executive Director of The Arc of Northern Virginia, a member of the Alexandria Council of Human Services Organizations (ACHSO). For over 50 years, our organization has been supporting Alexandria citizens with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. We handle thousands of information and referral requests a year, host numerous workshops and outreach events, and provide in-depth training and support materials to families. I am sending this letter to convey our interest in the Alexandria Fund for Human Services (AFHS).

I urge you restore FY15 funding for the Alexandria Fund for Human Services to the level funded in FY14. The current proposed budget includes a 5.5% cut for this vital fund that would have a painful impact on fellow nonprofit members and, most importantly, the citizens we serve who already have to do so much with so little.

As a nonprofit organization, it is our mission to spend the money we raise right back on the people we are here to serve. We stand by this philosophy, but it leaves no room for cuts to funding that keep our programs afloat. We know these cuts will mean the end of vital programs, jobs, and extended operating hours for some other organizations in Alexandria.

This fund has made so many opportunities available for our most vulnerable citizens. As an example, we are using the AFHS funding for our Transition POINTS: Employment project. This program is developing a guide, in person trainings, and other resources to help people with disabilities obtain employment after graduation. According to the most recent report from the Institute for Community Inclusion, just 33.4% of people with disabilities are employed vs. 72.8% of the general population. Clearly there is a need for change and we want to help Alexandria fill this employment gap while reducing pressure on schools and the Community Services Board to do everything it takes to get the right people in the right jobs.

Projects like ours leverage private resources, in-kind donations, and volunteer hours to meet the city's needs as efficiently as possible. Cutting the AFHS would ultimately cost Alexandria more than you will save with the proposed budget reduction.

Please support the Alexandria Fund for Human Services so nonprofit organizations can continue to enhance the well-being, success and achievement of children, youth and families. We are a good investment for Alexandria.

We look forward to continuing our partnerships with the City of Alexandria to ensure that the most effective, efficient and critical services are delivered to our citizens. Thank you for your attention to these important issues.

Sincerely,

Rikki Epstein

Executive Director

The Arc of Northern Virginia

Rikh EpA

repstein@thearcofnova.org

(703) 532-3214 x106

cc: Jackie Henderson

From:

cdbishop21@gmail.com

Sent:

Friday, March 07, 2014 11:06 AM

To:

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject:

Call.Click.Connect. #47112: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council I am writing to you today as

an Alexandr

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 47112.

Request Details:

Name: Courtney Bishop

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 571-723-7735Email: cdbishop21@gmail.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

• Request Description: I am writing to you today as an Alexandria resident to ask you not to approve a budget that cuts funding for Alexandria nonprofits. Alexandria nonprofits contribute to the Alexandria economy by creating jobs, generating payroll taxes, and bringing money into Alexandria in the form of grants and contracts. Most importantly nonprofits accomplish essential work for the City on behalf of our most vulnerable residents. Cutting the Alexandria Human Service Fund budget by 5.5% may not seem like a lot but to the nonprofits in the City who are frequently asked to do more work with less money it is significant. Nonprofits help to define our community through environment, art, culture, sport, health care, social services, research and community development. It's hard to imagine our community without the contributions of nonprofits, their programs and services and the incredible staff and volunteers who champion each cause. Reducing the funding of nonprofits sends a message to human service agencies that the sector is not an essential part of a strong community.

The residents of Alexandria invest in our community everyday by making finical contributions, volunteering and offering in-kind assistance. I ask that City Council do the same and not cut critical funding for Alexandria nonprofits. Just as we recognize and invest in the private and public sectors for their momentous roles in our community, it is time for our elected officials to invest and recognize the nonprofit sector.

I strongly encourage you to include nonprofits in your economic strategy for the City of Alexandria. Championing the contribution of the nonprofit sector is important to a vibrant community. The expertise and passion of its employees and volunteers drive the quality programs and services that benefit each of us who live in the City of Alexandria.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and as always I look forward to seeing a solid plan for strengthening Alexandria nonprofits.

Sincerely, Courtney D. Bishop

Expected Response Date: Friday, March 14

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the *Call.Click.Connect.* staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov or call 703.746.HELP.

