



24 acres

Welcome to Clark/US, LLC's Alexandria Renew New Nutrient Management Facility project web site. From here, you can learn more about the project, track our progress, and connect with us throughout the construction schedule.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

As part of Alexandria Renew's State-of-the-Art-Nutrient-Upgrade (SANUP) initiative, the new Nutrient Management Facility project (NMF) will further reduce the amount of nitrogen in Northern Virginia's wastewater that flows through local waterways into the Chesapeake Bay. When complete in 2015, the NMF will allow Alexandria Renew to better process the 13 billion gallons of wastewater it treats every year. The project also has many public benefits beyond cleaner water, including:

- Creating a synthetic playing surface to accommodate regulation soccer and lacrosse fields.
- Burying existing electrical lines underground.
- Realigning Hooff's Run Drive out of a Chesapeake Bay resource protection area (RPA) and renaming the

street Truesdale Drive.

- Relocating and re-vegetating Holland Lane as required by the City's RPA conditions.

PROJECT DETAILS

Clark/US, LLC, will provide construction-manager-at-risk services to build the NMF, which will consist of an 18-million gallon concrete tank extending 30 feet below-grade. The construction team also will connect the new tankage to an existing wastewater plant, install a pump station, odor control system, and the electrical facilities to power the new equipment, and relocate existing overhead, high-voltage electrical power lines below ground. Once the tank work is complete, the Clark/US team will construct the synthetic playing field above it and install other related amenities for public use.

Presentation to the Alexandria City Council

January 24, 2015

Mayor Euille, Members of the City Council,

My name is Chuck Ziegler, Vice-President for Advocacy of the Friends of the Beatley Central Library. This morning I would speak to you about the *one percent*; not the one percent of the super-rich that one reads about in the news, but about the one percent of the City's budget spent on its public library system, and why it is a wise investment to fund fully the Library budget this fiscal year, even in, or especially because of a challenging budgetary environment.

But first, it is necessary to re-cast our understanding of our Public Libraries. They are far more than simply facilities for making available paper-based media, such as books and magazines, as is commonly thought. The Library also supports:

- English language learners by offering free English courses every week.
- Families, by offering hundreds of programs for children that support early literacy and school readiness, an important supplement to the work of Alexandria City Public Schools. My wife and I have taken our young grandchildren to some of these programs, and found them very worthwhile.
- Small business owners, the well-being of whom is an important element for the City's overall economic health, by providing individual research assistance, meeting room spaces (something very much in demand), and technology access.
- Job seekers, by providing assistance with writing resumes and covering letters, and free access to computers and wireless services.
- Digital literacy, by providing free computer, Internet and wireless access, and free technology training.

All this for just *one percent* of the City's budget!! And it is important to note that the services of Alexandria's Public Libraries are available to *every* resident of the City, regardless of age, income level, race, religion, or any other such consideration, and many residents avail themselves of these services. In FY 2015, over 1.3 *million* items were borrowed from the Library; these items included not only books but e-books and movies as well. There were over *one million* visits to Library facilities and virtual library. Almost 50,000 people attended Library programs.

Council members should note that we don't simply come to you this morning "hat in hand," as mere supplicants, to ask for funding; rather, we are asking for your *partnership* in working for the high-quality library system that the City of Alexandria not only deserves but *needs*. The

Friends of the Beatley Central Library does its part in providing financial support for the Library. We have more than 200 dues-paying members, the dues being used to help to fund various Library needs that are not covered in the formal budget. The Friends conducts very popular book sales, the most recent of which realized almost \$18,000. We have also sponsored significant joint projects with the Library Board, including the new mural in the Beatley Children's Library—*come and see it!*; the engineering study by Restoration Engineering, Inc., which provided a clear blueprint for the remedial work necessary to resolve the severe water intrusion problems at Beatley Central—*I'll be happy to send you a copy if you wish*; and upgrading the facilities in main meeting room at Beatley Central. *These efforts demonstrates, in very concrete and real terms, the profound commitment of Alexandria citizens to their Public Libraries.*

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not thank the City Council for its past support of Alexandria's Public Libraries, including funding of the initial phase of Beatley Central facility repairs to correct severe water infiltration; continuing to support longer hours at branch libraries, thus enabling them to be kept open one additional evening per week, a very important benefit to those who can only use the libraries outside of normal working hours; and increasing custodial services at Beatley Central to five nights per week in order to maintain clean and hygienic conditions at the library location with the highest foot traffic. I hope that similar wise and far-sighted support—indeed, partnership—will be forthcoming in the FY 2016 budget.

