### City of Alexandria, Virginia

### **MEMORANDUM**

DATE:

**FEBRUARY 17, 2016** 

TO:

THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH: MARK B. JINKS, CITY MANAGER

FROM:

HELEN MCILVAINE, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF HOUSING

KARL MORITZ, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING

SUBJECT:

RAMSEY REDEVELOPMENT - REVIEW OF OPTIONS

### Summary

City staff's review, which is anticipated to be supported by a third-party consultant, indicates that the "Hybrid Option" for the Ramsey redevelopment cannot be ruled out by the information provided by Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA) staff over the past few weeks. City staff's limited review indicates that there are very reasonable adjustments to ARHA's cost and financing assumptions that could make the hybrid option more competitive for tax credits and financially feasible. Staff's conclusions come with the significant caveat that a more detailed analysis would be necessary to come to a firmer conclusion about the hybrid option's feasibility.

The "hybrid option" preserves one of the existing Ramsey buildings and constructs a single 49-unit building on the remainder of the property. The new structure would have a partial fourth floor. A sketch of the hybrid option is attached.

#### Background

In September, City Council requested a review of alternatives to the 53-unit proposal that is now docketed for the City Council's public hearing on February 23, 2016.

Through the balance of September and early October, City staff worked with ARHA to define the options and identify the resources needed to prepare the analysis requested by Council, including City funding of the additional work required from ARHA's architects and the cost of an independent third party expert. As everyone is now aware, that process stopped in October.

In January, ARHA staff agreed to share the analysis they had prepared evaluating the relative competitiveness of the options for Low Income Housing Tax Credits. Those figures were shared

with City staff on Thursday, January 28. Breakdown of the components underlying the cost estimates for each option were shared on February 2 and February 9. Also on February 9, City staff requested and ARHA staff agreed to have an independent third-party consultant review of the tax credit workbooks for ARHA's Ramsey proposal as well as the "hybrid option" (also referred to as "Option 6" which preserves one existing building and provides 49 units in a new structure on the balance of the Ramsey property. The consultant performed an initial analysis on Tuesday, February 16.

The balance of this memorandum summarizes City staff's conclusions regarding the financial feasibility and tax credit competitiveness of the ARHA proposal and the Hybrid Option and the conclusions of the independent third party consultant. The memo concludes with some notes on the ARHA Board's timeline memo.

### **City Staff Conclusions**

While the timeframe for review was extremely limited, City staff was able to reach some conclusions:

- Among the main questions is what actions would be needed for a hybrid option that preserves one of the Ramsey buildings and allows redevelopment of the remaining site for new affordable units. This option did not initially test well (for tax credit competitiveness) when the preserved building was included as part of the tax credit project. However, at City staff's request, ARHA tested a scenario whereby the preserved building is acquired by some other entity (it also could be retained by ARHA) and would not be part of the project competing for tax credits. The remaining site would be redeveloped with a 49-unit building which would require a partial fourth floor. ARHA's analysis of the competiveness of the hybrid option is that it could be competitive, albeit with a score at the low end of the competitive range.
- If the preserved building were acquired by another entity, it could be used for residential or non-residential purposes. ARHA has estimated the cost of renovating four buildings for residential purposes at \$2.4 million dollars (in hard costs). City staff's review of the cost breakdown shows about \$1 million of that cost is not required by the building code or regulatory agency, suggesting that renovation of one preserved building could be accomplished for about \$360,000, plus soft costs and land acquisition costs (if the option involves acquisition by another entity), or about \$90,000 per unit, if it is retained as a four-unit residential structure.
- If the preserved building is acquired by another entity (such as if it is used for
  purposes other than affordable housing, or if it is used for affordable housing but
  ARHA does not wish to own or operate it), ARHA would expect to be reimbursed for
  the value of the property. The only current estimate of the value of the Ramsey
  property is the current tax assessment of \$3,792,560. If the cost to acquire one
  building is equal to one-quarter of the total value, the acquisition cost would be
  \$948,140.
- City staff also notes that in testing the various options for tax credit competitiveness, ARHA assumed some significant costs would be constant for all options. However,

some options, particularly those that preserve buildings, would have lower costs in these categories. The effect of using the same cost estimates across all options is to make the alternatives to the 53-unit option appear less competitive. More refined cost estimates for each option, and, therefore, better information about the competiveness of each option, would have been possible if work on the options had not been suspended last fall.

• While ARHA found the hybrid option to be in the competitive range for tax credits, they also estimated that the hybrid option would have a debt coverage ratio (DCR) of 1.1 to 1.16 and ARHA indicated that the DCR would have to be 1.2 at minimum to attract investors. City staff's summary review suggests that there are reasonable adjustments to ARHA's assumptions which would improve the DCR for the hybrid option to 1.2 or higher. Moreover, City staff note that 1.10-1.15 are standard Year 1 debt coverage ratios for stabilized affordable housing projects. In addition, the tax credit consultant has advised City staff that a DCR in excess of 1.25 would potentially reduce the amount of tax credits provided by VHDA since a debt coverage ratio of 1.25 or higher indicates that there is room for a project to take on additional debt.

Specifically, ARHA's anticipated project debt would be limited to ARHA's seller note (for the sale of the land), a City loan of up to \$1 million and a \$100,000 predevelopment loan to VHDA. All of these would typically be characterized as "soft pay" debt (versus "hard pay" debt), given the parties involved and their usual practices. In fact, City gap loans are almost always residual receipt "soft pay" loans – paid from cash flow, after the first trust mortgage and any deferred developer fee. But in the analysis of the Ramsey alternatives, ARHA has assumed "hard pay" debt and a higher than usual interest rate (3%) for its own loan and the City loan. City staff believes that reasonable adjustments to ARHA's planned debt structure assumptions would materially improve the debt coverage ratio.

Examples of "creative" structuring to make the project perform better include ARHA deferring some of its developer fee and establishing more favorable terms for repayment of the seller note held by ARHA (longer amortization or pay-back period and lower interest rate, etc.) or seeking better terms for the VHDA debt.

Other factors that negatively impact DCR are the high operating expense projections, especially given the property's real estate tax exempt status and the fact that the redevelopment will be new construction, with all major building components and systems under warranty for some period of time, lowering potential maintenance and repair costs. In addition, ARHA's stated requirement of having to aggregate all project soft costs incurred to date into successive options studied also drives total development cost to make the projects less competitive (in September City staff confirmed that this was not a VHDA/tax credit requirement).

Whether or not both options meet a threshold of "financially feasibility," the project's
cash flow is also an important element of the project to ARHA. ARHA's pro forma
indicates that there is a stronger cash flow from their current proposal and shifting to
the hybrid option would reduce that positive cash flow to ARHA over the long-term

by some unknown degree. Less positive cash flow to ARHA means less money available to support overall ARHA system-wide operating and capital costs.

### Conclusions of Independent Third Party Review

The City contracted with Ryne Johnson of Astoria LLC to review ARHA's draft tax credit workbooks for the proposed 53-unit development and for the hybrid option, the 49-unit project. ARHA was able to provide Mr. Johnson with the workbook for the 53-unit option in time for him to review it Tuesday February 16 but was not able to provide the workbook for the hybrid option until Wednesday February 17. Mr. Johnson will not able to complete his review of the second workbook until tomorrow, Thursday, February 18. As soon as he has completed his review, City staff will share that information with City Council.

Mr. Johnson's review of the 53-unit option did have an additional positive result in that he was able to provide ARHA with a number of suggestions for increasing the competitiveness of the 53-unit ARHA proposed project.

### City Staff Notes on the ARHA Timeline Memorandum

In addition, on February 10, the ARHA Board of Directors provided the City Council with a memorandum entitled "Update on the Ramsey Homes Redevelopment Efforts" which includes a timeline of Ramsey-related actions from the ARHA Board's perspective.

### City Staff Role

City staff's role following the September Council hearing was to try to assist ARHA in meeting their commitment to the City Council to study options. City staff's actions in this regard was to help clarify a set of options for study, identify a source of funds (other than ARHA funds) to complete the studies, and otherwise provide support for the analysis.

The timeline memorandum incorrectly suggests that the City staff had preconditions for the September 8 options that included not counting ARHA's land value, significantly reducing ARHA's developer fee, among others. The implication is that City staff was insisting that the options include elements that ARHA felt were obviously infeasible, and therefore a review of the options would be a waste of resources.

Instead, what City staff was working toward was an independent review of the options, including financial feasibility and tax credit competitiveness. So while staff indicated that elements such as the land value and developer fee should be considered, staff did not have an opinion about whether or not either element should or could be different from what ARHA was proposing.

### Source of Funds for the Alternatives Analysis

The timeline memorandum indicates that ARHA was concerned about the source of funds the City was planning to use to pay for the alternatives study. A source of City funds for ARHA's consultant costs relative to the feasibility study to review options was not specifically identified.

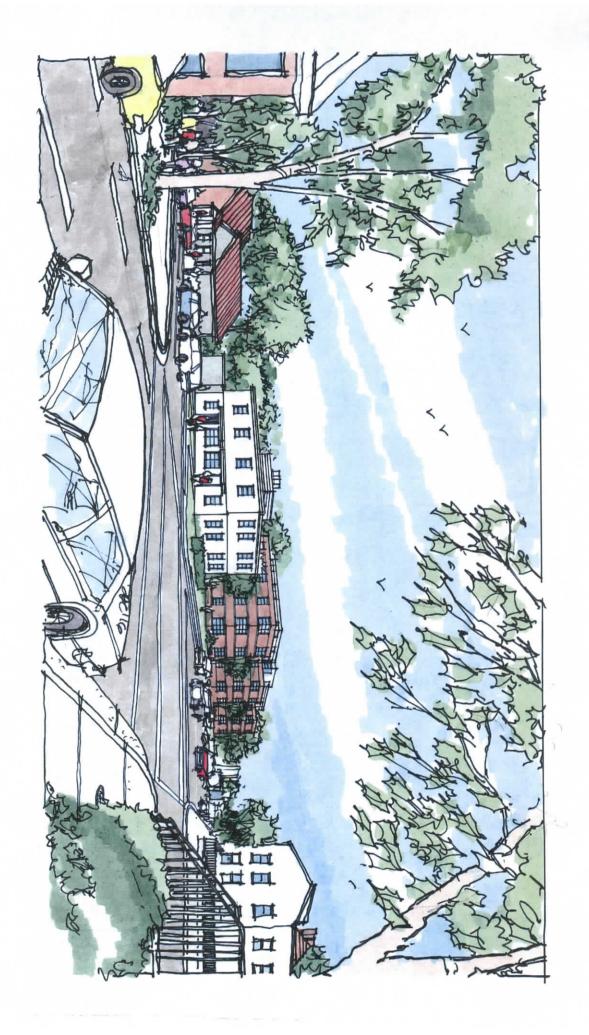
However, the City and ARHA discussed the idea of using monies from ARHA's repayment of the Glebe Park loan (derived from proceeds of the James Bland project). Prior to suspending participation in the alternatives analysis, ARHA agreed in written and verbal communication that this would be an acceptable use of these funds. When ARHA notified the City in October that it was halting the study of the alternatives, the source of funding was not raised to City staff as the issue.

ARHA has submitted invoices to the City for work performed by its own consultants (civil engineer, construction manager at risk, architects) during the two week period last fall when ARHA was participating in the alternatives analysis. Payments totaling approximately \$15,000 have been processed.

#### Cost Estimates

Over the summer and into the fall, staff investigated ARHA staff assertions that a renovation of even one of the existing buildings was not feasible because the renovated building would need to be brought up to current building code standards and that the Department of Housing and Urban Development would require significant and expensive improvements to achieve full ADA accessibility. City staff determined that most of these expenditures are not required, reducing the renovation cost by 40 percent.

Attachment: Hybrid Option Rendering



### City of Alexandria, Virginia

### **MEMORANDUM**

DATE:

**FEBRUARY 18, 2016** 

TO:

THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH: MARK B. JINKS, CITY MANAGER Mah

FROM:

HELEN MCILVAINE, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF HOUSING

KARL MORITZ, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING

SUBJECT:

TAX CREDIT CONSULTANT FINDINGS: SUPPLEMENT TO 2/17 MEMO

ON RAMSEY REDEVELOPMENT - REVIEW OF OPTIONS

Today City staff received the findings of its tax credit consultant, Ryne Johnson of Astoria LLC, with regard to his review of draft tax credit applications provided by ARHA for its proposed 53unit redevelopment of Ramsey Homes, as well as a 49-unit "hybrid option" (which accommodates preservation of one of the existing buildings). Those written findings were provided to ARHA today. A summary of the findings is outlined below:

#### 49-Unit "Hybrid Option"

With regard to the hybrid option (a 49-unit building which results in the saving of one of the existing 4-unit Ramsey homes buildings if continued as a residential use for a total of 53 units), Mr. Johnson stated:

"I was also asked to review the 49-unit deal. The estimated score is the same in all areas except for the Efficient Use of Resources (EUR). This is because in the reduction in the numbers I was given, the reduction in units did not result in a reduction in costs. I believe that with the reduction in units we should have costs that are lower than the 53 unit building has."

"However I believe that if the 49-unit building would be redesigned to be more efficient in its construction you would see a cost savings. With some of the points improvements [recommended for the 53-unit model] I believe this scenario could be made competitive in a future credit cycle." (emphasis added)

Johnson also notes that the 2016 tax credit application generally calculates slightly higher scores for deals with more than 50 units. It should be noted that the 49-unit Hybrid Option could not be considered for a 2016 tax credit application as it has not been designed and detailed sufficiently

at this point in time, and could also not obtain the needed land use approvals in time for the March 4 VHDA tax credit application deadline. The 49-unit Hybrid Option would need to be a 2017 tax credit application.

### ARHA's 53-Unit Proposal

After reviewing ARHA's draft tax credit application, a number of changes were recommended by Johnson to make ARHA's proposed program for the 53-unit development more competitive in comparison to projects likely to be submitted to VHDA in 2016 by other housing authorities. Given the strength of the competition, without those changes, Mr. Johnson questioned whether ARHA's current application would be competitive enough to be allocated tax credits by VHDA in 2016. The recommended changes Mr. Johnson has proposed relate to energy efficiency, marketing units to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities, square footage calculations, operating costs, debt coverage ratios, credit pricing, and City loan amount. ARHA staff is reviewing these recommendations and has indicated that some recommendations were ones they planned to consider in the finalizing of their tax credit application. None of these recommendations would change the size, exterior design of the proposed 53-unit building, or the DSUP details or conditions now before Council.

In regard to the City loan amount, additional tax credit points to ARHA could be earned if the amount of the proposed City loan was increased from the \$1.0 million previously recommended level to up to as much as \$1.5 million. This increase could be funded from James Bland sale proceeds which is the same source funding the \$1.0 million proposed loan. If City Council approves the 53-unit DSUP, and if ARHA requests a loan increase, City staff would recommend that the proposed \$1.0 million loan be increased to up to as much as \$1.5 million. The same terms and conditions of loan repayment would apply.