From:

ejsokolove@gmail.com

Sent:

Friday, March 07, 2014 12:15 PM

To:

Jackie Henderson

Subject:

Call.Click.Connect. #47123: City Clerk and Clerk of Council I am writing to request that

the City Co

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 47123.

Request Details:

Name: Eric Sokolove

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 703-379-6752

Email: <u>ejsokolove@gmail.com</u>
 Service Type: City Clerk and Clerk of Council

 Request Description: I am writing to request that the City Council fully fund Dr. Crawley's budget request. The \$7.4 million increase that he has proposed will keep funding per student level with the amount that ACPS received this year.

With more students enrolling in ACPS every year and more demands being put on the schools, it is important that we do not ask the school system to do more with less money.

Some specific examples:

- -The number of our students requiring ELL (English Language Learner) services has increased every year, from under 2500 in 2011 to over 3500 this year. These students are more expensive to educate.
- -The number of our students who receive free and reduced lunch has increased every year. We have gone from 53.8% in 2011 to 59.6% free and reduced lunch. These students often come to school with less background knowledge and less support at home, so they are more expensive to educate. ACPS already does good work in closing the achievement gap, but with more students from low socio-economic backgrounds, teachers and principals will need more money to meet their needs.
- -Elementary class sizes increased 2 students per class this year; we do not want to see additional increases in class size

I know that you want to do what is in the best interest of all students in Alexandria. I am not a budget expert, but it is my understanding that a 0.75 cent (three quarters of a cent) tax increase, if given exclusively to ACPS, would keep us at an even per student funding level. Please set a tax rate cap that gives the city enough flexibility to approve a tax rate increase if that is what is needed.

Thank you, Eric Sokolove Parent, Teacher, Polk PTA Board Member Expected Response Date: Friday, March 14

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the *Call.Click.Connect.* staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

From: Kelly Andreae <kellyandreae@carpentersshelter.org>

Sent: Friday, March 07, 2014 1:50 PM

To: William Euille; Allison Silberberg; Timothy Lovain; Paul Smedberg; delpepper@aol.com;

John Chapman; and Wilson Justin; Jackie Henderson

Subject: Please do not cut AFHS

I am writing to you today on behalf of Carpenter's Shelter to ask you not to approve a budget that cuts funding for the Alexandria Fund for Human Services. Alexandria nonprofits contribute to the Alexandria economy by creating jobs, generating payroll taxes, and bringing money into Alexandria in the form of grants and contributions. Most importantly nonprofits accomplish essential work for the City on behalf of our most vulnerable residents. Cutting the AFHS budget by 5.5% may not seem like a lot but it will further wound organizations like Carpenter's Shelter, who are constantly asked to do more with less.

I strongly encourage you to include nonprofits in your economic strategy for the City of Alexandria. Championing the contribution of the nonprofit sector is important to a vibrant community. The expertise and passion of its employees and volunteers drive the quality programs and services that benefit those who live in the City of Alexandria.

Thank you, Kelly

--

Kelly Andreae
Director of Development
Carpenter's Shelter
930 North Henry Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 548-7500 X203
www.carpentersshelter.org



lennygeorge47@aol.com From: Sent: Friday, March 07, 2014 2:11 PM

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

To:

Call.Click.Connect. #47133: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council I joined the Alexandria Police Subject:

Departmen

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call. Click. Connect. The request ID is 47133.

Request Details:

Name: Lenny George

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: (703) 475-3994 Email: lennygeorge47@aol.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

Request Description: I joined the Alexandria Police Department in 1975 in part because the City offered its police officers an additional \$1,000 for a four-year college degree. This was significant given the starting salary at the time was \$11,500.

Four years later, the City abruptly terminated this benefit for incumbents as well as new hires. I will never forget the betrayal, bitterness and anger I felt at the time. I went on to spend a total of 34 years with the City, retiring as a Deputy Chief with the PD, Chief Deputy with the Sheriffs Office and teaching Criminal Justice at T.C. Williams H.S. I did not use employment with the City as a stepping stone to enhance my career as many others seem to do. It was my life for 34 years. I would like to think I had a small part in making it the wonderful City it is today.