2
1-24-15

TO: Alexandria City Council

FROM: Susan Newell, susnewell@comcast.net
Chair, Alexandria Social Services Advisory Board
Resident and Parent

DATE: 24 January 2015

SUBJECT: Prepared Statement Regarding the Alexandria Social Services Advisory Board

Mayor Euille, Vice-Mayor Silberberg and members of City Council, as Chair of the Alexandria's Social Services Advisory Board, I am here to tell you a story. I admit that in my last appearance before you in this room, I asked you to help me become Melinda Mae (a figment of Shel Silverstein's imagination). But nothing about today is fictional. On the contrary, it is about something we are trying to make real; very, very real . . . *Advancing the Well-Being of All Alexandrians*.

In order to do so, we must get all of Alexandria on board. So we begin telling the story, our story, our collective story. Yet, because I only have a few minutes before you, today you will only hear the first chapters of the story. Over time in these public sessions, however, you will hear the rest of the story. We want to develop a common language for us all and collectively and collaboratively strive toward *Advancing the Well-Being of All Alexandrians* – helping one another, and helping ourselves along the way.

When I say “we,” to whom does that refer? The answer unfolds in the beginning of our story - Chapter One entitled Who We Are – or, in other words, the Players or People involved. In a nutshell, there are ideally 13 members on our board, appointed by you – the City Council - to serve our community. But we, as others, are an integral part of something much bigger. In our story, there are tertiary players, namely the federal government and the Virginia Department of Social Services, as there are regulations and mandates we all must follow. But looking on a more local level, myriad players emerge: the Mayor, the City Council, and the Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services (the umbrella under which we fall). The administration,

staff, and clients of DCHS are most certainly players as well, just as is any resident of the City of Alexandria. Beyond that, there are other Boards and Commissions tasked with similar mandates, and other businesses, organizations, and partners, all working for a better Alexandria. But the question remains . . . *Who Are We* collectively? While we just indicated many of the players, the complete answer is not in Chapter 1, which now comes to a close. You will see as we progress through the next chapters, *Who We Are* becomes more and more clear when examined in a larger context.

Chapter 2, the final chapter of our story for today, is entitled To What We Are Called – or uncovering our Purpose. What Purpose are we here to promote? Well, we are tasked with interesting ourselves in all matters pertaining to the social welfare of Alexandrians and with acting as the City’s public welfare advisory board. This is in line with Goal 4 of Alexandria’s strategic plan as a “community that supports and enhances the well-being, success and achievement of children, youth, and families.” Our collective purpose can be summarized as *Advancing the Well-Being of All Alexandrians*. It sounds good. But it must be a reality. It is our mandate, but it is also a duty of us all. *Advancing the Well-Being of All Alexandrians*. That is where the story begins. But it will develop more fully in chapters yet to come. Thank you.

2
1-24-15

A statement by Bert Ely to the Alexandria City Council with regard to flood mitigation

January 24, 2015

Mr. Mayor and members of Council, I am Bert Ely and I am here today to speak to you about the pending proposal to mitigate flood damage along the Alexandria waterfront.

Flood mitigation is very popular with the citizenry, as various surveys have shown. There also is strong interest in doing something sooner rather than later. However, it is extremely important to do flood mitigation properly and in a cost-effective manner, keeping in mind that flood mitigation, at best, will not protect against more damaging and costly events, such as occurred during Hurricane Isabel in 2003. In fact, done badly, flood mitigation will actually worsen the effects of lesser amounts of flooding.

The flood mitigation plan currently on the table will create the worst of all worlds – it will be costly, ineffective, and when sufficiently severe flooding occurs, it cause more damage than if the City did nothing.

Attached to my statement is an analysis of the City's pending flood-mitigation plan, which is based on the City's 2010 Flood Mitigation Study. This analysis was prepared by my good friend and Old Town resident, Tony Kupersmith, who cannot be here today. All of you know Tony, and know that he is a highly experience engineer with expertise in all aspects of engineering related to waterfronts, marine construction, and flood mitigation. Tony is someone whose opinion in these matters must be given very serious consideration.

Briefly, City Council has before it a proposal to build a 6-foot-elevation flood barrier along the waterfront. Based on historical flood data, that barrier will be overtopped an average of once every ten years. Whenever overtopping occurs, such as from a hurricane storm surge, water will accumulate behind the barrier, creating a giant stinking bathtub along the Alexandria waterfront!

Two expensive pumping stations are proposed to pump this water into the Potomac which in the meantime will have inundated nearby buildings and parkland with dirty, polluted water. An important fact that has been ignored so far is that water collected in this bathtub will be considered, under the Clean Water Act, as a "point source pollutant." Therefore, that water cannot be discharged into the Potomac without a permit to do so. Before being pumped into the river, that water may need some degree of treatment to remove pollutants.