#### Consultant Qualifications

Ryne Johnson is a principal of Astoria, a real estate development and financial consulting firm. His particular expertise is in the field of low income housing tax credits, including nine years at the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA), with four as a senior allocation officer with its tax credit program. During Johnson's tenure in this role, he was instrumental in the design and implementation of VHDA's electronic tax credit application format. Johnson has been highly successful in helping nonprofit and private developers understand VHDA's criteria for winning tax credit allocations since 2012, with 41 out of 49 projects submitted being awarded tax credits.

Since the VHDA tax credit allocation process is highly competitive among non-profit housing providers and housing authorities statewide, application information is considered proprietary. Since Mr. Johnson's letter contains scoring information about specific applications, the letter contains proprietary information. As a result, his findings have been summarized in this memorandum.

#### **Gloria Sitton**

From:

Bill Hendrickson via Call.Click.Connect. <CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>

Sent:

Monday, February 15, 2016 4:44 PM

To:

City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton

Subject:

Call.Click.Connect. #89923: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Dear Mayor Silberberg, Vice

Mayor Wilson

### Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 89923.

#### Request Details:

Name: Bill Hendrickson

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 703-519-9410Email: whendrick@aol.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council

Request Description: Dear Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, and City Council members:

Your February 20 public hearing docket includes a proposal from the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA) to build new mixed-income housing units on the site of the historic Ramsey Homes public housing complex, which ARHA plans to demolish.

I agree with the majority of the Planning Commission that this proposal is flawed, and urge you to defer action in order to consider alternatives that would preserve one or more of the Ramsey Homes while also meeting ARHA's needs.

Such an outcome clearly seems possible. At the Planning Commission hearing on this proposal, the planning director acknowledged that at least one alternative appears to be viable. Indeed, this proposal was discussed at the hearing. In addition, Commissioner Stephen Koenig of the Planning Commission, who is an architect, stated that, based on his examination of the property and the proposal, he could see the potential for a creative solution that would meet all or most of the needs of the stakeholders.

At the appeal of the Parker-Gray Board of Architecture Review's unanimous decision to oppose demolition of the Ramsey Homes, Council members asked that alternatives to the current ARHA proposal be examined.

This never happened, because it appears that ARHA has never been willing to seriously consider any alternative, including financing the rehabilitation of all 15 units with historic rehabilitation tax credits.

As the planning staff report pointed out, ARHA did not provide staff with sufficient information to examine alternatives.

My experience with the staff is that they have been very creative in working out solutions in situations like this one. But that didn't happen in this case, because they were instructed to support ARHA's plan, according to what I have been told.

It seems clear that from the outset, ARHA has been betting that because its proposal would provide affordable housing units and because affordable housing is such a high Council priority, Council would approve the project, despite considerable opposition.

ARHA has claimed that it must have approval for its project now because of a deadline for applying for affordable housing tax credits, but it has not provided evidence that a delay would truly harm its interests or its mission.

ARHA has also claimed that an alternative that would rehabilitate one or more of the Ramsey Homes buildings

would need to be paid for by the city or another entity, because ARHA could not afford to do so on its own. But ARHA has not provided evidence that this is true. This kind of detail has been worked out with private developers many times in the past, as you know and as ARHA's lawyer knows.

At the Planning Commission hearing, ARHA's Roy Priest also claimed that if the project is not approved, ARHA will need to relocate the current residents of the Ramsey Homes, because the housing is no longer in acceptable condition. If that is the case, why are people living there now? Please do not give in to scare tactics.

Alexandria has an enormous need for an affordable housing. If you approve this project, it will still have an enormous need.

But why give in now when it is clear that there is at least one alternative proposal that would add a considerable number of affordable units to this site while preserving at least one of the Ramsey Homes buildings?

Please remember that the Ramsey Homes were among the first public housing units to be provided to African Americans in Alexandria. The residents who lived there were proud of the fact that they were finally being giving the same sort of benefits white people had been getting from the government, even if that housing was in a segregated neighborhood.

But because of segregation, the area in Alexandria where the Ramsey Homes are located became an exceptionally important neighborhood for African Americans. In recognition of that, the Ramsey Homes were included as contributing structures to the Parker-Gray National Register Historic District.

ARHA is in the process of demolishing every single public housing unit in Alexandria, and in the process effectively obliterating a very important story in American history in Alexandria. The vast majority of those public housing units have no historic or architectural significance. But based on the substantial research done in this case, the Ramsey Homes are special and therefore deserving of preservation and rehabilitation for housing or some other use. You can tell the story of the Ramsey Homes through exhibits and other forms of interpretation, but you can never replace the vitality of an actual building or object. A building lost is never regained.

Sincerely,

#### Bill Hendrickson

P.S. The views in this letter are my own. As you know, I am chair of the Historic Alexandria Resources Commission (HARC). At its January 19 meeting, HARC voted to ask the Planning Commission to defer ARHA's application until options for preserving the Ramsey Homes are reviewed by an independent construction cost estimator and public housing consultant, and the federal Section 106 historical review process is complete. I supported this proposal. You should have a copy of the letter I sent to the Planning Commission.

Expected Response Date: Monday, February 22

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 <a href="mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov">CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov</a> or call 703.746.HELP.

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

#### **Gloria Sitton**

From: Jackie Henderson

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 10:28 AM

To:Gloria SittonSubject:FW: ramsey

Attachments: 14-4738\_Ramsey Homes HOF Loan Application (1).pdf

For the record.

From: Karl Moritz

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 10:28 AM

**To:** Jackie Henderson **Subject:** FW: ramsey

From: Salena Zellers [mailto:salena@bioinjury.com]

Sent: Monday, February 15, 2016 1:57 PM

**To:** Karl Moritz **Subject:** ramsey

Karl – there were a couple of things in the PC Staff Report that I thought were not correct and was hoping you could look at before finalizing the CC Staff Report: the amount of the loan requested is \$1 million – not \$2 million (see loan application attached) and the Community meetings were many more than you have listed. So it should say that this list is not all inclusive. For example – I know there were several BMCC meetings and I attended at least one WOTCA meeting with Roy. Thanks for all the feedback.

Salena

S

Salena Zellers Schmidtke Safety Research & Strategies, Inc BioInjury, LLC Direct Line 703-980-2047



PHRONG COMMUNITY
PARTHERSHIPS

### ALEXANDRIA REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY

Roy O. Priest, Chief Executive Officer

February 2, 2016

Eric P. Keeler Program Administrator Division Chief Office of Housing 421 King Street, Suite 200 Alexandria, VA 22314

RE: Housing Opportunities Loan (HOF) Application

Dear Mr. Keeler,

Ramsey Homes, located at 699 North Patrick Street, consisting of four buildings, comprised of four-two bedroom units in each building, is the subject of a rezoning application to rezone the subject property from RB (Townhouse Zone) to CRMU-M (Commercial Residential Mixed Use). The rezoning application and Development Special Use Permit proposes a 3-Story, 53 Unit Multi-family development with an underground garage suitable to park 29 spaces. The zoning entitlement process requires approvals from the Board of Architectural Review, the Planning Commission and City Council.

On November 25, 2015, the City of Alexandria Office of Planning and Zoning released its Verification of Completeness Letter for DSUP#2014-0035. ARHA's application will be heard by the Planning Commission on February 2, 2016.

As the City of Alexandria will require certain offsite improvements including, pedestrian crossings, pedestrian signalization, brick crosswalks, undergrounding of utilities, off-site parking for construction workers, and other improvements or exactions that are restricted from the use of tax credit equity, ARHA is requesting a loan from the HOF in the amount of \$1,000,000 to fund the requested improvements. Please find enclosed our submission package in accordance with the checklist of required documents.

Please let us know if you have questions as you review this request and the supporting materials. You may contact Project Manager, Leroy Battle at 703-549-7115 ext. 150 or Director of Development, Connie Staudinger at ext. 164.

**Executive Director and CEO** 

### **Ramsey Homes Redevelopment Project Narrative**

The redevelopment of the Ramsey Homes site (the "Project") is consistent with the ARHA 2012-2022 Strategic Plan, the City's Housing Master Plan and the Braddock East Master Plan ("BEMP"). The Project involves the redevelopment of an underutilized and obsolete public housing site into a mixed-income, affordable, multi-family rental housing site.

The Project site is .71 acres, occupying one half of a city block, the east side of the 600 block of North Patrick Street between Pendleton and Wythe Street. The site is currently improved with (15) two-bedroom townhomes in four buildings. Three of the buildings are quadruplexes and one is a triplex. The existing structures were built in 1942. The buildings' floors, walls and roof were built of 1-1/2" precast concrete slabs. Numerous modifications have been made to the structures since the initial construction, diluting the architectural historic significance of the Project.

The density of this site is specifically identified in the BEMP at a maximum FAR of 2.0; this represents an increase in the current FAR, necessitated by the goal of integrating the existing 15 households throughout a larger community of families with higher incomes. ARHA is requesting a 2.0 FAR.

A mix of public housing and market-rate housing and, where possible an element of affordable and/or workforce housing is recommended in the Plan. This Project includes an approximate 30%/70% ratio of low-income households to households with incomes up to a workforce housing income. The unit mix is driven by market factors, land value, public policy and funding availability and terms. The BEMP recognizes that these and other variables will drive the viability of redevelopment projects, and ARHA's ability to meet the BEMP's objectives. Specifically, the BEMP notes:

The precise ratio for this mix should be determined through the development planning process, as it will be influenced by the funding available at that time.

It is fair to say that the market conditions in the Fall of 2008, when the BEMP was published and the economy fell into a deep recession, is far different than current conditions. It is exactly for these reasons that the BEMP deliberately avoids being prescriptive and allows for the flexibility necessary to meet the Plan's objectives, particularly with respect to the number and ratio of public housing units retained on the original site. The BEMP notes that "basing any recommendations regarding unit mix/unit retention on current (10/08) market conditions and current funding expectations would be unreliable."

The focus of the ARHA Strategic Plan is on preserving ARHA's present affordable housing stock until opportunities arise that will enable ARHA to substantially improve conditions while complying with Alexandria's ordinance mandating preservation or replacement of ARHA's affordable housing (Resolution 830). ARHA recognized that it is not enough to provide sustainable affordable housing; we must also ensure that the housing we provide meets qualitative standards that are acceptable to ARHA, our funding providers and to the greater Alexandria community. We are actively pursuing opportunities that improve housing quality and add to the number of affordable units whenever economically and financially appealing prospects occur. The overriding recent and present objective has been to pursue

these opportunities with caution in a manner consistent with ARHA's core mission and principles. A further objective has been to improve the quality of our existing affordable housing stock in a manner that it becomes indistinguishable from other housing prevalent in the surrounding neighborhoods. We believe that the concept for this Project advances the ARHA Strategic Plan objectives. The Project, as it exists today, cannot be renovated to meet current codes. HUD requires that any renovation meet 504 Accessibility code and the Project, in its current configuration cannot be renovated to meet the code (see Rehabilitation versus Redevelopment below).

More than 40% (14,353 households) of the overall rental housing demand in the city consists of households with incomes at or below 60% AMI. For extremely low-income households within this group (those at or below 30% AMI), there are no committed permanent affordable units or market affordable units subsidized to be affordable to this income level outside of a limited number of project based Section 8 units, ARHA-owned public housing and some operated by city or nonprofit agencies for the benefit of special needs clients. This mixed-income Project would be available to the extremely low-income families that reside at the Project today, as well as to households at up to 60% of the AMI which is the city Workforce Housing limit for rental housing.

This concept redevelops the Ramsey Homes public housing site into vibrant and sustainable mixed-income housing which is consistent with the BEMP. The Project provides an appropriate level of residential density given that it is within a ½-mile radius from the Braddock Road metrorail station, thereby better utilizing transportation infrastructure and potentially decreasing negative impacts of car traffic. The BEMP encourages greater mobility, especially for those with limited access to automobiles<sup>iii</sup>. This Project achieves this.

The 15 public housing families that are being displaced will be given the option to move to another comparable public housing unit or, they can elect to accept a Tenant Protection Voucher ("TPV") that they can use to find housing available in the private sector where the landlord will accept a voucher. This relies on ARHA's ability to obtain the TPVs from HUD with the approval of a HUD Disposition Application that must be submitted for the site. ARHA will pay all costs of the move. The households displaced by the redevelopment of the Project will be given the first opportunity to return to the newly constructed Project.

Should the existing 15 households chose to return, they will be in community with an additional thirty eight (38) households with incomes up to 50% and 60% of the Area Median Income. This will provide for a mix of incomes to replace the exclusive public housing that exists on the site today, with the ultimate goal of providing improved residential and social conditions for the residents of the new Project, as well as the surrounding neighborhoods. ARHA has received a \$855,482 Replacement Housing Factor fund grant from HUD for its Glebe Park and James Bland efforts. These grant funds are only available for the redevelopment of new public housing units. In order to utilize these grant funds, ARHA must include four (4) PH unit rents in the redeveloped project. ARHA would also take the 50 points available in the Tax Credit Reservation Application for any development in which the greater of 5 units or 10% are assisted by federal project-based rent subsidies and will confirm to accessibility requirements of section 504 of the rehabilitation act. In this case then, ARHA would be building 6 units as PH; the remaining 9 Resolution 830 units would be rented to households at or below 30% of the Area Median Income. It is also intended that some households will continue to be subsidized through TPVs or the Housing Choice Voucher Program and yet others will pay rents set by the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (Tax Credit) funding for households at up to 50 – 60% of AMI.

ARHA Ramsey Homes DSUP Application, July 17, 2015

Consistent with the BMNP and BEMP, this Project promotes a diversity of housing types at differing levels of affordability to accommodate households with a broad range of income levels within the community. Also consistent with the Plan, affordability is being maximized by this location-efficient Project.

The Project includes the removal of all existing improvements and the construction of a total of fifty-three (53) rental units in two, 3-story buildings. The parking will be accommodated below grade in a structured parking facility. While the number of parking spaces provided will not meet the BEMP suggested .75 spaces per unit, under the recently adopted parking standards, the 29 spaces being provided will exceed the required number of spaces and a parking reduction SUP will not be required.

The development team has worked closely with city staff to develop the Project size, massing, height and architectural character so as to achieve compatibility with the historic Parker-Gray District and to have a competitive tax credit application. The multi-family buildings have been skillfully designed in the Contemporary Classical vernacular of architecture; 3 stories high. The proposed Project complies with the fundamental intent and height envisioned by the Braddock East Master Plan.

The 3-story configuration and the relationship of height and width being proposed reflects the prevailing pattern along the blockface. The development proposal is for structures that are not higher than 39 feet. The 3 – story height is also consistent with the BEMP in that it recognizes the suggestion that new buildings should be generally no more than one-story higher than adjacent buildings.

The design includes pedestrian-friendly details in order to address the alleyway to the east and to give deference to the Watson Reading Room, and the Black History Museum which share the block and have entrances/exits that view some part of the rear of the buildings.

Wythe Street is noted in the Braddock Metro Neighborhood Plan as a "walking" street (between West and Washington), and is therefore being treated as such by providing an 18 foot street level setback from the curb to the face of the building.

The design team made decisions regarding the heights based on information included in the Zoning Ordinance, the Board of Architectural Review Work Sessions, the applicable Small Area Plans and ultimately, discussions with City staff. As a result, the proposed is considerate of all recommendations and balances the needs for open space, parking, a viable Project and setbacks. A green edge has been provided along all street edges. North Patrick Street sets back 14 to 15 feet and Pendleton Street sets back by 14 feet.