You might imagine the anger and disappointment I felt when I learned the Manager's FY 2015 budget proposes eliminating funding for Life Insurance benefits for retirees. This would simply not be moral. We have upheld our end of the bargain; it's time for you to uphold yours. Is this the proverbial 'camel's nose under the tent'? Pleas do the right thing and take the proposal off the table.

Expected Response Date: Friday, March 14

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the Call.Click.Connect. staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov or call 703.746.HELP.

From: jabroberts@erols.com

Sent: Saturday, March 08, 2014 9:12 AM

To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #47155: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council Dear Mayor Euille and City

Council Membe

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 47155.

Request Details:

Name: James S. Roberts

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: (703) 548-7938Email: jabroberts@erols.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

Request Description: Dear Mayor Euille and City Council Members.

I am writing in support of full funding for the proposed ACPS budget for 2014-2015, even if that necessitates a modest increase in the property tax rate. I hope the Council will give consideration to the benefits to Alexandria's school children that will result from this action. My overall reason is that such an increase will afford continuation of the educational programs and implementation of the ACPS strategic plan, with promises of improvements in the outcomes of the school division in student performance and participation in community life. And specifically, that it would allow us to continue to serve as partners with the schools in achieving early literacy through the programs of the Alexandria Tutoring Consortium.

My reasons are divided into two categories: (1) support for the progress of ACPS, and (2) impact on early literacy. First, my understanding is that the ACPS budget request for full funding (approximately \$2.4 million more than indicated in preliminary negotiations) was crafted to maintain current program levels, but allows for an increase in expected student headcounts and a modest increase in staff salaries to retain quality teachers in a competitive labor market in Northern Virginia. Without the overall increase, my concern is that Alexandria cannot maintain its position as a quality and competitively compensated school division, and be faced with declines in per student resources at a time when such resource are critical to continued progress.

Second, the more personal reason is that I am concerned over funding that affects early literacy among Alexandria's first and second grade students. It is well established that early literacy is a cornerstone not only to future academic success, but to avoidance of many problems in later years associated with inability to read at grade level. National studies have indicated that inability to read at grade level by third grade leads to higher rates of dropping out, lack of constructive participation in community life, lower lifetime income, and dependency/higher cost for supportive social services.

The Alexandria Tutoring Consortium was formed to address this. Our mission that every child in Alexandria read a grade level has been expressed over the past 18 years of our history. In partnership with ACPS, we have served over 2000 students in our kindergarten and first grade programs; we are currently serving 220 students in 10 elementary schools. We have never attained less than 80 percent success through one-on-one customized tutoring of the students our volunteers serve. We are proud of this record, based on successful collaboration with classroom teachers, reading specialists, and ACPS administrators.

The hitch is this. We are dependent in large measure for funding from ACPS for our programs, relying on the Community Partners grant program. With anticipated shortfalls in a fully funded ACPS budget, one of the items that may suffer will be the capacity of the schools to continue unabated the type of partnership programs – and in particular ATC's program—that are served by that funding. We think allocating scarce dollars in this manner would avoid an unfortunate setback to programs that seem critical to the progress of our youngest students toward a literacy proficiency critical to their future success.

I want to close with my personal experience. I was assigned to tutor a kindergarten student at Maury last year. At the first meeting I was astonished to find that he might know a sing-song "ABCs" but he did not have one bit of letter recognition. I had difficulty grasping that he did not know the alphabet. Well, we dug in. Through twice and sometimes three meetings each week through the end of the school year, he not only got his letters, he recognized words, began to sound things out, and by the end of the year he was reading at the same (and maybe slightly ahead) level as his classmates. That experience was extremely critical for him and gratifying for me. This is what the school's investment in ATC does and what we hope to be able to sustain.

Thank you for your consideration. James S. Roberts Chair, Board of Directors Alexandria Tutoring Consortium

Expected Response Date: Monday, March 17

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the *Call.Click.Connect.* staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

From:

john.scalia@att.net

Sent:

Saturday, March 08, 2014 9:48 AM

To:

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject:

Call.Click.Connect. #47165: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council I received today a fiver from

an Alexand

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call. Click. Connect. The request ID is 47165.