Fortunately, there is a better, more effective, and cheaper way to mitigate flooding along our waterfront – constructing a lower, 4-foot-elevation, gravity-based system that will not be subject to federal regulation. As shown in a graph appended to Tony's

statement, flooding events have exceeded four feet only four times in the last six years, with flood levels only up to one's ankles at the four foot elevation.

Leaving aside the efficacy of the 6-foot flood mitigation plan, the cost of the proposed plan has skyrocketed, and undoubtedly will go even higher once permitting requirements are taken into effect. What was supposed to be a \$5 million project has ballooned into a \$33 million extravaganza. Tony's analysis provides ample detail about the cost increases of the various components of the plan before you. Consequently, the estimated cost of this project now far exceeds any benefit the 6-foot-elevation mitigation plan might deliver.

It is not too late to go back to the drawing board. In fact, it is absolutely essential that the City do so. City Council must demand the preparation of a new cost-benefit analysis that contrasts a 4-foot gravity system against the 6-foot pumping-based system, but only after taking into account the as-yet unmeasured cost of meeting all the Clean Water Act requirements. Further, that analysis should be conducted by a third-party organization without previous ties to the City.

Thank you for your time today. I welcome your questions.

**Comments to Alexandria City Council – January 24, 2015 –
Phase 1 – Preliminary Design**

Background:

I have been a persistent critic of the 6.0 Ft elevation flood barrier since its original recommendation in the city's 2010 Flood Mitigation Study (FMS). To my engineering mind it is impossible to justify the expense of building a barrier that we know will be overtopped every 10 years (statistically speaking). In addition the runoff catch basin created behind the floodwall on the west side of the barrier will require two expensive pumping systems to channel and discharge stormwater runoff from heavy rains. The fact is that the 6.0 elevation offers no protection from a hurricane storm surge, and the city attorney's office should have made it clear to Council that under the Clean Water Act the water collected in the basin is a point source pollutant and cannot be discharged into the Potomac River without a permit to allow city to pollute our rivers. When the floodwall is overtopped, the city estimates that 2,300,000 gallons of polluted water will be trapped in the basin. It proposes to pump it into the river.

In contrast, my proposed gravity based system, built to 4.0 Ft elevation is considered non-point source and is not subject to federal regulation. As shown on the attached city graph (Attachment 1), the 4.0 Ft elevation has been exceeded only 4 times by flooding events in the last 6 years, with flood levels only up to one's ankles above the 4.0 Ft elevation. The 6.0 Ft floodwall elevation is a cure that is worse than the disease.

New Issues:

But now comes two new issues: The results of the Phase 1 Preliminary Design study show that the costs associated with building the 6.0 Ft elevation floodwall have skyrocketed. Comparing the cost figures between the Option A, Phase 1 Improvements with the Detailed Cost estimate contained in the FMS we see that the \$5 million dollar job (design and construction) has turned into \$33 million; a 660% increase. Comparing the Cost Estimate Figures: (see Attachments 2 and 3)

- Using the more detailed breakdown of the Option A, Phase 1 Improvement Items we can see that the Pump Stations and Features grew from \$2,300,000 (in FMS Table 7, Item 7) to \$6,450,000 (Phase 1, Items 7 & 8) or a 280% increase.
- Looking into the construction costs for bulkhead and paving [(FMS Table 7, Items 1-6) vs. (Phase 1 – Items 9-13)] we see that \$490,575 has now become \$15,250,000. This is a 3100% increase.
- Phase 1 Item 16 – Lower Board Walk, Grand Steps. This \$3,670,000 item was not even in the URS FMS list of Recommendations (Chapter 7 – FMS). Why is it included? Basically because the “world class” design team realized that a boardwalk promenade 6 Feet above the water would require a Lower Boardwalk/Decking to put the visitor in proximity to the water. Note that this Lower Decking is 4.0 feet above the NAVD – exactly the same height as the proposed bulkhead in the gravity based system. This decking is particularly vulnerable to storm damage due to wave action – and the underside will become an ideal trap for floating debris and trash.
- The storm water bypass system with its estimated construction costs totaling \$275,098 in the FMS vs. \$2,060,000 in the Phase 1 document. (750% increase).
- Design costs increase along with construction costs; the FMS report shows \$604,171 vice the Phase 1 total of \$4,120,000 (a 682% increase).