This creates a court for recreation and play and softens the edge on Patrick. The South Building fronts the sidewalk. Both buildings have entry doors to the ground floor units which help bring a human and pedestrian scale to the building. There is an approximately 40' wide landscaped courtyard between the two buildings that provides a safe area for children and families to gather and play. The vocabulary is urban and transitional in style, with clean lines and simple geometry; there is 59% brick cover. There are indentations that become natural transition points for material breaks.

There is 16% open space at ground level which will be programmed to be meaningful with climbing walls, vertical gardens, tot lot, seat walls and lush landscaping. The balance of the required 40% open space will be made up with 2 rooftop terraces, one on each building. The rooftop terraces will have both active and passive spaces for gatherings and game playing.

The interior of the buildings will function as multifamily rental units. Six of the units will be constructed as Accessible (as defined in the code) for individuals with special needs, meaning that all required accessibility features are present at first occupancy. The remaining units on the first floor will be designed to meet Type B units, consistent with the design and construction requirements of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and federal Fair Housing Act. A Type B unit is constructed to a convertible level of accessibility than an Accessible unit, geared more toward persons with lesser mobility impairments. In order to accommodate the Accessible units, there are accessible parking spaces in the parking garage and one elevator, per building, on the garage level with stops on each of the three floors and the rooftop so that the amenities for the accessible units are identical to the other units.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ARHA 2012 – 2022 Strategic Plan

<sup>&</sup>quot;City Housing Master Plan (December 14, 2013)

iii Braddock East Master Plan (October, 2008)

USES	
Contractor Costs	
Unit Structures (New)	5,760,157
Structured Parking Garage	1,658,695
Land Development	1,138,058
Off-Site Improvements	850,000 9 406 910
Subtotal General Requirements	676,019
Contractor Overhead	558,518
Contractor Profit	2. 30, 740
Performance Bond	
Hard Cost Contingency	
Subtotal	\$10,641,447
Financing Costs	
Construction Loan Origination Fee	103,528
Construction Period Interest	96,000
Capitalized Soft Debt Interest	
Permanent Loan Fees	
Closing Costs- Construction	
Closing Costs- Permanent	
Other Financing Costs	#100 F26
Sub-Total	\$199,528
Soft Costs	
Architecture	535,590
Site Engineering Survey	155,450
Structural Mechanical Study	1,500
EarthCraft/Leeds	18,000
Environmental Study	9,290
Traffic Engineer	2,800
Land Use Attorney	122,410
Building Permit	50,935
Appraisal	3,500
Market Study	3.500
Legal (Tax and Real Estate)	150,000
Title and Recording	26,000
Insurance during construction	19,225
Organization Costs	10,953
Accounting	28,000
Cost Certification	30,000
Tax Credit Fees	84,333
Relocation Assistance	45,000
Fixtures, Furnishing & Equipment	260,000
History Consultant	139,600
History Miligation	50,000 4,680
HUD Disposition Fee	25,000
Soft Cost Contingency Subtotal	\$1,775,766
Suppositi	31,77,4700
Reserves	
Operating	126,313
Replacement	15,900
Subtotal	\$142,213
Developer Fees Overhead	\$1,720,000
Acquisition Costs Land	3,527,878
Building	264,682
Subtotal	\$3,792,560
TOTAL USES	\$18,129,301
SOURCES	000 130
HUD Replacement Housing Funds	855,428
9º 5 LHTC	12,522,983
ARHA Loan A	3,792,560 858,330
City Loan Up to \$1M) VRDA REACH Loan	100,000
TOTAL SOURCES	\$18,129,301
* N. C.   N. C.   T. C.   T. C.   T. C.	310,127,501

### Cash Flow (First Year)

Annual EGI Low-Income Units		\$722,588
2. Annual EGI Market Units	+	\$0
3. Total Effective Gross Income	=	\$722,588
4. Total Expenses		\$399,218
5. Net Operating Income	=	\$323,370
6. Total Annual Debt Service	-	\$240,089
7. Cash Flow Available for Distribution	= -	\$83,281
	-	

### Projections for Financial Feasibility - 40 Year Projections of Cash Flow

Estimated Annual Percentage Increase in Revenue 2.00% (Must be  $\le 2\%$ )
Estimated Annual Percentage Increase in Expenses 3.00% (Must be  $\ge 3\%$ )

		Stabilized			
	Year l	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Eff. Gross Income	722,588	737,039	751,780	766,816	782,15
Less Oper. Expenses	399,218	411,195	423,530	436,236	449.32
Net Income	323,370	325,845	328,250	330,580	332,82
Less Debt Service	240,089	240,089	240,089	240,089	240,08
Cash Flow	83,281	85.756	88.161	90,490	92,74
Debt Coverage Ratio	1.35	1.36	1 37	1.38	1.30

	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Eff. Gross Income	797,795	813,751	830,026	846,627	863,559
Less Oper. Expenses	462,803	476,687	490,988	505,717	520,889
Net Income	334,992	337.064	339.038	340.909	342,670
Less Debt Service	240,089	240,089	240,089	240,089	240,089
Cash Flow	94,903	96,975	98,949	100,820	102,581
Debt Coverage Ratio	1.40	1,40	1.41	1.42	1.43

	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Year 14	Year 15
Eff. Gross Income	880,830	898,447	916,416	934,744	953,439
Less Oper. Expenses	536,516	552,611	569,189	586,265	603,853
Net Income	344,315	345,836	347,226	348,479	349,586
Less Debt Service	240,089	240,089	240,089	240,089	240.089
ARHA Loan Paydown	104.226	105,747	107,137	108,390	109,497
Debt Coverage Ratio	1,43	1.44	1.45	1.45	1.46

	Year 16	Year 17	Year 18	Year 19	Year 20
Eff. Gross Income	972,508	991,958	1,011,797	1,032,033	1,052,674
Less Oper. Expenses	621,969	640.628	659,847	679,642	700.03
Net Income	350,539	351,330	351,951	352,391	352,643
Less Debt Service	240,089	240,089	240,089	240,089	240,08
Cash Flow	110,450	111,241	111,862	112,302	112,55
Debt Coverage Ratio	1.46	1.46	1.47	1,47	1.47

	Year 21	Year 22	Year 23	Year 24	Year 25
Eff. Gross Income	1,073,727	1,095,202	1,117,106	1,139,448	1,162,23
Less Oper. Expenses	721,032	742,663	764,943	787,891	811,52
Net Income	352,695	352,539	352,163	351,557	350,70
Less Debt Service	240,089	240,089	240,089	240.089	240.08
Cash Flow	112,606	112,450	112,074	111,468	110,62
Debt Coverage Ratio	1.47	1.47	1.47	1.46	1.46

	Year 26	Year 27	Year 28	Year 29	Year 30
Eff. Gross Income	1,185,482	1,209,191	1,233,375	1,258,043	1,283,203
Less Oper. Expenses	835,874	860,950	886,779	913,382	940,78.
Net Income	349.608	348,241	346.597	344,661	342,42
Less Debt Service	240,089	240,089	240,089	240,089	240,08
Cash Flow	109,519	108,152	106,508	104,572	102,33
Debt Coverage Ratio	1.46	1.45	1.44	1.44	1.43

	Year 31	Year 32	Year 33	Year 34	Year 35
Eff. Gross Income	1,308,868	1,335,045	1,361,746	1,388,981	1,416,760
Less Oper. Expenses	969,007	998,077	1,028.019	1,058.860	1,090.626

## Net Income 339,861 336,968 333,726 330,121 326,135 Less Debt Service 339,861 336,968 333,726 330,121 326,135 Cash Flow 339,861 336,968 333,726 330,121 326,135

No Debt after Yr 30

Debt	Coverage	Ratio
------	----------	-------

	Year 36	Year 37	Year 38	Year 39	Year 40
Eff. Gross Income	1,445,096	1,473,997	1,503,477	1,533,547	1,564,218
Less Oper. Expenses	1,123,345	1,157,045	1,191,756	1,227,509	1,264,334
Net Income	321.751	316,953	311.721	306.038	299,884
Less Debt Service					·
Cash Flow	321,751	316,953	311,721	306,038	299,884

Debt Coverage Ratio

February 12, 2016

Dear Mayor and City Council members,

The Alexandria Housing Affordability Advisory Committee (AHAAC) wishes to express its support of the Ramsey Homes' affordable housing plan that will guide the redevelopment of this property into a mixed income community. AHAAC has followed this planning initiative closely, thanks to regular presentations from ARHA and housing staff.

On February 4, the Committee voted to approve the affordable housing plan and a permanent loan to ARHA of up to \$1,000,000 for redevelopment. We note and applaud the Ramsey Homes' affordable housing plan (as part of the DSUP) with the policies and goals of the Housing Master Plan: with AHAAC's ongoing efforts to increase the number of affordable housing units in Alexandria. This redevelopment will not only house the 15 tenants currently there, but it will add 38 new units affordable to households at 50% and 60% AMI.

We ask City Council to approve the Ramsey Homes SUP redevelopment plan.

Please contact me if you have any questions about AHAAC's action regarding the Ramsey Homes affordable housing plan.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Katharine Dixon

Chair, Alexandria Housing Affordability Advisory Committee

### **Gloria Sitton**

From: Gregory Cord via Call.Click.Connect. <CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2016 6:57 PM **To:** Jackie Henderson; Gloria Sitton

Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #89995: City Clerk and Clerk of Council I would like to submit my

disapproval of

#### Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call. Click. Connect. The request ID is 89995.

#### Request Details:

Name: Gregory Cord

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 703-838-8060Email: gcord-mys@att.net

Service Type: City Clerk and Clerk of Council

Request Description: I would like to submit my disapproval of the proposed Ramsey re-development to the City Council. I hope this is the right venue. I live on Pendleton Street, adjacent to the Ramsey development. I am opposed to replacing the low density housing with high density (16 units replaced by 54). If the units have to be modernized or replaced I would like to see something much less than 54 units, maybe half of that. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards Greg Cord

Expected Response Date: Tuesday, February 23

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>CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703 746 HELP.

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

myeneya ranawa

# RAMSEY UNDERGROUND GARAGE

design violations

# Calculating the Turning Radius of the Vehicle

- There are two ways to calculate turning radius of a vehicle:
- <u>Curb-to-curb -</u> indicates that a street would have to be this wide before a car can make a U-turn and not hit a street curb with a wheel
- <u>Wall-to-wall -</u> denotes how far apart the two walls would have to be to allow a U-turn without scraping the walls
- Because the Ramsey garage entrance is on the alley and "walled in" by surrounding houses, the wall-to-wall radius should be used for all Ramsey garage calculations.

### Level of Service for Vehicular Circulation

Table I		
Level of Service (LOS)	Traffic Flow Description	Parking Condition  Description
<b>A</b>	Free Flow	Drivers can enter stall with Virtually no hesitation or delay
В	Stable Flow	Drivers have above average Freedom in entering the stall
С	Stable Flow	Drivers feel somewhat Restricted but not objectionably so
D	Approaching Instability	Drivers have little freedom to Maneuver
E	Unstable Flow	Substantial restriction and delay
F	Forced Flow	Most drivers have difficulty; Some choose to park elsewhere Rather than attempt to park in this location

■ Landscape Architectural Graphic Standards ISBN 978-0-470-06797-0

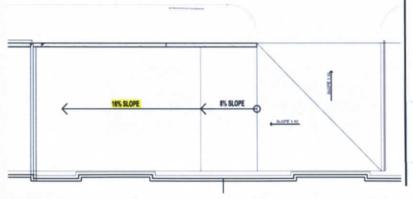
# Design Parameters in numbers

RECOMMENDED DESIGN PARAMETER	RS FOR VE	HICULAF	CIRCU	LATION
Design Standard For: Non-Parking Roadways and Express Ramps	LOS D	LOS C	LOS B	LOS A
Clearance to obstructions 2	0'6"	1'0"	1'6"	2'0"
Radius, turning 3,4 (outside front wheel)	24'0"	30'0"	36'0"	42'0"
Express ramp slope (more than 6 ft rise	) 14%	12%	10%	8%

- From edge of lane to wall, column, parked vehicle or other obstruction, per AASHTO 1990 Figure III-25
- 3. LOS D per AASHTO 1990 Figure II-1
- 4. Left turns @ radius are LOS ( )+; right turns are LOS ( )-

### Garage slope I

Proposed 16% grade

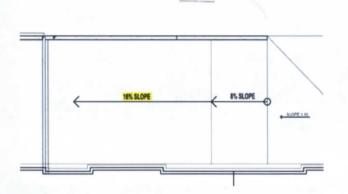


### Fails to satisfy LOS D of 14%

RECOMMENDED DESIGN PARAMETERS FOR VEHICULAR CIRCULATION							
Design Standard For: Non-Parking Roadways and Express Ramps		LOS D	LOS C	LOS B	LOS A		
Clearance to obstructions	2	0'6"	1'0"	1'6"	2'0"		
Radius, turning	3,4	24'0"	30'0"	36'0"	42'0"		
(outside front wheel)							
Express ramp slope (more than	n 6 ft rise)	(14%)	12%	10%	8%		

### Garage slope II

Proposed 16% grade



Evanston, IL allows 12% max

Additional Design Guidelines for Parking Lots and Garages City of Evanston

These guidelines supplement the requirements found in the Evanston Zoning Code and must be followed unless exceptions are approved by the Directors of Public Works and Community Development. These do not apply to single family houses.

### Ramp Slopes

If there are adjacent parking stalls the slope will be 6% maximum

If there are no adjacent parking stalls:

The slope will be 6% maximum if the ramp has no snow melting
The slope will be 12% maximum if it has snow melting
The slope will be 15% maximum if it is inside a building

# Proposed garage entrance site



### Garage entrance obstacles I

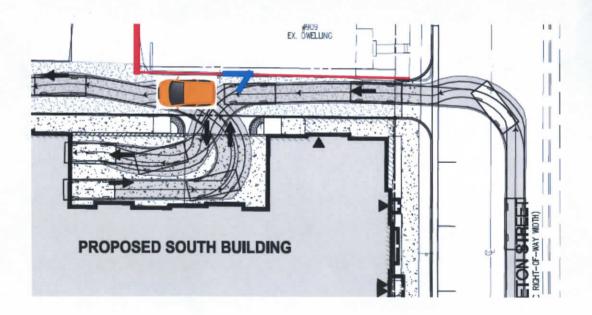
Trash bin for garbage pickup placed in the alley (deduct 3 ft. from effective alley width)

Side door to the backyard opens into the alley (deduct 3 ft. from effective alley width)



## Garage entrance obstacles II

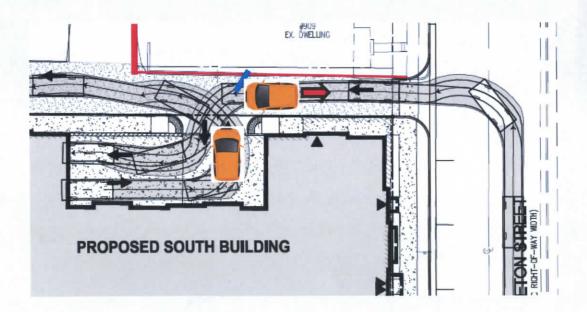
Owner of 909 Pendleton St loading/unloading belongings through side door and blocks ALL garage traffic



### Garage entrance obstacles III

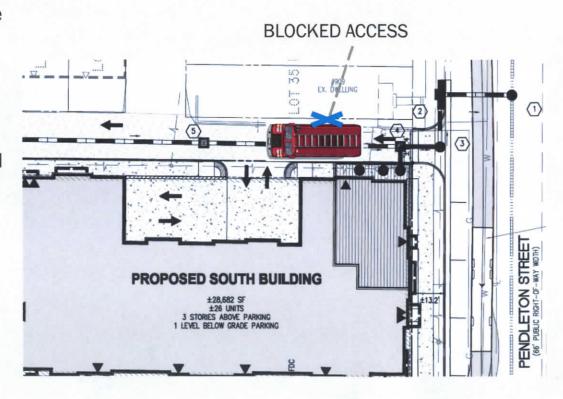
Someone has to back up in this situation.