Request Details:

Name: John Scalia

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 202-664-0846Email: john.scalia@att.net

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

• Request Description: I received today a flyer from an Alexandria fire fighter detailing the City's proposal to move/eliminate Fire Engine 204 on Powhatan Street. We the residents of North Old Town should have seen this coming a long time ago when the City open the fire station in Potomac Yard. Mind you that the Potomac Yard station was completely unnecessary – as it could have been services by the Powhatan Street station and a Del Ray station (to my recollection) – but for the fact that City Council and the Planning & Zoning staff allowed the Potomac Yard developer to construct the streets so narrowly as to not allow a ladder truck to properly navigate the streets from BOTH directions. Further, I appreciate that the West End may need additional emergency resources. But it frosts me to no end that elected leaders – and professional staff – as so myopic and, frankly, inept as to not appreciate the implications of their decisions a couple of budget cycles out.

Please understand that while I am certain that the safety of my family and my neighbors will not suffer by losing Fire Engine 204 in our neighborhood, I continue to be dismayed by the disingenuousness of the City government. Despite an apparent increasing tax base – witness all of the new construction in the City on lands formerly occupied by empty warehouses or decrepit public housing – and the increasing tax rate, services to the citizens who pay those taxes are seemingly reduced or incur new fees. For example: (1) Long ago the City started charging for 911 ambulance transports to hospitals. Personally, I would think that service is as inherently governmental as public schools. Fee for service fire services went out of style in the 19th century when competing fire departments were caught setting blazes. (2) More recently the City ended early morning fitness center hours at the neighborhood recreation centers. I complained about this one personally last year and have not set foot in the Charles Houston Center since giving my money instead to Old Town Sport & Health. More money yes but accountable service. Now this year, you are closing a fire station that has been a cornerstone of a neighborhood and community for a really long time. Despite some recent disagreements with the station managers over street parking of City vehicles, the fire fighters have always been great neighbors.

Make the decision you are predisposed to make. Sympathizing with the fire fighter at my doorstep, I am sharing my opinion. My "truth-in-lending" statement, fear not for my vote. You never had it ... never will.

John Scalia 932 Second Street Alexandria

Expected Response Date: Monday, March 17

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the Call.Click.Connect. staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

From: dvadams@comcast.net

Sent: Saturday, March 08, 2014 1:16 PM

To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #47168: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council at 1842 POTOMAC GREENS

DR Mr Mayor and City Council, It has been

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 47168.

Request Details:

Name: David Adams

Approximate Address: 1842 POTOMAC GREENS DR (See map below)

Phone Number: 703-518-8120
Email: dvadams@comcast.net

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

Request Description: Mr Mayor and City Council, It has been brought to my attention that, contained in the FY15 Proposed Budget for the City of Alexandria, there is a proposal to reduce fire support by one engine at Station 204 to offset the opening of a station elsewhere in the City. Acknowledging little experience in such matters, I'm very much AGAINST such a move without full and open vetting of the impact of such a decision by the City Council. Logic tells me that reducing services in an area that is growing, combined with an established choke point for response (Rt 1 bridge between Station 209 in Potomac Yard and my residence in Potomac Greens) is not a move that supports current residents no less progressive development. I ask that you provide opportunity for dialogue on this matter, and a response that reassures me and my 226 neighbors in Potomac Greens, through actual response timetables expected, that our safety and security is not being decremented. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Expected Response Date: Monday, March 17



Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the Call.Click.Connect. staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

From:

debra@shoplamuse.net

Sent:

Saturday, March 08, 2014 5:42 PM

To:

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject:

Call.Click.Connect. #47179: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council Several weeks ago my

husband attended a

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call. Click. Connect. The request ID is 47179.

Request Details:

Name: debra monahan

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 7034733165Email: debra@shoplamuse.net

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

Request Description: Several weeks ago my husband attended a community meeting wherein plans to possibly
close or relocate the Wythe St. post office were discussed. Today I received a flyer on my door regarding the
possible relocation of Engine 204.

I live on Colonial Ave and would like to voice via this email that I am opposed to both propositions.

I run a small business from my home (and do have a City license) and walk to the Post Office to mail packages 4 times a week. The Powhatan St. Fire Dept is in my backyard.