- The URS FMS Detailed Cost estimate for the NPV of annual maintenance is \$1,042,251. We have not seen the estimate of annual maintenance for the Phase 1 design. So for comparison purposes the \$33 million will be increasing.
- The cost used in the FMS Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) is the sum of design, construction, easement, permitting and NPV annual costs: \$6,072,490 as shown on Attachment 3

Benefit/Cost Ratio (see Attachment 4)

This project was "Recommended" in Chapter 7 of the FMS on the basis of \$14,745,415 in flood mitigation benefits against a cost of \$6,072,490. This yields a B/C ratio of 2.43 (greater than 1.0) which was used by city planning to justify this structural project over flood proofing and other techniques, such as grade raising which have even higher B/C ratios. In fact the report states (section 6.2.5): "This option (elevated walkway) provides benefits for approximately 43 commercial structures and 23 residential structures from the nuisance flooding event." The report goes on to say: "The elevated walkway would protect approximately 66 structures within three focus areas from the nuisance flood and for up to the 10-year storm. The elevated walkway would not protect any structures from the intermediate or extreme flood event." So the city is now proposing to spend an estimated \$33 million on a project that will now have a revised B/C ratio of 0.45 (and this \$33 million figure excludes permits, easements and the NPV of annual maintenance costs). A B/C ratio less than 1.0 indicates that the Benefits do not outweigh the Costs. By the city's own criterion this project is a loser.

Way Forward

This project has suffered from a lack of oversight from its beginning and the current cost estimate represents a failure on the part of the city to control a project that has been "sold" to citizens as cost effective. There has been no third party monitoring of benefits vs. costs and in consequence the projected costs are out of control. The City Council must take the consequential step of demanding another BCA be conducted before any further work is authorized. This BCA should compare Benefits measured against the Costs of a 4.0 Ft gravity system vs. the 6.0 Ft pumping system as now proposed. In addition these Benefits should be based upon actual city tax revenue losses from gross receipts for businesses surrounding the Waterfront Plan area (taking into account the detrimental effect of inclement weather on commercial sales along the waterfront). And finally the new BCA should be conducted by a competent third party organization without contractual ties to the City.

John A. Kupersmith
Alexandria Citizen

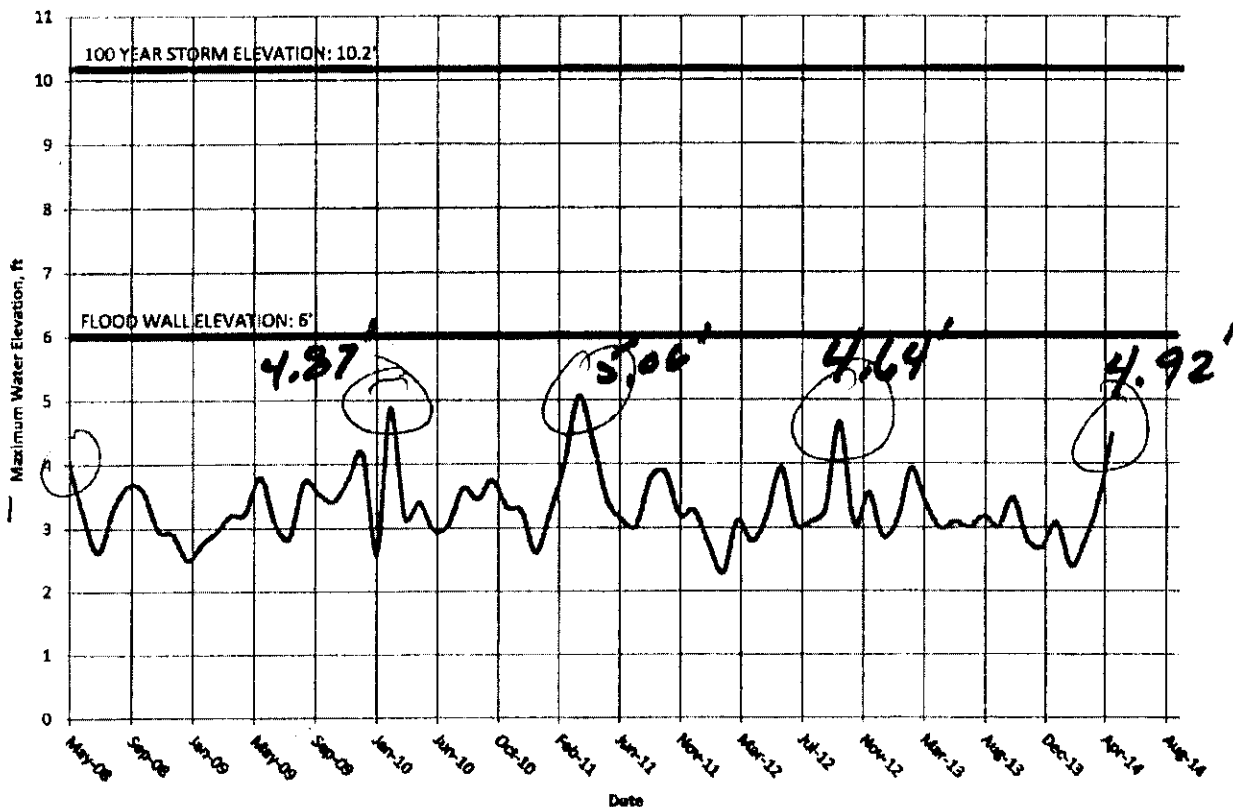
4 Attachments:

1. USGS Tide Gauge Data – City graph
2. E-mail Anthony Gammon – Option A, Phase 1 Improvements
3. Table 7, Appendix G – FMS – Detailed Cost Estimate for Elevated Walkway
4. Appendix E table – FMS Benefit Cost Summary for all Structural Projects

Citation on Stormwater Runoff will be provided upon City Council's request

4' ELEVATION WILL
 ELIMINATE ~~THESE~~
 AS MANY NUISANCE FLOODS
 AS 6' ELEVATION —
 ONLY DIFFERENCE IS SPRING FLOOD
 4 FLOODS IN THE LAST 6 YEARS
 USGS Tide Gage

Maximum Monthly Water Surface Elevations



Q. IS IT WORTH A \$24 MILLION Δ
 TO STOP ONE FLOOD EVENT
 EVERY OTHER YEAR — ?
 AND TO CAPTURE THE OVERTOP
 OF FLOODWALL EVERY 10 YEARS?

From: Anthony Gammon [mailto:anthony.gammon@alexandriava.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 18, 2014 1:26 PM
To: Bert Ely
Cc: Emily Baker
Subject: RE: Waterfront Improvements -- estimated cost of

ATTACHMENT 2

Bert,

Here is a more detailed breakdown of the \$33 million, Option A, Phase 1 improvements. The estimated costs are shown in today's dollars, and are based on the 10-30% drawings by Olin and URS. Let me know if you have any questions or need anything else.

1	Area	Design	Construction	Total
2	Duke Street bypass storm	\$ 20,000	\$ 220,000	\$ 240,000
3	Prince Street bypass storm	\$ 30,000	\$ 390,000	\$ 420,000
4	King Street bypass storm	\$ 40,000	\$ 600,000	\$ 640,000
5	Cameron Street bypass storm	\$ 40,000	\$ 530,000	\$ 570,000
6	Queen Street bypass storm	\$ 20,000	\$ 320,000	\$ 340,000
7	Waterfront Park pump station	\$ 410,000	\$ 3,840,000	\$ 4,250,000
8	Thompson's Alley pump station	\$ 290,000	\$ 2,610,000	\$ 2,900,000
9	Point Lumley bulkhead	\$ 350,000	\$ 2,180,000	\$ 2,530,000
10	Waterfront Park bulkhead	\$ 340,000	\$ 2,120,000	\$ 2,460,000
11	Fitzgerald Square bulkhead	\$ 450,000	\$ 2,800,000	\$ 3,250,000
12	Thompson's Alley bulkhead	\$ 890,000	\$ 5,610,000	\$ 6,500,000
13	Promenade grading and paving	\$ 410,000	\$ 2,540,000	\$ 2,950,000
14	Promenade accessories (furniture, trash cans, dockmaster hut, etc.)	\$ 90,000	\$ 560,000	\$ 650,000
15	Lighting and electrical upgrades	\$ 150,000	\$ 950,000	\$ 1,100,000
16	Waterside improvements (lower boardwalk, grand steps)	\$ 590,000	\$ 3,670,000	\$ 4,260,000
17	Total =	\$ 4,120,000	\$ 28,940,000	\$ 33,060,000