Car backing in the alley can crash in 909 Pendleton St dwelling during this maneuver

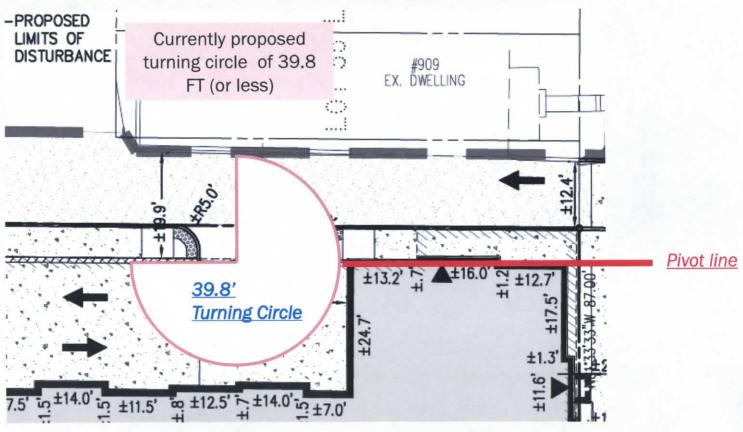


### Firetruck limitations

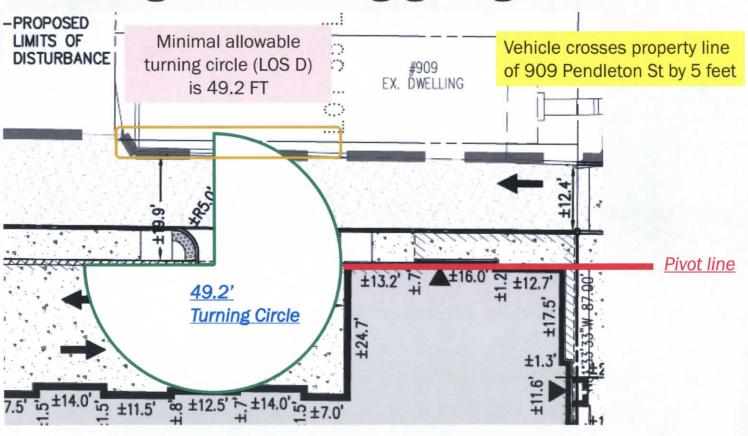
- Alley width is 12 ft between the curb and house wall at 909
   Pendleton St
- Firetruck width is 9 ft
- Firemen need 5 ft access on each side of fire apparatus and access to right side of firetruck is blocked by building at 909 Pendleton St



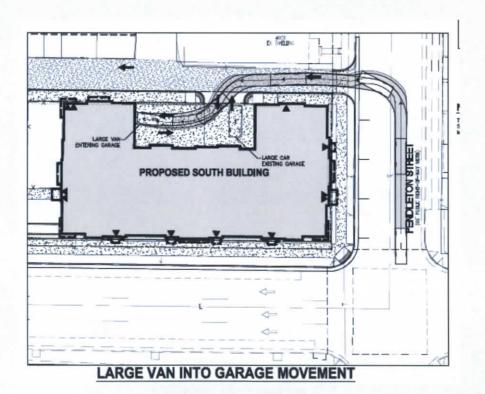
### Entering and exiting garage



## Entering and exiting garage



### Entering and exiting garage



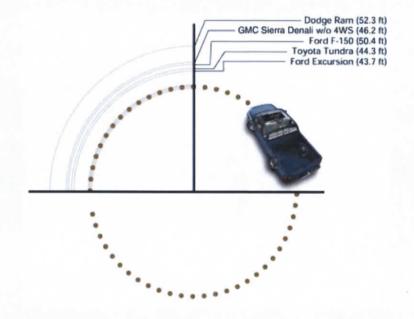
There is no diagram for vans or other large vehicles exiting garage in the ARHA application



It is NOT POSSIBLE for large van or other vehicle to exit the garage towards Wythe St with 19.9ft turning radius (39.8 ft turning circle)

- NO CAR WITH TURNING CIRCLE (wall to wall) EXCEEDING 38 FT IS CAPABLE OF EXITING GARAGE WITHOUT BACKING UP
- Lincoln town car 42FT
- GMC Terrain 42.6FT
- Toyota Camry 38.7FT
- City of Piedmont, CA is using 45FT as a minimal clearance radius for a STANDARD car

http://www.ci.piedmont.ca.us/publicworks/docs/planning/parking.pdf

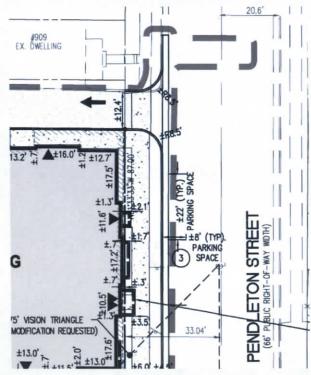


# Concerns Presented to ARHA and the City of Alexandria:

- Can ARHA demonstrate that a VAN equipped for handicapped mobility can exit the garage in a single maneuver?
- What transportation level of service was used in the garage planning and design?
- Are there other successful examples- in Alexandria, Virginia, or nationwide- of similar garage projects that exit into a narrow public alley bounded by a private property wall? If so, what are the turning circle and alley width for similar projects?

# Concerns Presented to ARHA and the City of Alexandria:

 What is the justification for removing parking space in front of 909 Pendleton St?



From: Jackie Henderson

Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 7:33 AM

To: Gloria Sitton

**Subject:** FW: Response to ARHA's Request for Deferral

From: Glen Roe [mailto:rglenroe@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 20, 2016 7:34 AM

To: Allison Silberberg; Justin Wilson; Paul Smedberg; Timothy Lovain; Del Pepper; John Chapman; Willie Bailey

**Cc:** Karl Moritz; Joanna Anderson; Jackie Henderson **Subject:** Response to ARHA's Request for Deferral

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council, Director Moritz, City Clerk Henderson, and City Attorney Anderson-

Below please find my updated position in response to ARHA's request to defer the DSUP. In this Email, I will outline: 1) my reaction to the proposal to defer, 2) my position that all three proposals (the Master Plan Amendment (hereafter "Amendment"), Rezoning, and DSUP) should be considered concurrently, 3) my thoughts on why ARHA has submitted this deferral, and 4) lastly a potential compromise.

#### Reaction

I am relieved that ARHA is willing to work further to explore hybrid options. However, I am extremely disappointed that ARHA has again put our community in this position, and as a collective whole, we are considering options quite literally at the eleventh hour. This process does a disservice to the City Council, City staff, ARHA, and, most importantly, the citizens of Alexandria. Thus far ARHA has proven themselves unable to deliver on promises given to Council, and have done little to suggest the situation will change in the moving forward.

Regardless, I believe ARHA's intentions are pure and motives valid. My support for affordable housing has actually increased throughout this process. It is also important to remember that the vast majority of the neighbors support affordable housing and increased density on the site. Progress has been made, but we still have a long way to go. ARHA's request to defer is a positive first step for the community, but it is just that - a first step. It is vital, as this process moves forward, that the rights and privileges afforded to citizens are not diluted and remain protected.

#### **Concurrent Consideration**

At the February 2nd meeting, Planning Commissioner Dunn abstained from the Amendment and Rezoning vote. I cannot speak for Comm. Dunn, but his statements indicated he did so because it is non-sensical to approve an Amendment and Rezoning without a specific DSUP accompanying the request. If the Amendment and Rezoning are approved, the DSUP is never resubmitted, and property is boarded up, any use allowed under Commercial Residential Mixed Use - Medium (CRMU-M) could occur on the property with HUD-approved disposition and Section 106 approval.

For example, ARHA has indicated that by missing the March 4th LIHTC deadline the property might never be redeveloped and would be boarded up. It is therefore entirely possible that the Ramsey Homes property could end up in the hands of a private developer. Pursuant to Section 5-202 of the Alexandria City Code ("Code"), a

developer could construct a parking lot, a convenience store within an office (or a rehabilitated Ramsey Home), or a personal service establishment, and the neighborhood would be unable to oppose any of these uses.

I urge you, under the strongest terms, to consider all three of these proposals concurrently. ARHA will argue that if the Amendment and Rezoning are denied they cannot be reconsidered for a full year. However, if the proposal is materially different, pursuant to Section 11-904 it can be considered within six months.

It is important to remember that we are only in this position as a result of decisions made and actions taken by ARHA. The neighboring property owners should not bear a burden because ARHA has had poor planning. The three requests were submitted to be reviewed at the same meeting (I am aware there would have always been three separate votes) and should be considered in tandem.

#### Reasons for ARHA Deferral

I was initially happy to hear that ARHA would be deferring the DSUP. However, Upon consideration and analysis, I believe that this request is deliberate and designed to maximize ARHA's leverage moving forward. Pursuant to Section 11-808 of the Code, the property owners' petition protest applies to zoning map amendments. A DSUP can be approved by City Council by a simple majority. By presenting this deferral as a compromise (one I believe disengenuous), Mr. Blair is in effect removing one of the most important means of protest available to citizens -- the required super majority vote.

The Code provides citizens the right to a super majority vote on a zoning map amendment when a petition is submitted. It would be extremely rare for a property-zoning amendment to be submitted without a corresponding DSUP. This process-norm is reinforced by the Code 11-808 when it specifically excludes large-scale map amendments, and city-owned property, from protest. Protest is not meant to allow citizens the opportunity to slow or obstruct the planning process for the greater good. Rather, it is intended to protect individual neighboring property owners in situations such as the one before us today.

Mr. Blair would not have asked for deferral on the DSUP if he had the votes to get the measures passed. He had until yesterday at noon, Code 11-904 (C), to withdraw the Amendment and Rezoning -- but he chose not to take that route. Here again, City Council is put in a difficult position largely due to actions taken by the applicant. Had all three issues been deferred or withdrawn for consideration at a later date the community would not be as concerned with this request for a deferral.

#### **Opportunity for Compromise**

Regardless of perceived motives by Mr. Blair, I can appreciate ARHA looking for a commitment to redevelop the property from City Council before moving forward. However, as I stated, I do not believe ARHA's desire for commitment is entirely forthcoming and find it to be disengenuous. Thankfully, there is an opportunity for compromise. City Council could **approve** the Master Plan Amendment **and defer, refer back to Planning, or deny the Rezoning** (or vice versa -- approve rezoning, defer Amendment). This scenario will demonstrate Council's dedication to redeveloping the property, which the vast majority of neighbors support, but still retains the rights of neighbors enshrined in the Code. The DSUP could be deferred until it is resubmitted by ARHA. At that time, the rezoning request could be considered again.

If ARHA is truly only looking for City Council to show intent and commitment to redeveloping the property, they should be happy with the approval of **either** the Amendment or Rezoning. If they argue for both, I believe it should be apparent that there are other motives, and their actions are designed to limit the ability of citizens to effectively protest.

#### Reiterating the Stance

Regardless of the opportunity for compromise, I again stress that we should not be in this position. I firmly believe that these three proposals should be considered concurrently and at the same meeting. It should not be incumbent upon citizens to react to a change in the proposal the night and morning before a meeting. It is not in the spirit of our citizen democracy nor does it do credit to local rule. These last minute actions are the very things that foster distrust in government. City Council should state its intent to redevelop the property but tell ARHA to go back to the drawing board, work with the City staff and community, and submit under next year's LIHTC deadline.

Thank you for taking the time to read this Email. I thoroughly appreciate your consideration and time. If you have any questions or concerns, I will have access to Email until 8:45 AM this morning. Regards-

Glen

Glen Roe 920 Pendleton 917-597-7140

From: Mykhaylo Panarin via Call.Click.Connect. <CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 11:28 AM

To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton
Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #89964: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Madam Mayor:I would like

to share my

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call. Click. Connect. The request ID is 89964.

#### Request Details:

Name: Mykhaylo Panarin

• Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 7034002211Email: webpanarin@hotmail.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council

Request Description: Madam Mayor:

I would like to share my opinion on alarming development proposal of Ramsey homes in City of Alexandria.

ARHA's current plan to replace the existing Ramsey homes in the Parker-Gray neighborhood is disturbingly full of contradictions.

Firstly, parking solution ARHA has presented cannot possibly work. The entrance and exit for the underground garage ARHA wants to build would be located in a narrow residential alley, one which cannot accommodate the turning radius of a Toyota Camry, let alone larger vehicles. Does ARHA really expect every single driver who enters and exits the garage to back up and make multiple sharp and potentially dangerous turns every time they use the garage?

Another contradiction: The City Master Plan

(<a href="https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/planning/info/BEPlanFinal.pdf">https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/planning/info/BEPlanFinal.pdf</a>, p. 37) that the City has adopted for the redevelopment of this area stipulates that "Each residential block should have safe and convenient access to play spaces for young children." The same plan also states that the open space "...should be designed and located to allow effective supervision and surveillance from surrounding streets...". ARHA has instead suggested that the only play space for children in the development would be a built out space on the roofs of the proposed buildings. The very nature of this concept prevents "effective supervision and surveillance". Additionally, any sort of guard rail, wall, or fence that ARHA would have to install for playground's protection would not only be unsightly, but also make the proposed building taller than the City's own regulations permit.

These sort of questions make me wonder: does ARHA think that they can blatantly ignore residents' objections and City regulations alike? Do they expect us not to notice that what they have proposed violate the City's own rules, not to mention common sense? Can ARHA truly justify this out-of-control proposal to the residents of the Parker-Grey neighborhood?

Thank you,

Mykhaylo Panarin Resident of Alexandria

909 Pendleton St, Alexandria, VA 22314 (c) 703-400-2211

Expected Response Date: Tuesday, February 23

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>CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

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

2-20-16

RAMSEY HOUSES

design violations

### Rooftop playground incompliance with Braddock East Master Plan

#### **OPEN SPACE**

A variety of open spaces should be provided to meet the needs of the new residents of the proposed mixed-income communities. Public housing has a higher than average number of children per household. A range of open space is required to provide for the recreational needs of young children and teenagers. These areas should be designed and located to allow effective supervision and surveillance from surrounding streets, residential properties and/or community and retail facilities. Each residential block should have safe and convenient access to play spaces for young children.