It frightens me to think that we may not have an engine at this Fire Department in the future and would have to rely on departments much further away to handle fires in our area. Furthermore that you would consider doing this as the population in North Old Town and around Braddock Station is literally exploding makes no sense.

In the 5 years that we've owned here our real estate taxes have increased 26% and I am sure that my neighbors are facing the same financial burden. We deserve to keep our community services intact.

Thank you -debra monahan, 1005 Colonial Ave.

Expected Response Date: Monday, March 17

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the *Call.Click.Connect.* staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

From:

CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov

Sent:

Saturday, March 08, 2014 9:17 PM

To:

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject:

Call.Click.Connect. #47183: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council I've been asked to support a

higher tax

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 47183.

Request Details:

Name: Call.Click.Connect. Customer

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

• Phone Number: No Phone

Email: No Email

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

- Request Description: I've been asked to support a higher tax rate to fully fund schools, but the current tax rate is
 so steep that the property owners in Alexandria who are not rich can barely afford to stay here. I propose you cut
 less essential services and look to other ways to fund what is needed. I do NOT support increased property taxes.
 They need to be lowered, please.
- Expected Response Date: Monday, March 17

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the Call.Click.Connect. staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov or call 703.746.HELP.

From: babette70@yahoo.com

Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2014 9:49 AM

To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #47185: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council I understand that ACPS will

have a \$2.4M

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 47185.

Request Details:

Name: Babette Cooper

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 7039647157Email: babette70@yahoo.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

• Request Description: I understand that ACPS will have a \$2.4M shortfall this year from the amount the Superintendent has requested in funding for ACPS and the amount the City Manager proposes. While I appreciate that the City manager has approved an increase in the ACPS budget this year, I fear the City manager's increase is not enough. I have a child in kindergarten this year and will have another on her way to ACPS shortly. Enrollment is growing in the area which brings many positive aspects (including larger tax base), but it means our schools will be even more crowded. I am so thrilled with the education my daughter is receiving this year, even though she already has 22 kids in her class; but I'm concerned about the future. Our school infrastructures our old and it will be hard enough to fit more kids in each classroom without being able to hire/maintain quality teachers. I want ACPS to be able to maintain all of the great assistants in the offices, school nurses on each campus, safe playground equipment and most importantly to continue to provide quality of education in secure/safe environments. I wish I could come to testify but my work schedule will not allow for it. There are many more reasons ACPS needs to be funded at its full budget that I wish I could discuss.

I know it is hard to balance all of the debits and credits (as I am a CPA). However, I do not believe sacrificing our children's education (i.e. The city of Alexandria's FUTURE) is the proper area to cut. I urge you to consider a way to fund the additional \$2.4M being requested. When you look back 5, 10, 20 or 40 years from now, trust me that the \$2.4M will not have bankrupted the City; however, it will have made a huge difference in the quality of education in Alexandria.

Yours truly,

Babette Cooper

Expected Response Date: Monday, March 17

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the *Call.Click.Connect.* staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

From:

mindylyle@comcast.net

Sent:

Sunday, March 09, 2014 9:58 AM

To:

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations

Subject:

Call.Click.Connect. #47186: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council Please add funding for the

Concerned Cit

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call. Click. Connect. The request ID is 47186.

Request Details:

Name: Mindy Lyle

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 703-566-7113Email: mindylyle@comcast.net

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor City Council

• Request Description: Please add funding for the Concerned Citizens Network program Reach and Rise for Excellence. This is a unique comprehensive instructional middle school intervention program, offered after school, in the city. 50% of the students in the pilot program passed their SOL tests. The RARE program, currently implemented at Francis C. Hammond middle school and in its 4th year has a proven track record of success, clearly making a difference in the performance of 6th - 8th grade students who are struggling with math. These at risk students are provided with nurturing adults, a vision of potential and achievable career choices, training in social and life skills. The parent engagement program is the most aggressive and inclusive program in the city.

Funds are needed to continue to operate this valuable program.

Expected Response Date: Monday, March 17

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the *Call.Click.Connect.* staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact <u>CommunityRelations@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.