COMPARISON TO URS FLOOD REPORT OF JULY 2010

300% INCREASE

D+C
7.150 M VS. # 2.300 M
D = 6.450 M

650% INCREASE

D+C #
17.690 M VS. 2.730 M
C = 15.250 M

— NOT IN URS
 REPORT -
 — NOT IN URS
 — NOT IN URS
 } NOT IN URS
 REPORT -

APPX G FMS

Table 7: Detailed cost estimate for elevated walkway and 550 foot floodwall

Item	Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Total
Design					
	Design	1	LS	\$604,170.85	\$ 604,171
	Permitting	1	LS	\$650,000.00	\$ 650,000
				Subtotal	\$ 1,254,171 ✓
Construction					
1	Concrete for base of elevated walkway	521	CY	\$390.00	\$ 203,378
2	Concrete for wall of elevated walkway	379	CY	\$390.00	\$ 147,911
3	Concrete for base of 550 foot floodwall	130	CY	\$390.00	\$ 50,844
4	Concrete for wall of 550 foot floodwall	122	CY	\$390.00	\$ 47,667
5	Bituminous Sidewalk, 1" thick paving, 4" gravel base, 5' width	1,276	LF	\$8.02	\$ 10,234
6	Common earth backfill	2,269	CY	\$13.46	\$ 30,541
7	Pump Stations and Features	2	each	\$1,150,000.00	\$ 2,300,000 ✓
8	42" concrete pipe	1,470	lf	\$144.00	\$ 211,680 ✓
9	Curb inlet frame, grate, curb box: Large 24" x 36" heavy duty	2	each	\$1,250.00	\$ 2,500 ✓
10	Flap Gates	2	each	\$8,050.00	\$ 16,100 ✓
11	Excavation	4,067	CY	\$11.02	\$ 44,818 ✓
12	Easements (10% of construction cost)	1	LS	\$306,567.26	\$ 306,567 ✓
				Subtotal	\$ 3,020,854
	Construction Contingency (20%)				\$ 604,171
	Mobilization/Demobilization/Stakeout (\$50,000 min or 5%)				\$ 151,043
	TOTAL				\$ 5,030,239
	Annual Maintenance				\$1,042,251
	Cost used in BCA				\$ 6,072,490

Handwritten note: \$490,575

BENEFITS

Potomac River Waterfront Flood Mitigation Study
Benefit Cost Summary for All Structural Projects

BENEFITS	Flood Wall	Flood Proofing	Acquisition	Walkway	Berm
King Street	\$ 1,017,062	\$ 7,470,452	\$ 4,227,045		N/A
Waterfront Commercial	\$ 11,022,291	\$ 6,727,889	\$ 7,336,054	\$ 14,745,415	N/A
N Union St	\$ 156,934	\$ 733,539	\$ 608,916		N/A
Jones Point	N/A	\$ 230,843	\$ 197,424	N/A	\$ 236,410
Total:	\$ 12,196,287	\$ 14,931,880	\$ 12,172,015	\$ 14,745,415	\$ 236,410
COST	Flood Wall	Flood Proofing	Acquisition	Walkway	Berm
King Street		\$ 1,180,560	\$ 90,826,273		N/A
Waterfront Commercial	\$ 18,863,273	\$ 2,790,754	\$ 104,375,470	\$ 6,072,490	N/A
N Union St		\$ 1,084,100	\$ 19,865,796		N/A
Jones Point	N/A	\$ 238,050	\$ 11,279,417	N/A	\$ 5,491,975
Total:	\$ 18,863,273	\$ 5,055,414	\$ 215,067,539	\$ 6,072,490	\$ 5,491,975
BGR	Flood Wall	Flood Proofing	Acquisition	Walkway	Berm
King Street		6.33	0.05		N/A
Waterfront Commercial	0.65	2.41	0.07	2.43	N/A
N Union St		0.68	0.03	no protection	N/A
Jones Point	N/A	0.97	0.02	no protection	0.04

¹ Structure lifetime is 50 years, and provides protection to the 100 year flood event

² Floodproofing lifetime is 30 years

³ Acquisition lifetime is 100 years

⁴ Walkway lifetime is 50 years

⁵ Berm lifetime is 50 years

COST - ELEVATED
WALKWAY

FLOOD PROOFING

2
1-24-15

From: Bradley [mailto:bradsboxesplus@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 03, 2014 7:49 PM
To: James Spengler
Cc: Barbra.farrington@alexandriava.gov
Subject: Exemption to Free Space Policy

Hello Mr. Spengler,

I am Bradley Sampson, the contact person for Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings in the Lee Center Gold Room. Ms. Farrington reviewed my room request application for the next three months and notified me that due to changes in policy, there is now an hourly fee requirement for the use of the rooms.

Our standing group has met weekly at the Lee Center since June 1993 to communicate the NA message "that an addict, any addict, can stop using drugs, lose the desire to use and find a new way to live." NA is a nonprofit, international, community-based organization whose approach to recovery entails informal meetings where members are encouraged to talk about their experiences and recovery from drug addiction. The function of any meeting is always the same: to provide a suitable and reliable environment for personal recovery. Maintaining the same location weekly has enabled us to share this message broadly so that those who might benefit from our program of recovery can find us.