Rooftop playground is the tallest point in the surrounding city blocks and does not allow ANY supervision and surveillance from

- i) Surrounding streets
- ii) Residential properties
- iii) Community facilities

### Height violations



ELEVATION-COURTYARD NORTH BUILDING

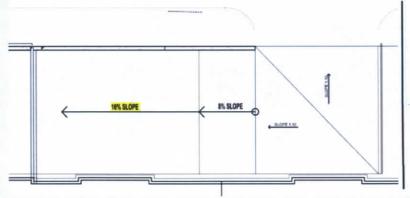
### Design Parameters in numbers

RECOMMENDED DESIGN PARA	AMETERS	S FOR VE	HICULAI	R CIRCU	LATION
Design Standard For:		LOS D	LOS C	LOS B	LOS A
Non-Parking Roadways and Express Ramps			Lebi.		
Clearance to obstructions	2	0'6"	1'0"	1'6"	2'0"
Radius, turning (outside front wheel)	3,4	24'0"	30'0"	36'0"	42'0"
Express ramp slope (more than 6	ft rise)	14%	12%	10%	8%

- From edge of lane to wall, column, parked vehicle or other obstruction, per AASHTO 1990 Figure III-25
- 3. LOS D per AASHTO 1990 Figure II-1
- 4. Left turns @ radius are LOS ( )+; right turns are LOS ( )-

### Garage slope I

Proposed 16% grade

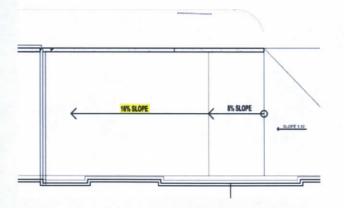


### Fails to satisfy LOS D of 14%

RECOMMENDED DESIGN P	ARAMETERS	S FOR VE	HICULAI	R CIRCU	LATION
Design Standard For: Non-Parking Roadways and Express Ramps		LOS D	LOS C	LOS B	LOS A
Clearance to obstructions	2	0'6"	1'0"	1'6"	2'0"
Radius, turning (outside front wheel)	3,4	24'0"	30'0"	36'0"	42'0"
Express ramp slope (more than	n 6 ft rise)	(14%)	12%	10%	8%

### Garage slope II

Proposed 16% grade



Evanston, IL allows 12% max

Additional Design Guidelines for Parking Lots and Garages City of Evanston

These guidelines supplement the requirements found in the Evanston Zoning Code and must be followed unless exceptions are approved by the Directors of Public Works and Community Development. These do not apply to single family houses.

#### Ramp Slopes

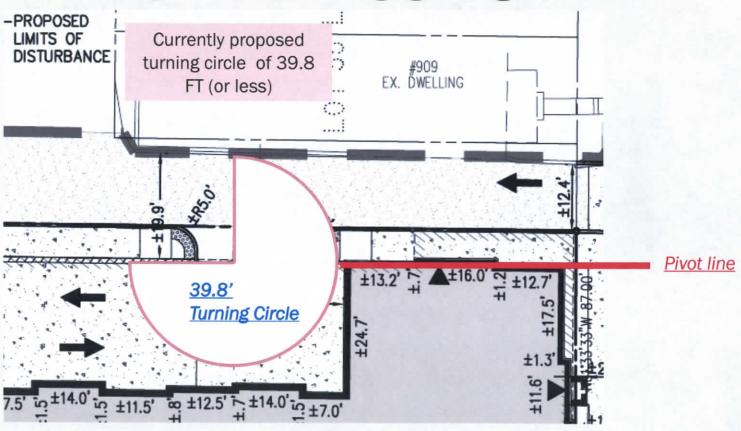
If there are adjacent parking stalls the slope will be 6% maximum

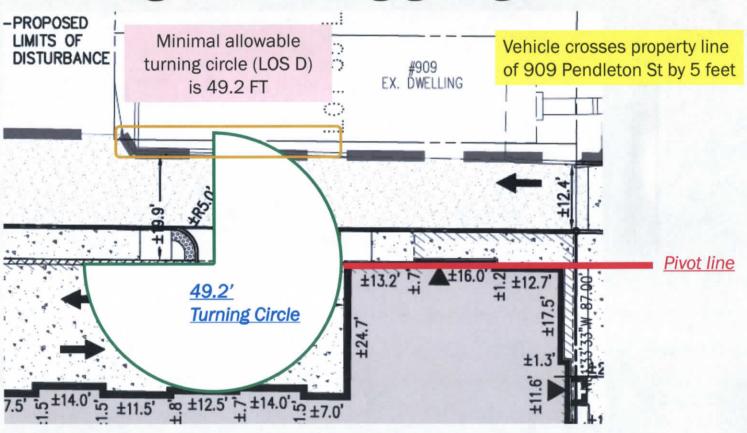
If there are no adjacent parking stalls:

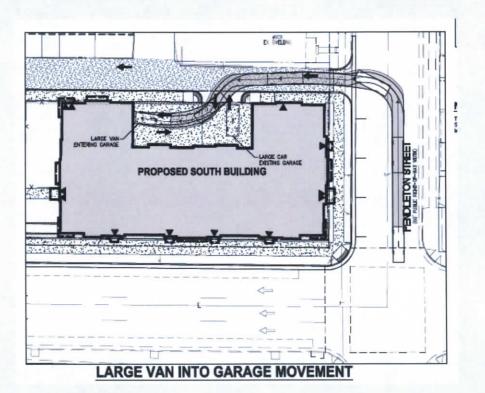
The slope will be 6% maximum if the ramp has no snow melting
The slope will be 12% maximum if it has snow melting
The slope will be 15% maximum if it is inside a building

## Proposed garage entrance site









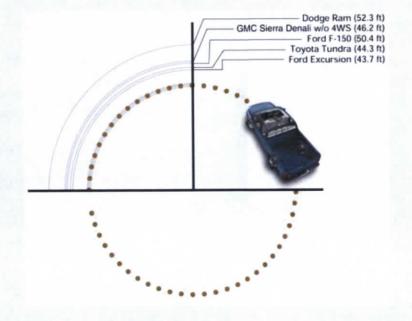
There is no diagram for vans or other large vehicles exiting garage in the ARHA application



It is NOT POSSIBLE for large van or other vehicle to exit the garage towards Wythe St with 19.9ft turning radius (39.8 ft turning circle)

- NO CAR WITH TURNING CIRCLE (wall to wall) EXCEEDING 38 FT IS CAPABLE OF EXITING GARAGE WITHOUT BACKING UP
- Lincoln town car 42FT
- GMC Terrain 42.6FT
- Toyota Camry 38.7FT
- City of Piedmont, CA is using 45FT as a minimal clearance radius for a STANDARD car

http://www.ci.piedmont.ca.us/publicworks/docs/planning/parking.pdf



# Concerns Presented to ARHA and the City of Alexandria:

- Can ARHA demonstrate that a VAN equipped for handicapped mobility can exit the garage in a single maneuver?
- What transportation level of service was used in the garage planning and design?
- Are there other successful examples- in Alexandria, Virginia, or nationwide- of similar garage projects that exit into a narrow public alley bounded by a private property wall? If so, what are the turning circle and alley width for similar projects?

From: Glen Roe via Call.Click.Connect. <CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 9:09 PM

To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton
Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #90159: 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 90159.

#### Request Details:

Name: Glen Roe

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 917-597-7140Email: rglenroe@gmail.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council

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

A number of neighbors surrounding the Ramsey Homes have submitted a property owners' petition. I am writing this letter on their collective behalf and solely in regards to the petition. It is important to note that the signatories on this document do not, as a whole and in so far as this petition is concerned, present any protest related to historical preservation. A strikingly vast majority of the signators:

- 1) Support keeping the existing public housing stock.
- 2) Support increasing the affordable housing stock on the site to total numbers consistent with, or similar to, the Braddock East Master Plan guidelines of 15-30 units, a maximum Floor Area Ratio of 1.4, and a development size of 21,000 square feet. We also support complying with the ARHA 2012-2022 Strategic Plan, which calls for Ramsey to be redeveloped with 30 total units.
- 3) Support, if the project is approved, increased on-site, below-grade parking accommodations for the proposed new residents. This will reduce the street-parking burden that will be caused by the redevelopment in an already strained area.
- 4) Support providing existing Ramsey residents with living accommodations that are suitable, modern, healthy, and clean.
- 5) Do not advocate for market-rate housing on the site.
- 6) Do not, in any way, advocate keeping the Ramsey Homes in their current condition.

At least 75 properties in the area of Ramsey are represented on the petition, including both residential and commercial properties. Of the properties within 300 feet of Ramsey, we believe that we have easily passed the 20 percent required threshold to trigger a required super-majority vote.

In addition to the signatures submitted, a number of property owners who are out of town expressed a desire to sign but lacked the required technological access. We were further unable able to reach the owners of a number of tenant-occupied properties; we are confident the number of signators would have been much higher under different circumstances. Lastly, a number of those who signed took great pains to ensure their signatures were received; this is not an issue property owners are taking lightly.

This is not a debate about whether or not to redevelop the site, nor is it a debate about whether or not there should be affordable housing on the site. This is a debate about whether or not it is appropriate to rezone a property from residential to commercial residential, vastly exceed plan recommendations that were adopted as recently as two years before ARHA first submitted its proposal, more than triple density on the site, and dramatically decrease ground-level open space. We do not believe it is appropriate.

Under the strongest terms possible, we urge you to vote no on the proposed Master Plan Amendment (#2015-

0003) and rezoning request (#2015-0003). We also urge you to affirm the Planning Commission's recommendation to deny the Development Special Use Permit (#2014-0035). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

\*\*\*

The following properties are represented on the petition:

- 501 Francis Court
- 512 North Alfred Street
- 514 North Alfred Street
- 516 North Alfred Street
- 522 North Alfred Street
- 525 North Alfred Street
- 600 North Alfred Street
- 604 North Alfred Street
- 606 North Alfred Street
- 610 North Alfred Street
- 624 North Alfred Street
- 628 North Alfred Street
- 634 North Alfred Street
- 636 North Alfred Street
- 606 North Columbus Street
- 607 North Columbus Street
- 612 North Columbus Street
- 614 North Columbus Street
- 617 North Columbus Street
- 619 North Columbus Street
- 622 North Columbus Street
- 624 North Columbus Street
- 626 North Columbus Street
- 632 North Columbus Street
- 634 North Columbus Street
- 515 North Henry Street
- 701 North Henry Street
- 419 North Patrick Street
- 423 North Patrick Street
- 433 North Patrick Street
- 511 North Patrick Street
- 514 North Patrick Street
- 517 North Patrick Street
- 518 North Patrick Street
- 522 North Patrick Street
- 527 North Patrick Street
- 618 North Patrick Street
- 620 North Patrick Street
- 622 North Patrick Street
- 624 North Patrick Street
- 626 North Patrick Street
- 700 North Patrick Street 702 North Patrick Street
- 702 North Patrick Street
- 706 North Patrick Street 708 North Patrick Street
- 710 North Patrick Street
- 712 North Patrick Street
- 718 North Patrick Street
- 401 Oronoco Street
- 928 Oronoco Street
- 1001 Oronoco Street
- 1016 1/2 Oronoco Street

1019 Oronoco Street

1022 Oronoco Street

900 Pendleton Street

902 Pendleton Street

907 Pendleton Street

909 Pendleton Street

910 Pendleton Street

918 Pendleton Street

918 1/2 Pendleton Street

920 Pendleton Street

922 Pendleton Street

1000 Pendleton Street

1002 Pendleton Street

1003 Pendleton Street

1004 Pendleton Street

1013 Pendleton Street

1015 Pendleton Street

911 A Pendleton Street

911 B Pendleton Street

911 C Pendleton Street

911 D Pendleton Street

1006 Wythe Street

1012 Wythe Street

Expected Response Date: Thursday, February 25

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 <a href="mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov">CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov</a> or call 703,746.HELP.

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

From: Elsie Mosqueda via Call.Click.Connect. <CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 8:24 PM

To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton

Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #90157: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and

Members of Ci

Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 90157.

#### Request Details:

Name: Elsie Mosqueda

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 7035490190
Email: Lseaside900@comcast.net

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council

Request Description: Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and Members of City Council

#### Docket # 4, 14-4979

I am writing in opposition to allowing ARHA to demolish the historic Ramsey Homes and build a complex that is too dense and not in keeping with the surrounding residences.

I will be out of town this weekend and will not be able to attend the Public Hearing. If I could change my plans, I would, but my family is getting together and these plans have been set for some time.

There are many reasons why I believe you should vote against 1) the amendment to the Master Plan, 2) rezoning of the property, as well as 3) denying the SUP, but I will focus on two important issues, realizing that my neighbors will acquaint you with myriad reasons to deny ARHA's request.

First, I recall that at the public hearing last fall, while the vote on record was to overturn the Parker Gray Board of Architectural Review decision to not allow ARHA to raze these historic homes to the ground, Mr. Blair and Mr. Priest assured Council that they would work on a hybrid plan. They did not do that.

Secondly, at the recent Planning Commission Public Hearing commissioners stated that if ARHA was just any developer appearing before them with the lack of preparation that ARHA was clearly demonstrating, that developer would have been told to go back to the drawing board. Does that sound like a level playing field to you? Well, it clearly isn't. Even with all the reservations that planning commissioners voiced, ARHA got its way. The revered Stewart Dunn called the action unsound, I call it unjust.

One last thing I would like to say is that in our zeal to Increase the affordable housing units in our city, we have allowed those most in need in our community to live in homes that are not maintained, are substandard, and are unsafe. Neither you nor I would like to live in these conditions. Why should our neighbors have to. Before we allow ARHA to build more units, please make them demonstrate that they will maintain the upkeep of the homes that are currently their responsibility.

Don't allow quantity vs quality to cloud your judgment.

I am asking you to deny ARHA's requests and ask they go back to the drawing board and come back with a plan that is in keeping with our neighborhood, and adheres to the Plan that was developed to insure compatibility of new and modified buildings.

Sincerely yours, Elsie Mosqueda • Expected Response Date: Thursday, February 25

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>CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

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

Dear Mayor Silberberg and Councilmembers

I am writing asking that you vote in favor of the proposed plan submitted by ARHA to redevelop the Ramsey Homes site before you on Saturday, February 20th.

The proposal to replace the 15 public housing units now on site and add 38 workforce affordable rental units within in walking distance of the Braddock Road Metro station transportation and across from the Charles Houston Rec Center, fits within the goals and guiding principles of both the Transportation and Housing Master Plans:

- that Alexandria encourage transit-oriented, pedestrian friendly communities that maintain neighborhoods while promoting travel efficiency and quality of life,
- that Alexandria prioritize the distribution and preservation of affordable housing in transitoriented areas, such as the Braddock Road Metro Station and along the Route 1 corridor.

ARHA has worked with City staff to create a design that meets City requirements for underground parking, open space, new infrastructure including storm sewers, and maintaining the current number of housing for very-low income residents.

The workforce housing will be available to those who earn 60% AMI or \$65,400 annually for a family of four. As is well known, Alexandria has hemorrhaged workforce housing on the open market in recent years, a situation shared by its sister jurisdictions in this desirable, but very expensive, Metropolitan area. Nationally, housing policies for decades have favored building for the more affluent meaning that municipalities such has Alexandria with its goals for vibrant, inclusive, diverse communities struggle now to maintain a broad range of housing needed for these types of communities.

