

From: gordon.amber@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, December 12, 2014 5:49 PM
To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Community Relations; Gloria Sitton
Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #63359: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Mr. Mayor and Members of the City Council

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 63359.

Request Details:

- Name: Susan Amber Gordon
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-626-7965
- Email: gordon.amber@gmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Mr. Mayor and Members of the City Council,

I write to you today to express my strong support for the Implementation Plan for Alexandria's Public Art Policy (the "Plan"), as I believe this Plan will provide the structure needed to identify and manage public art projects sponsored by the City; review projects proposed by private developers; and create community-inclusive, morale-building, high-quality public art projects.

Prior to buying my home in the Del Ray neighborhood of Alexandria in 2010, I lived in Fairfax County for more than 20 years, and had never been active in volunteer organizations (other than those which directly involved my children and/or their schools). Since moving to this wonderful gem of a city, I served two years on the Board of Directors of the Del Ray Artisans; I have served on the Public Art Committee since September 2011; was appointed to the Alexandria Commission for the Arts in December 2012; was elected Chair of the Public Art Committee in July 2013; and elected to the Executive Committee of the Commission for the Arts in July 2014.

As you know, the Plan, which comes before you tomorrow morning (12/13/14), has been diligently developed and refined during the past two years by the Office of the Arts and highly competent Public Art consultants, with significant input from the City's Public Art Committee, the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, and citizens throughout Alexandria who participated in myriad public forums.

The Public Art Committee has played a vital role in creating the dynamic atmosphere in which public art has so far thrived in Alexandria. Now, this Plan presents the next step in propelling an even greater public art program forward. The merging of the Public Art Committee with the Commission for the Arts has been well received by members of both entities, most of whom gratefully acknowledge that unnecessarily confusing duplication and/or overlap of responsibilities will be eliminated.

Within the Plan, the launch of various Public Art Task Forces will facilitate clear parameters for each Public Art project; create more clearly defined roles for volunteers; and increase the productivity of volunteers while simultaneously generating genuine rewards from being able to experience the impact of time they so generously invest.

There are several key areas in which the arts – and public art specifically – play a significant role in our city's success. Two areas which stand out as especially significant are the economic value of public art for Alexandria and the community, social and cultural value of public art to Alexandria. This Plan lays the groundwork for community involvement throughout the City and will actively engage local residents and businesses, in addition to providing unique attractions for both citizens and visitors.

The members of the soon-to-be merged Alexandria Commission for the Arts and Public Art Committee greatly

look forward to active involvement with the citizens of Alexandria and the Office of the Arts in generating an effective, compelling and inspiring Public Art Program for our wonderful city.

Please feel free to contact me either by phone (703-626-7965) or email with any questions or comments. Your time and consideration of this matter are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Susan Amber Gordon
Chair, Alexandria Public Art Committee

- Attachment: [CityCouncilLetter AGordon 121214-signed.pdf](#)
- Expected Response Date: Friday, December 19

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 CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov or call 703.746.HELP.

This is an automated email notification of a **Call.Click.Connect.** request. Please do not reply to this email.