NA accepts no financial contributions from non-members, has no professional counselors and maintains no clinics or residential facilities. NA provides unlimited literature to share our message openly with the public, members, and professionals, but the local meetings are funded entirely by member contributions. Currently, there are approximately 26 local participants at each of the three weekly meetings

- Tuesday from 7 – 8:30 pm at Lee Center;
- Wednesday 7 – 8:30 Cora Kelly
- Friday from 7 – 8:30 pm at Lee Center.

These meetings are attended by a mix of regulars and newcomers, so contributions vary widely from week to week. The \$59 hourly fee jeopardizes the ability to communicate an atmosphere of continuity (same time, same place) to our members. It is our hope that you will consider the possibility of "grandfathering" the organization into free use of space considering the 20-plus year relationship. If this is amenable, please contact me to discuss the possible establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding between NA and Alexandria Recreation Office so we may continue this beneficial partnership.

In Loving Service

Bradley Sampson

703-362-0371

From: James Spengler <James.Spengler@alexandriava.gov>

To: Bradley <bradsboxesplus@aol.com>

Cc: Barbra.farrington <Barbra.farrington@alexandriava.gov>; William Chesley <William.Chesley@alexandriava.gov>; David A. Miller <DavidA.Miller@alexandriava.gov>

Subject: RE: Exemption to Free Space Policy

Date: Wed, Dec 3, 2014 8:02 pm

Thank you for your email. The Department does not have the authority to waive any fees adopted by City Council. However, I have asked staff why our civic use policy was or was not discussed with you. From the fee policy:

Community Use of Indoor Facilities

RPCA allows "no fee" use for Alexandria City non-profit groups, civic organizations and homeowner associations at certain designated recreation center locations. These uses must occur during normal operating hours and require no additional set up activity.

- Lee: Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. o Conference Room 1 (cap. 15) and Conference Room 3 (cap. 20)
- Charles Houston: Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. & Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. o Conference Room (cap. 15)
- Durant: Monday through Friday from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. o Conference Room. (cap. 20)
- William Ramsay: Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. o Arts and Crafts Room (cap. 35)
- Mount Vernon: Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. o Multi-purpose room. (cap. 35)

Reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis and require a rental application, but room use is at the Group C. **Use is based on availability and RPCA programs have priority.** These reservations cannot extend for longer than three months and groups are limited up to two (2) uses per month.

The other question I have is whether you partner with any other department of the City such as the Department of Community and Human Services?

Presentation to the Alexandria City Council
January 24, 2015

Mayor Euille, Members of the City Council,

My name is Nancy Blanton. I am a retired educator and a member of the Friends of the Beatley Central Library. I am here this morning to ask for your support of the Alexandria Library.

Today, you are in the process of developing the City of Alexandria's FY 2016 Budget. In these difficult fiscal times, it's critical that the City get the "biggest bang for its buck" for every dollar that we spend. For a relatively small part of the City's overall budget, the Alexandria Library provides an outstanding return on investment, particularly in support of educational achievement. Let me give you several examples.

People bring their children to the library to introduce them to books and to the joy of reading. Participating in the library's story time helps children develop pre-literacy skills and vocabulary, which are essential for academic success. When asked why the Alexandria Library is important, one parent said, "Every week, I bring my daughter, Anastasia, for story time. She looks forward to it all week. We also take out two books a week and we read every night. The library is an integral part of our lives and has become my daughter's favorite place to go."

The Library also provides opportunities for adult learners to further their education in many different ways. Here are three examples:

- For **English language learners**, the Library provides free courses to improve their language skills. My friend is a volunteer teacher for one of the classes. She has had students from over 20 countries. These adults learn vocabulary and some grammar. The goal is to give them confidence in speaking English. Then they can feel comfortable going to the store, talking to their children's teachers and handling the tasks of daily life. This is an important part of education for our community.
- For **adults pursuing academic degrees**, the Library offers access to technology and databases, research assistance, and other support. One student expressed it this way, "The library is important to me because it offers many valuable services and resources I use while pursuing my Master's degree. I belong to my library for its collection of traditional books as well as e-books. My favorite service is the vast online/e-book collection."
- For **life-long learners** the library offers a rich variety of learning opportunities. For example, there are workshops on topics like using technology, writing a resume, aging in place, and emergency preparedness. I have personally attended a number of workshops. They were all very informative and were highly rated by attendees.

As you can see from these brief examples, the Alexandria Library is what one community member described as a, “thriving center of learning.” It’s a place where both children and adults come to expand their knowledge and to grow as citizens of our community and of the world.