Density will increasingly be a fact of life challenging urban areas for decades to come. I believe the three-story structures envisioned in the plan fits within the neighborhood and would preserve its essential character. Across Wythe Street now the site faces the Charles Houston Recreation Center; along the alley the property abuts the Watson Reading Room and one pair of two-story duplexes. Along Pendleton Street, there two-story row houses across from the site, some of which now have dormers popping above their two stories. Along Route 1, there is a mix of building types: one church, some two-story row houses and some three-story row houses (above-ground garages with two stories above.)

In a perfect world, there would be a larger land area for the plan and more money available to preserve one of the current structures, but this is not the case. Density is needed to make the project succeed financially and no group, that I am aware of, has come forward with either money or a plan for the preservation of one of the buildings and ensure that the rest of the project can be built to be financially sustainiable in the future.

The plan is consistent with the City's Braddock East Plan that envisions this type of development for ARHA properties within the plan parameters. Both City and ARHA staff have worked hard on this project to come up with a compromise that will work. Ramsey residents have waited a very long time for the opportunity to live in "decent, safe and

sanitary" housing. There are ways to preserve the history of the World War II workers for whom the current four buildings were constructed, such as has been done within the Charles Houston Recreation Center, and on sites throughout the City.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

From: Bill Hendrickson via Call.Click.Connect. <CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 19, 2016 10:50 AM

To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton

Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #90187: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Dear Mayor Silberberg, Vice

Mayor Wilson

#### Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 90187.

#### Request Details:

Name: Bill Hendrickson

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 703-519-9410
Email: whendrick@aol.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council

• Request Description: Dear Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, and City Council members:

At its meeting on February 16, 2016, the Historic Alexandria Resources Commission (HARC) updated its position on the proposal by the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA) to build mixed-income housing on the site of the Ramsey Homes, which ARHA plans to demolish. This proposal is on your February 20 meeting docket.

HARC unanimously approved a motion to ask for deferral of the current proposal to allow comprehensive consideration of alternatives that would rehabilitate one or more of the historic and architecturally significant Ramsey Homes while also providing a considerable number of affordable housing units on the site.

As this week's staff memo makes clear, ARHA has not acted in good faith during this process. For four months, it refused to cooperate with staff in analyzing alternatives to its current proposal. Why should ARHA now be rewarded with approval?

Also, ARHA has not provided evidence that a delay would irretrievably harm its interests or the cause of providing more affordable housing.

Sincerely,

Bill Hendrickson Chair HARC

Expected Response Date: Friday, February 26

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 <a href="mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov">CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov</a> or call 703.746.HELP.

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From: Cheryl Zadlo via Call.Click.Connect. <CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>

**Sent:** Friday, February 19, 2016 10:45 AM

To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton

Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #90186: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council at 607 N PATRICK ST Why

should you listen to what we have to

#### Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call. Click. Connect. The request ID is 90186.

#### Request Details:

Name: Cheryl Zadlo

Approximate Address: 607 N PATRICK ST (See map below)

Phone Number: 7036640091Email: clzadlo@yahoo.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council

Request Description: Why should you listen to what we have to say?
 This is where we live. This is our neighborhood. This decision has second and third order affects.
 Affordable housing in Alexandria is important! But the rezoning and increase in the density, size and mass of these buildings in addition to what you've already approved for development in this area will create gridlock. You've allowed enormous growth with inadequate parking – they pour hundreds of more cars daily into the neighborhood. The density is already untenable.

You also speak out of both sides of your mouth. I would not be allowed to demo my historic home so I could build a larger, more valuable building at a MUCH lower cost – and smaller greenspace. Government should be held to the same, if not higher, standards as citizens.

Expected Response Date: Friday, February 26



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 <a href="mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov">CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov</a> or call 703.746.HELP.

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From: Lila Lee via Call.Click.Connect. <CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 10:17 PM

To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #90163: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council February 17, 2016Dear

Mayor Silberbe

#### Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call. Click. Connect. The request ID is 90163.

#### **Request Details:**

Name: Lila Lee

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: No PhoneEmail: lilameilee@gmail.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council

Request Description: February 17, 2016

Dear Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, and honorable members of City Council,

I am writing in opposition to the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority's (ARHA) application for: 1) Master Plan Amendment #2015-0003; 2) Rezoning #2015-0003; and 3) Development Special Use Permit (DSUP) #2014-0035 and Transportation Management Plan SUP #2015-0081, due to ARHA's lack of compliance with the Braddock Metro and Braddock East Small Area Plans and inconsistent enforcement of the Plans.

ARHA will argue the Braddock Metro and Braddock East Small Area Plans are simply guiding principles, and Plan recommendations are subject to change based on prevailing market conditions at the time of redevelopment. However, to the contrary, City Council's treatment and enforcement of the Plans demonstrate the regulatory intent and purpose of the Plans. Specifically, the City Council passed:

1. Ordinance No. 3576 on June 13, 1992, which established the 1992 Master Plan of the City of Alexandria, Virginia as the Master Plan of the City of Alexandria, Virginia by adopting and incorporating the fourteen small area plans in their entirety, including the Braddock Road Metro Station Small Area Plan;

2. Ordinance 4524 on April 12, 2008, which incorporated the Braddock Metro Neighborhood Plan in its entirety as a Small Area Plan Chapter of the Master Plan; and

3. Ordinance 4574 on December 13, 2008, which amended the Braddock Metro Neighborhood Plan, included amendments for the Braddock East Master Plan, and were incorporated fully.

Section 3.14 of Alexandria's Code of Ordinances ("the Code") states that all codified ordinances are incorporated into the City Code, and Section 2.06 of the Code allows the City to impose penalties for violations of any ordinances. Similarly, ARHA's application for an amendment to the Braddock East Master Plan reaffirms the binding nature of the Plan's requirements.

Therefore, it is unclear why ARHA is only requesting a waiver or amendment to two parts of the Plan, rather than all elements for which its proposal is inconsistent. For example, ARHA's proposed development is composed of two buildings, one that is approximately 29,400 square feet and the other that is 28,400 square feet in size. In contrast, the Braddock East Master Plan states the maximum total development for Ramsey Homes is 21,000 square feet. It should be noted that ARHA's application specifically requests an amendment to the same section of the Braddock East Master Plan (as the maximum total development) to increase the maximum allowable housing units from 30 to 53 (see page 47).

I regretfully am unable to attend Saturday's City Council meeting due to an unavoidable family conflict. However, I urge you to deny ARHA's application for the Master Plan Amendment, Rezoning, DSUP, and Transportation Management Plan SUP because ARHA's plans directly contradict the provisions of the Braddock Metro and Braddock East Small Area Plans.

Sincerely,

Lila Mei Lee

Expected Response Date: Thursday, February 25

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 <a href="mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov">CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov</a> or call 703.746.HELP.

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From: Leslie Zupan via Call.Click.Connect. <CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 12:39 PM

To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton

Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #90114: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Dear Mayor Silberberg and

Members of Cou

#### Dear Call. Click. Connect. User

A request was just created using Call.Click.Connect. The request ID is 90114.

#### Request Details:

Name: Leslie Zupan

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 7039802733

Email: missz@aol.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council

Request Description: Dear Mayor Silberberg and Members of Council:

The West Old Town Citizens Association has substantial concerns with the Alexandria Redevelopment Housing Authority's (ARHA) proposed redevelopment of Ramsey Homes at 699 North Patrick Street and urges you to uphold the Planning Commission's denial of the DSUP permit. This project will sit in the core of the Parker Gray Historic District and on a prime route tourists travel into Alexandria, making it imperative the time is taken to develop a project that complements this historic area and meets all the design requirements, including architectural design guidelines, specified in the Braddock plans. We also request that you deny the developer's requests to spot zone the property and for master plan amendments.

During the September City Council hearing on Ramsey Homes, Vice Mayor Silberberg and Council members Lovain, Pepper, and Smedberg all expressed support for pursuing a hybrid option for the property that would preserve at least one of the existing units, with Councilman Lovain going so far as to ask ARHA for its assurance that "ARHA is prepared to work closely to explore the hybrid options," to which ARHA's attorney replied, "yes." However, as the staff report makes clear, ARHA "directed its staff not to participate further in exploring and creating the various development options." In essence, ARHA has ignored Council guidance and refused further efforts at compromise. Why should such intransigence be rewarded with blanket approvals?

ARHA argues a fiscal imperative to redevelop the site exactly as it proposes, using the upcoming VHDA low-income tax credit application deadline to push City officials into making hasty decisions about this project. ARHA publicly distributed photos of Ramsey Homes interiors as "proof" of the poor condition of the units in an attempt to discredit the notion of rehabilitation. However, the staff report now debunks this notion and demonstrates that rehabilitation is definitely possible. ARHA's position is that maintenance and upgrading is too costly, with demolition and redevelopment the only option, declaring that compromise over its redevelopment proposal is fiscally impossible.

However, at almost the same moment ARHA was advocating the demolition of Ramsey Homes based on the project's maintenance problems, it purchased a new headquarters building for \$4.8 million in cash. This fact was apparently not known to Council until the land records of the sale were brought to its attention. We now learn from the staff report that ARHA will need to return to the City for as much as \$2 million in additional loans for the Ramsey Homes redevelopment. The sheer chutzpah of saying no to further compromise, limiting City staff's access to key information, and then confidently approaching taxpayers for a handout – no questions asked – should give any responsible policymaker reason to pause.

In light of the headquarters acquisition, questions have been raised about ARHA's finances and the need for a forensic audit raised. It is unthinkable that any responsible funding entity would hand over millions of dollars yet again without having a clear picture of the grantee's true financial situation.

Also troubling is the notion that affordable housing must be pitted against historic preservation. The staff report, as limited as it was due to ARHA's lack of cooperation, indicates that the homes were solidly-constructed and could be revamped to meet code and ADA requirements. Compromise would mean both historic preservation and the preservation of affordable housing are weighted equally, and achieved equally.

WOTCA also questions why this proposal is going forward while a lawsuit is pending in Alexandria Circuit Court over the denial of the BAR approval for demolition. A ruling on the BAR decision should be made before this project proceeds.

The project's proposed density – 53 units – far exceeds that permitted in the Braddock East Plan, which specifies 15-30 townhouse or townhouse-scale units for the site (p.47), and also is wholly inconsistent with the Braddock Metro Neighborhood Plan's specification that new buildings east of Route 1 will remain as walk-ups or townhouses with backyards (p. 5). In short both plans clearly envision that any redevelopment of the site would be at a much lower density that what ARHA proposes. It is worth recalling that ARHA's then-vice chairman Carlyle Ring testified in favor of the Braddock East Plan in 2008, raising no issues with regard to the Plan's height, density, open space, or other requirements. In fact, ARHA's own 2012-2022 Strategic Plan also proposes 15-30 units for a redeveloped Ramsey. Given these factors, and the relative currency of the Braddock East Plan, spot rezoning should be rejected.

It seems reasonable to assume that the overall number of units for the project could be reduced to a level more consistent with the Braddock East Plan by adjusting the AMI level for the various units; for example, raising the AMI for some units from 50% to 80% or even some market-rate units. The Braddock East Plan also includes a provision to fund off-siting of units if needed. Again, this option could potentially be used to reduce the project's density to a more appropriate level while also generating tax revenue from the market-rate units.

Other elements of the project are equally concerning. The idea of rooftop open space where teens and tweens can congregate unobserved is a recipe for disaster, particularly given the history of criminal and nuisance activity in proximity to ARHA projects in the neighborhood, including two recent homicides, and ARHA's poor management track record. The fact that the Braddock East Plan (p. 37) specifies open spaces should be designed to allow effective supervision and surveillance is not a coincidence, but rather reflects hard lessons learned over many years.

In summary, Council last year called for compromise, and compromise has been demonstrated to be possible. ARHA has offered nothing further—including not addressing even a single issue raised by neighborhood residents—and assumes that its stance will be rewarded with City approvals and yet another loan from Alexandria taxpayers. Until the authority's finances are thoroughly reviewed, its past and future maintenance practices and funding are investigated, and the project modified to better conform its surrounding context, it would be fiscally and ethically irresponsible to approve this project.

Sincerely,

#### WEST OLD TOWN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD

Leslie Zupan, President Peter Prahar, Vice President Keil Gentry, Vice President Heidi Ford, Secretary Donna Reuss, Treasurer

Expected Response Date: Thursday, February 25

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>CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

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2723 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22302 alivetoo@aol.com www.alive-inc.org

Phone: 703-837-9300 Fax: 703-837-9399

February 17, 2016

ALIVE!

ALexandrians In Volved Ecumenically

Mayor and City Council City of Alexandria 301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Mayor Silberberg and Members of City Council,

ALIVE! (Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically) is writing in support of the request by ARHA for approval to redevelop Ramsey Homes. This includes the demolition of the current buildings and construction of new apartments for the current residents and additional working families in Alexandria. ALIVE! is a non-profit social services organization, representing more than 40 affiliated congregations of different faiths as well as members of the community at large.

ALIVE! is the largest private safety net for those in need in the City of Alexandria. We provided over \$300,000 in 2015 in emergency assistance for rent, utilities and medical needs; feed on average more than 2,000 individuals each month; offer quality early childhood education to children of working poor Alexandrians; deliver transitional housing and support services to mothers and their children to help them achieve self-sufficiency; and deliver furniture and house wares each week to support families in need.

At ALIVE!, we see families and individuals each day that need assistance, primarily because rent is taking a significant portion of the family's income. In our experience, there has not been a decrease in the need for housing assistance in Alexandria, even as the economy has improved. Rather, as Alexandria has become a more attractive area in which to live, rents have increased (affecting additional lower-income families) and new housing development has primarily been targeted to upper-income families and individuals.

ALIVE!'s decision to take a position in this debate is based primarily on our belief that development and retention of affordable housing should be a priority for the City. Additionally, we believe the redevelopment of Ramsey Homes provides an opportunity to both retain and expand this important resource in Alexandria.

Diane L. Charles,
Executive Director
Food
Furniture
Housewares
Last Saturday Food
ALIVE! House Shelter
Child Development Center
Family Emergency Program
Agudas Achim Congregation
Alexandria Church of the Nazarene

Methodist Church
Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community
Christ Episophal Church
Church of St. Clement
Church of the Resurrection
Church of God and Samts 16th Tabernacle
Community Praise Center

Alfred Street Baptist Church Beth El Hebrew Congregation Bererley Hills Community United

Commonwealth Baptist Church
Community Pruise Center
Convergence: A Creative Community of
Faith

Del Ray United Methodist Church
Downtown Baptist Church
Ebenezer Baptist Church
Emmanuel Episcopal Church
Fairlington Presbyterian Church
Fairlington United Methodist Church
First Agape Church
First Baptist Church of Alexandria
First Christian Church
First Church of Christ, Scientist
iGood Shepherd Lutheran Church
Grace Episcopal Church
Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill
Meade Memorial Episcopal Church
Old Presbyterian Meeting House

Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church Spiritual Assembly of Baha is St. Andrews United Methodist Church St. James United Methodist Church St. Joseph's Catholic Church

St. Mary's Catholic Church St. Paul's Episcopal Church St. Rita's Catholic Church Third Baptist Church

Trinity United Metbodist Church Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington Victory Temple Washington Street United Metbodist Church

Westminster Presbyterian Church Zion Baptist Church

A United Way # 8352 CFC #44658



We believe ARHA has demonstrated its ability to design buildings that will fit into the neighborhood and satisfy concerns about increased density, parking, and open space. Another important factor for consideration is this property's location near a metro station and community amenities. The end result of the redevelopment would be better utilization of this property than its current provision of 15 very small apartments.