This past year, over 1 million people visited the Alexandria Library’s facilities and virtual library. Our Library is providing tremendous support for educational achievement in the City of Alexandria. I submit to you that this is the kind of return on investment we should be seeking. Ladies and gentlemen, I urge you to give the Alexandria Library the highest level of funding possible.

Thank you.

2
1-24-15

Jackie Henderson

From: cziegler1@hotmail.com
Sent: Sunday, January 25, 2015 3:52 PM
To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton
Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #65099: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Mayor Euille and Members of the City Cou

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 65099.

Request Details:

- Name: Charles Ziegler
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-370-0648
- Email: cziegler1@hotmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Mayor Euille and Members of the City Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to address you at the Public Hearing on January 24. I would like to follow up by transmitting to you, below, the text of my remarks, so that you can consider them in a more leisured fashion than is possible in a Public Hearing.

I would also renew my call for a genuine partnership between the Friends of the Beatley Central Library and the City Council. We of the Friends stand ready to do our part by providing significant support to the Beatley Library. As an indication of what is possible, our preliminary figures for CY 2014 indicate that the Friends' expenditures in support of the Beatley Library totaled more than \$66,000.

Finally, for your information, I attach a copy of the Restoration Engineering, Inc. report on their investigation of the severe water intrusions at the Beatley Library. As I noted, in my presentation, this report was sponsored jointly by the Library Board and the Beatley Friends.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish more information, or if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,
Charles Ziegler
Vice-President for Advocacy
Friends of the Beatley Central Library

Presentation to the Alexandria City Council
January 24, 2015

Mayor Euille, Members of the City Council,
My name is Chuck Ziegler, Vice-President for Advocacy of the Friends of the Beatley Central Library. This morning I would speak to you about the one percent; not the one percent of the super-rich that one reads about in the news, but about the one percent of the City's budget spent on its public library system, and why it is a wise investment to fund fully the Library budget this fiscal year, even in, or especially because of a challenging budgetary environment.

But first, it is necessary to re-cast our understanding of our Public Libraries. They are far more than simply facilities for making available paper-based media, such as books and magazines, as is commonly thought. The Library also supports:

-English language learners by offering free English courses every week.

-Families, by offering hundreds of programs for children that support early literacy and school readiness, an important supplement to the work of Alexandria City Public Schools. My wife and I have taken our young grandchildren to some of these programs, and found them very worthwhile.

-Small business owners, the well-being of whom is an important element for the City's overall economic health, by providing individual research assistance, meeting room spaces (something very much in demand), and technology access.

-Job seekers, by providing assistance with writing resumes and covering letters, and free access to computers and wireless services.

-Digital literacy, by providing free computer, Internet and wireless access, and free technology training.

All this for just one percent of the City's budget!! And it is important to note that the services of Alexandria's Public Libraries are available to every resident of the City, regardless of age, income level, race, religion, or any other such consideration, and many residents avail themselves of these services. In FY 2015, over 1.3 million items were borrowed from the Library; these items included not only books but e-books and movies as well. There were over one million visits to Library facilities and virtual library. Almost 50,000 people attended Library programs.

Council members should note that we don't simply come to you this morning "hat in hand," as mere supplicants, to ask for funding; rather, we are asking for your partnership in working for the high-quality library system that the City of Alexandria not only deserves but needs. The Friends of the Beatley Central Library does its part in providing financial support for the Library. We have more than 200 dues-paying members, the dues being used to help to fund various Library needs that are not covered in the formal budget. The Friends conducts very popular book sales, the most recent of which realized almost \$18,000. We have also sponsored significant joint projects with the Library Board, including the new mural in the Beatley Children's Library—come and see it!; the engineering study by Restoration Engineering, Inc., which provided a clear blueprint for the remedial work necessary to resolve the severe water intrusion problems at Beatley Central—I'll be happy to send you a copy if you wish; and upgrading the facilities in the main meeting room at Beatley Central. These efforts demonstrate, in very concrete and real terms, the profound commitment of Alexandria citizens to their Public Libraries.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not thank the City Council for its past support of Alexandria's Public Libraries, including funding of the initial phase of Beatley Central facility repairs to correct severe water infiltration; continuing to support longer hours at branch libraries, thus enabling them to be kept open one additional evening per week, a very important benefit to those who can only use the libraries outside of normal working hours; and increasing custodial services at Beatley Central to five nights per week in order to maintain clean and hygienic conditions at the library location with the highest foot traffic. I hope that similar wise and far-sighted support—indeed, partnership—will be forthcoming in the FY 2016 budget.

- Attachment: [REI Report%2c Leak Investigation.pdf](#)
- Expected Response Date: Monday, February 2

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.