We are hopeful that the City Council will allow ARHA to redevelop the site to retain at least 15 units as affordable to extremely low income families plus add up to 38 units of workforce housing for families with annual incomes between approximately \$40,000 and \$65,000. Both the provision of mixed income housing and the addition of workforce housing are consistent with the Housing Master Plan and would help the City achieve its goals in these areas.

Best regards,

Diane Charles

**Executive Director** 

Deborah Patterson

President

From: Ninette Sadusky via Call.Click.Connect. <CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 11:19 PM

To: Jackie Henderson; Gloria Sitton

Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #90063: City Clerk and Clerk of Council Pertaining to February 30,

2016City Co

#### Dear Call.Click.Connect. User

A request was just created using Call. Click. Connect. The request ID is 90063.

#### Request Details:

Name: Ninette Sadusky

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: No PhoneEmail: saduskyni@yahoo.com

Service Type: City Clerk and Clerk of Council

Reguest Description: Pertaining to February 30, 2016

City Council

Docket # 4, 14-4979

I encourage you to consider "alternative P" as in preservation.

Gut the interior of all 4 Ramsey homes. Sell one home (2units) at market rate to cover the rehabilitation of the homes to bring them up to code. This alternative complies with the zoning map, city regulations and the current plans. It supports both preservation and public housing.

As our elected officials, please uphold compliance with the zoning map and city regulations and vote "no" to the applicant's requests to do otherwise. This affords us residents the continued protections zoning and regulations were designed to provide.

I've noticed at City mtgs some use the words "defense" and "public" interchangeably. In deference to the defense workers and officers who were assign these quarters during Ww2, please refer to Ramsey Homes correctly as historic "defense" housing. This is consistent with the city's application for this historic district. Referring to them as historic "public" housing does neither.

Sincerely, Ninette SADUSKY, Alexandria va

Expected Response Date: Wednesday, February 24

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>CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

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

### **Gloria Sitton**

From: Glen Roe via Call.Click.Connect. <CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 19, 2016 12:14 AM

**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton **Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #90165: 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 90165.

### Request Details:

Name: Glen Roe

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 917-597-7140Email: rglenroe@gmail.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council

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

Unfortunately, my wife and I will be unable to attend the City Council meeting on Saturday, February 20th, due to an unexpected family circumstance. A number of others who have spoke at meetings in the past are also unable to attend this weekend's meeting. Please do not mistake our absence for a lack of passion or reduced level of concern. Of further note, this letter is my own personal perspective and not related to the property owner's petition.

I strongly urge you to affirm the Planning Commission's recommendation to deny the Development Special Use Permit (#2014-0035) and deny the Master Plan Amendment (#2015-0003) and Rezoning (#2015-0003).

I do not believe that this has to be a choice between affordable housing and historic preservation; they are not mutually exclusive. Members of City Council asked for, and received, ARHA's assurances that hybrid options would be considered. It is indisputable that these assurances were anything but, and that the hybrid options were barely considered.

It is insulting that ARHA's pro formas analyzing the hybrid options were not released until Mr. Priest's memo to Council on January 21 – more than three months after ARHA stopped considering hybrid options. Furthermore, there are number of errors, omissions, and gross inaccuracies in the pro formas.

At the Planning Commission, Mr. Priest indicated that ARHA would move residents out of Ramsey Homes whether or not the proposed development moved forward. Planning Commissioner Lyle wisely stated that an applicants schedule should not be used as a deciding factor when considering a request. Numerous members of City Council, the Planning Commission, and the Board of Architectural Review have expressed displeasure with the way that ARHA has handled this process. ARHA can apply for LIHTC next year. These are but a few of the myriad of reasons why this decision should not be hurried based on an arbitrary application deadline. These homes have stood for over 70 years, that history deserves deliberate consideration.

The glacial pace of government can be frustrating, but it is so deliberately and by design. This should be especially true when government agencies, historic structures, and publically held lands are under consideration. Governments move slowly to make sure we get it right. They move slowly in drafting Master Plans and zoning regulations because it is important to hear and consider concerns from all members of the community. The efforts that go into formulating plans, and their resulting conclusions, should not be ignored. Spot zoning is bad policy.

I appreciate the efforts that ARHA has made thus far, but to imply that tripling density is a compromise is disingenuous. To imply that complying with green space requirements, undergrounding utilities, and moving parking below grade are concessions is not acceptable. Those requirements are in the BEMP and required of all

landowners, public and private, when developing a property. ARHA's compliance is no more a concession than it is a concession to follow speed limits in all lanes of the interstate, not just the slow lanes.

I support public housing, and I support increased affordable housing on the Ramsey property. I support adhering to the number of units called for the in the master plans and ARHA's strategic plan, and would even support marginally exceeding those guidelines. But there is nothing marginal about this proposal. It is out of character with the neighborhood and more than triple the current density.

Please, send ARHA back to the drawing board until they get it right and do their due diligence. Tell them to work with the City, revisit the just released memos, and fully explore all of the options that are on the table. There is too much at stake to not do our homework. There is too much at stake to not get this right.

Under the strongest terms, I urge you to deny the Master Plan Amendment and Rezoning, and affirm the denial of the DSUP. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Expected Response Date: Friday, February 26

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>CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov</u> or call 703.746.HELP.

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

To: Alexandria City Council

From: Townley McElhiney, Board Member, Historic Alexandria Foundation

Date: February 20, 2016

Re: Council Docket # 14-4979 [Ramsey Homes Redevelopment (Master Plan Amendment

#2015-0003; Rezoning #2015-0003; DSUP #2014-0035)]

Good Morning, Mayor Silberberg and Council Members:

I'm Townley McElhiney, a board member of Historic Alexandria Foundation. Tonight I will focus on ARHA's **legal responsibility** to follow the National Historic Preservation Act's (NHPA's) Section 106 requirements.

<u>First</u>, I emphasize that the City of Alexandria's own Zoning Ordinance proclaims **Historic**Preservation as a <u>core value</u>, stating that one of its purposes is to "protect <u>against</u> destruction of, or encroachment upon, <u>historic areas or archaeological sites</u>." This is a direct quote from the NHPA, enacted by Congress in 1966, and both apply to the 699 N. Patrick St. parcel.

<u>Second</u>, the Ramsey Homes unquestionably qualify as **historic resources** under the 1966 Act because they are already listed in the **National Register of Historic Places** <u>TWICE</u>!

- 1) In the Parker-Gray Historic District listing, the Ramsey Homes are described as "contributing structures" along with the open-space plan, i.e., they are considered <u>integral</u> to the historic <u>and architectural character</u> of that district.
- 2) The 2004 National Park Service-authored "Public Housing in the U. S., 1933 1949" lists the Ramsey Homes and site as **individually eligible** for the National Register (p. 137); see also City staff's report regarding historic and architectural significance, pp. 5 & 6.

Returning to my main focus, Section 106 Review concerns Federal Agencies and their partners, in this case HUD and ARHA, which co-own the Ramsey Homes. 106 Review ensures that when ARHA undertakes a project which adversely impacts historic properties, it is legally required to perform an assessment of its work in relation to affected National Register-listed or NR-eligible

2-20-16

properties, including those within sight of that property.

Importantly, as soon as the Section 106 procedure begins, it mandates that ARHA fully consider historic preservation issues and the views of the PUBLIC in collaborative project planning. PUBLIC collaboration means sitting down with those signed up to be a party to the 106 process, coming up with an acceptable design to all parties, which may include such concrete ideas as rehabilitation, interior modernization and/or infill design, as well as placement of the latter on the Ramsey Homes site, retaining its core National Register features.

To date, the Council's September <u>demolition decision did not follow</u> City procedure and an appeal is pending in Circuit Court. In a letter, the Federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) warned the City and ARHA that the former decision <u>and</u> non-compliance of Section 106 re: **PUBLIC** inclusion could lead to an adverse finding by ACHP, which is a deciding party to the 106 process. Currently by putting the cart before the horse, ARHA is risking its HUD funding.

Not only has ARHA has <u>not complied</u> with critical Section 106 requirements, but they have <u>rejected</u> all **PUBLIC** input to date, so <u>their design is NOT FINAL</u> under <u>U.S. law</u>. Therefore, it is premature for ARHA to request a Master Plan Amendment, Rezoning or a Special Use Permit from the Planning Commission or a follow-up decision from City Council.

Since ARHA has put the "cart before the horse" several times and the Ramsey Homes site design is **not legally final**, we respectfully request the Council to deny all ARHA's applications before you today.

Thank you.

2-20-16 whentled by Roy Priest

### RAMSEY HOMES REDEVELOPMENT

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL HEARING FEBRUARY 20, 2016
DOCKET ITEM No. 4





### Why are we here?



To improve the conditions of 15 low-income families, some who have lived in Ramsey Homes for their entire lives

## ADVOCATING FOR OUR RESIDENTS





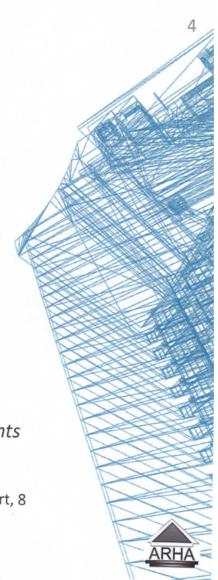
# PROVISION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING IS A COMMON THREAD BINDING CITY PLANS

- Alexandria City Council 2010 Strategic Plan
- ARHA 2012 2022 Strategic Plan
- City Housing Master Plan (HMP)
- Braddock Metro Neighborhood Plan (BMNP)
- Braddock East Master Plan (BEMP)
- Transportation Master Plan

The Planning Commission concluded [on February  $4^{th}$ ] that the Master Plan Amendments and rezoning are consistent with the intent of the Braddock East Master Plan

City Staff Report, 8

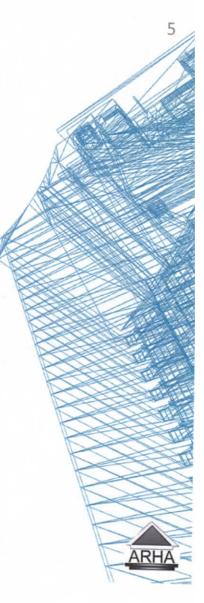




### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BEMP

- Diversity of the Population. A range of accessible active and passive open space that meets the needs of the community, especially young children, and complements the existing and proposed facilities in the neighborhood.
- Priority to residents wishing to remain in their community.
- Maintain a critical mass at each development to create a sense of community for public housing residents and ensure feasibility for efficient management and provision of supportive services.
- ☑ Ensure public housing units are integrated into the community.

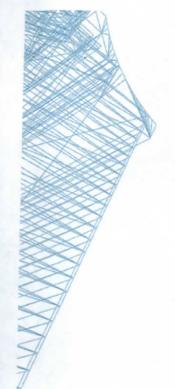




### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BEMP

- All sites should include a mix of public housing and...affordable and/or workforce housing where possible.
- The public housing units should be integrated throughout the new development, and not concentrated in any one location.
- All new development in the plan area will incorporate underground parking.
- Existing above-grade utilities should be incorporated below-grade with the redevelopment of each block.
- ✓ Occasional deep setbacks of buildings to create landscaped front courtyards, street corner plazas and similar open spaces





### ALEXANDRIA HOUSING MASTER PLAN

PRINCIPLE #5: MIXED INCOME COMMUNITIES

Creating mixed-income communities can help break down barriers that develop with the polarization of any income or population group.

...a broad mix of affordable housing is a key element of a truly sustainable community.

Affordable housing not only benefits the direct occupants; it stimulates the community as a whole.



City of Alexandria Housing Master Plan, 73-4



## THE BEMP AND BMNP ALLOW FOR FLEXIBILITY & ANTICIPATE CHANGES

"The decision to redevelop these public housing sites is ultimately at ARHA's discretion and is highly dependent on a range of factors, including what will be economically feasible at the time. The Braddock East Master Plan provides flexibility to enable ARHA to achieve its mission of providing quality housing to persons of low income in a manner that allows ARHA to capitalize on its major asset — its land, which is held in trust primarily for the benefit of its residents."

(BEMP, 10, 13)







Why the request for ?	Rationale	Guiding City-approved Small Area Plans
Master Plan Amendment Rezoning DSUP to increase FAR From 0.75 to 2.0	The BEMP allows, in fact, encourages, rezoning. We could not meet our program of a mixed-income, sustainable community within the current FAR of 0.75. We require a rezoning to CRMU-M in order to create a critical mass of units to sustain the 15 extremely low-income (30% AMI) units, protected under City Resolution 830	<ul> <li>In TOD: "When the proper critical mass is achieved, public spaces will be activated, commercial establishments will have more walk-in customers and sidewalks will be safer within a "24/7" environment. (HMP, 171)</li> <li>PRINCIPLE 5 OF THE BMNP: Promote mixed-income housing (BMNP, 124)</li> <li>"It is specifically recommended that the ARHA-ownedRamsey Homes propert[y] be redeveloped at higher densities and with a mix of populations" (BMNP, 5)</li> <li>"The goal is to create communities with a mix of income levels and that is large enough to sustain a critical mass of public housing residents" (BEMP 2, 3, 27, 30, 57)</li> </ul>



Dear Mayor Silberberg and Councilmembers

I am writing asking that you vote in favor of the proposed plan submitted by ARHA to redevelop the Ramsey Homes site before you on Saturday, February 20th.

The proposal to replace the 15 public housing units now on site and add 38 workforce affordable rental units within in walking distance of the Braddock Road Metro station transportation and across from the Charles Houston Rec Center, fits within the goals and guiding principles of both the Transportation and Housing Master Plans:

- that Alexandria encourage transit-oriented, pedestrian friendly communities that maintain neighborhoods while promoting travel efficiency and quality of life,
- that Alexandria prioritize the distribution and preservation of affordable housing in transitoriented areas, such as the Braddock Road Metro Station and along the Route 1 corridor.





## DSUP TO INCREASE FAR FROM 0.75 TO 2.0

- The Planning Commission concluded the MPA and rezoning is consistent with the BEMP.
- The BEMP recommends and anticipates a greater density for the Ramsey Site, including recommending 'the appropriate new zone be determined as part of a future development proposal.'
- The requested FAR of 1.72 is not significantly different than the allowable 1.68 achieved under the current plan's FAR maximum and 20% affordable housing density bonus.

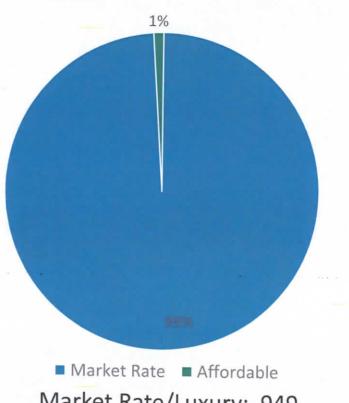


Staff Report, p. 2

### WHY ARE WE HERE?

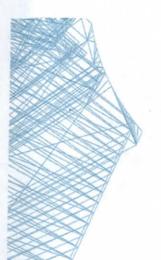
Why the request for ?	Rationale	Guiding City-approved Small Area Plans
Master Plan Amendment Rezoning DSUP to increase FAR From 0.75 to 2.0	38 is the number of units determined necessary to sustain the 15 extremely low-income units currently on site that are protected under Resolution 830. This has been determined to be the most sustainable mix.	<ul> <li>"There needs to be a sufficient amount of housing to retain a sense of community for everyone at every income level." (BMNP, 4)</li> <li>"To redevelop public housing sites without the opportunity for public housing residents to live in the new development would, in effect, punish them by displacing those who are poor and who represent some of the neighborhood's longest-standing residents in order to make room for new affluent residents." (BMNP, 58-59)</li> <li>"It is not practical within this Plan to be prescriptive about the mix of housing within the new community" (BEMP, 7)</li> <li>The precise ratio for this mix should be determined through the development planning process, as it will be influenced by the funding available at that time." (BEMP, 5)</li> </ul>

COMPARISON OF MARKET RATE TO AFFORDABLE UNITS IN THE BRADDOCK METRO NEIGHBORHOOD SINCE 2008 ADOPTION OF THE BEMP









## GUARANTEED AFFORDABILITY FOR 30 YEARS

40% of the demand for affordable housing in the City of Alexandria is at incomes of 60% or less of AMI, currently \$109,200

38 unit net gain at 60% or less of AMI Guaranteed affordability for 30 years







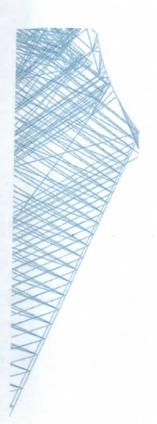
## BRINGING ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY TO THE CITY

LOCAL PREFERENCE
Site-based waiting list will give preference to income-qualifying municipal employees

Affordable housing attracts and retains new employers and a skilled workforce...Local affordable housing allows municipal workers such as teachers, firemen, police officers and medical personnel to live closer to work.







### Who Needs Housing That's Affordable?



### **Extremely Low-Income Seniors** and People with Disabilities CURRENTLY = 17,165 PEOPLE

People 65 years of age or older; People with physical, developmental, and mental disabilities who live on a fixed income such as Social Security





Childcare Providers, Nurses Aides, Bus Drivers, Salespeople, Cashiers, Cooks, Custodians, Visual/Performance Artists, Teachers' Aides

per year for an individual



### Low-Income **Families**

Librarians, Dental Assistants, Book Keepers, Social Workers, Elementary School Teachers,

per year for family of four



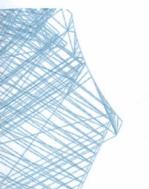
### Middle-Income **Families**

Teachers, Public Safety Workers, Nurses, Database Administrators, Architects, Physical Therapists. Computer Programmers, Dental Hygienists

per year for family of four







## Concerns from Alexandria City residents and advocates

### Concern regarding RAMSEY HOMES development:

- I do not approve of the plan to increase the affordable housing footprint from 15 to 53.
- I believe this increase will depreciate the value of single family homes in the area, increase loitering and impact the overall safety of the neighborhood.
- -I believe a mixed use building with approximately 15 affordable housing units is a better solution and fit for the neighborhood.





## BRINGING ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY TO THE CITY

Well-designed and managed affordable housing has a neutral or positive – not negative – impact on surrounding property values, and can result in increased tax revenues.

City of Alexandria Housing Master Plan, 77



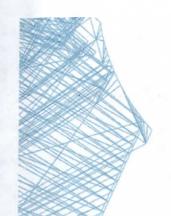






### COMPROMISE WITH FISCAL REALISM IN MIND

- Original plans for 4-story buildings with surface parking
- Changed to 3-story with underground parking upon input from City Staff, BAR, and the community



Support from Alexandria City residents and advocates

Responsive, respectful, and knowledgeable professionals are leading this project for ARHA and Alexandria. In meeting after meeting, I continue to be impressed with the professionalism and poise of Roy Priest from ARHA and City of Alexandria planning staff. They are patiently and diligently moving forward this proposal that will add badly needed new affordable units to our neighborhood. They provide excellent explanations about their work: the historical resources review, and how this project is carefully designed to qualify for low income tax credits which help Alexandria create and maintain affordable housing. The design has also been modified numerous times in response to months of community input. In my observations of the process so far, I have confidence that the staff not only have Alexandria's best interests at heart, but that they are entirely qualified to advise and shape a successful outcome.

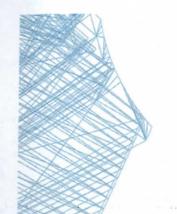






### COMPROMISE WITH FISCAL REALISM IN MIND

- 64 units were economically ideal
- Reduced to 53 upon input from City Staff, BAR, and the community



Support from Alexandria City residents and advocates

The long-term sustainability of affordable housing requires fiscal realism, and this project proposal is realistic. It does not appear to be economically feasible to retain any of the existing structures for historic purposes. The current structures cannot be made accessible for residential use, there is no funding source to renovate or operate an existing structure as a museum as some have proposed, and retaining any of the existing structures reduces the number of new units that can be built on the site. It is important that when Alexandria plans for new affordable units, there is a responsible and realistic plan in place for both developing them and maintaining them over the long term. The project team here is not only aware of this necessity, but it is a major principle of the design.





## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

NUMEROUS GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDERS CONTACTED





AARP

Alexandria Chambers of Commerce

Alexandria Economic

Alexandria Economic Development

Alexandria Historical Society

Alexandria Lighting & Supply Inc.

Alexandria Resident Council

Alexandria Society For the Preservation of Black Heritage

Alfred St Baptist Church

ALIVE

Another Level Hair Studio & Barber Shop

Aquilano Salon

Archival Art Services

Automotive Service Garage and Olde Towne Auto Body & Paint

Bastille

Bethlehem Baptist Church

Blue and White Carry Out

Braddock Implementation Advisory Group

Braddock Lofts Homeowners Association

Braddock Metro Citizens Coalition

Braddock Place Condo Association

Braddock Place Town Homes Association

Braddock Station Civic Association

Chairman

Christ Church

City Staff

Cole Croft Owners Association

Community Market

DC Lawyers Committee

DC Metro Church

Dentistry

**Dominos** 

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

NUMEROUS GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDERS CONTACTED





Down Town Baptist Church

European Auto Body Shop AllIstar Enterprises, Inc.

Fiscal Policy Institute

Gallery Framing

Harvest Assembly Baptist Church

Historic Alexandria Resource Foundation

Juniper Salon

Ladrey Resident Council

Little Theater of Alexandria

Lost Dog Café

Madison Day School

Mason Social

Monarch Cleaners

Neighborhood Residents

Nicole's Flowers

Northern VA Affordable Housing Alliance

Old town Salon & Spa

Parker Gray Round Table

Patient Care

Planning and Zoning

Residents of Ramsey Homes

Rubini Jewelers

Salon 46

Shanghai Peking

Shiloh Baptist Church

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

Sugar Shack

Third Baptist Church

UFC Gym Alexandria

Voice Alexandria

West Old Town Citizens Association

Williams Electric co.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

NUMEROUS GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDERS CONTACTED







Many community members, boards and commissions are asking for affordable housing and supporting it at this location. At the recent community meeting on this project held at Charles Houston Recreation Center, existing residents of the current public housing units spoke up clearly and respectfully in favor of the redevelopment proposal, and to explain how important it is that all community members have dignity in their homes. Other neighbors explained how important it is that we encourage the development of housing that is affordable for teachers, firefighters, restaurant workers, and others who work in Alexandria and our neighborhood, but who cannot afford to live here now. At a joint meeting held last fall made up of Alexandria boards and commissions dealing with issues related to youth, families, the elderly and housing, the unanimous opinion of those bodies charged to directly advise Council on policy issues was that the single biggest issue facing the welfare of this City is affordable housing.





The Theretoppen	ALEXANDRIA REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSIN	Pamiser Homes Regevelopment Community Meet	TOUSING AUTHORITY		77
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### THANK YOU





Salena Zellars

4
2-20-14

TO:

THE HONORABLE MAYOR, VICE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM:

ARHA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DATE:

**FEBRUARY 10, 2016** 

SUBJECT:

UPDATE ON THE RAMSEY HOMES REDEVELOPMENT EFFORTS

We are pleased to present you with an update on the actions taken by ARHA, in conjunction with the City, as it relates to the evaluation of redevelopment options for Ramsey Homes. These actions were taken in response to the April 22<sup>nd</sup> BAR action to deny the Permit to Demolish as well as the September 12<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting regarding same, during which several council members requested that ARHA explore options that would not involve complete demolition; including preserving a building or buildings or a portion of a building and incorporating it into the design of the project.

We believe that complete clarity and transparency as it relates specifically to the request, as well as the actions subsequently taken as a result of the request, is critical in conveying the expectations and the actions resulting from both the April 22<sup>nd</sup> and September 12<sup>th</sup> meetings. In order to provide the desired clarity and transparency, provided below is a timeline of actions related to the Ramsey Homes redevelopment. Further, we have included some points of clarification as it relates to comments made at the Planning Commission meeting held last week.

### ARHA Ramsey Preservation Analysis Timeline:

#### April 22, 2015

Parker Gray BAR denial of the Permit to Demolish the Ramsey Homes.

### May 14 – August 12, 2015

At the City's request, ARHA agreed to delay consideration of the appeal of the BAR decision and with the understanding that the City would continue to work with ARHA on the staff-endorsed concept plan for the redevelopment of the property. In addition, ARHA would continue to obtain additional information to justify that the interest of the public are not detrimentally impacted by the demolition of the structures, but are in fact enhanced as a result of the construction of the new community.

ARHA staff, the design team and the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) began to study the potential to rehabilitate the existing 15 units of housing, in cooperation with city staff.

- 6/30/2015 A tour of a vacant unit was conducted with city staff
- 8/12/2015 The designers developed a scope of work for the rehabilitation and the cost estimates priced out by the CMAR were provided to city staff.

The exercise indicated that the cost to bring the units up to current codes and provide the amenities required by the tax credit funding and ARHA standards was not possible without significant modifications to the building envelope which would compromise the preservation efforts and, even with this, the units would still not be fully accessible. The hard cost for this option was \$2,432,310. The acquisition cost of \$3.8 million, soft cost in excess of \$1 million and reasonable developer fees and

the cost could be as much or more than \$8 million dollars. The analysis also demonstrated that there was no federal or state funding for the rehabilitation of the existing units primarily due to the inefficiencies short and long-term. The exception being the limited funds available from historic tax credits.

### August 3, 2015

City Council/ARHA Redevelopment Working Group met to discuss the progress of the work related to the alternatives that would include some preservation of the existing properties.

### August 21, 2015; ARHA Submits Completeness Review

ARHA submitted its revised 53 unit concept to Staff and received comments from Staff on June 25<sup>th</sup>. ARHA submitted its initial Completeness Review on July 17<sup>th</sup>, incorporated Staff's additional comments and then submitted a Final Completeness Review/Preliminary Review on 8/21/2015.

### August 26, 2015

ARHA had a follow-up meeting with city staff to discuss additional alternatives for the site. At this meeting the City Planning staff provided sketches and development costs for a concept that would preserve the 2 end buildings and construct 22 new units of row-house infill. This model also did not prove to be competitive for tax credit funding or sustainable long term. In addition, the city development cost figures did not include land value and indicated a significant reduction of ARHA's developer fee.

#### September 4, 2015

A Memorandum was provided to City Council/ARHA Redevelopment Working Group regarding three options:

- A) 53-unit new construction;
- B) 22 to 24 new units constructed, two buildings preserved (total of 30 32 units); and
- C) 4 buildings preserved (total of 15 units).

#### **September 8, 2015**

City Council/ARHA Redevelopment Working Group met to discuss the results of the work related to the 3 options noted in the September 4<sup>th</sup> memo. The conclusion was that the City staff and ARHA had differing views regarding some costs, including how the costs could be financed, which impacted the perspectives regarding the feasibility/sustainability of some of the options, and that staff would continue to work on these cost issues.

The ARHA Board found the three options to be unacceptable because a critical mass of units are needed at up to 50% and 60% AMI, in order to support the 15 units of extremely low (30% AMI) households that are protected under Resolution 830. The options did not include ARHA's land value (\$3,792,560) and had significantly reduced developer fees. In addition, these options would require City funds to move forward, which according to City staff, would come from the Glebe Park/James Bland loan repayment proceeds.

### September 12, 2015; City Council Hearing

While voting for approval of ARHA's appeal of the BAR's denial for demolition, members of Council requested that ARHA explore options that would be less than complete demolition; including preserving a building or buildings, or a portion of a building and incorporating that into the design of the project.

### October 5, 2015; ARHA/City Charrette

ARHA staff, the Ramsey design team and the Construction Manager at Risk participated with City staff in a Charrette to review additional options for the site, including a new 46 unit, 4-story building and a 36 units, 3-story building. After this charrette, ARHA's design team returned to the drawing board and determine that the plan as conceived could result in 49 new units at 4-stories and 39 at 3-stories in height.

### October 7, 2015; ARHA/City Charrette Follow-up Meeting

ARHA staff and designers met again with P&Z Staff to work on architecture for the options. Elevations were sketched by the City Architect for discussion at that meeting. It was determined that the elevations would be used on the 49/39 concept and modified for the 53-unit concept.

Along with the additional options, P&Z staff drafted an aggressive schedule for evaluation of the newest options, with the goal of being heard by the Planning Commission and/or City Council in time to meet the March tax credit application deadline. It was the ARHA Board's assessment that the schedule was optimistic at best, unrealistic at worst.

The City offered to use \$265,000 to complete the investigation of all of the options. ARHA staff was informed that the funds to be used for the additional study would be City General Obligation funds, to be repaid when the "ARHA earmarked" Glebe Park loan proceeds were received. The ARHA Board firmly believed that these options were not viable and that it would not be a sound use of the money from which not a single unit of affordable housing would result, and in addition, would take funds from future ARHA redevelopment efforts.

#### October 13, 2015

The ARHA Board met for the purpose of reviewing all of the analysis related to the multiple options (preand post-September 12) and determined that it was not in the best interest of the Authority to continue with the investigation of alternative options because they were not competitive, economically feasible and some were predicated on the forfeiture of ARHA's land value and earned developer fee. At this point, the ARHA Board made the decision to only move forward with the 53 unit plan with demolition of all of the original buildings which is competitive for the 9% tax credits and is economically feasible for the long term.

The Braddock East Master Plan, states that:

The decision to redevelop these public housing sites is ultimately at ARHA's discretion and is highly dependent upon what will be economically feasible at the time. The Braddock East Master Plan provides sufficient flexibility to enable ARHA to achieve its mission of providing quality

housing to persons of low income in a manner that allows ARHA to capitalize on its major asset – its land, which is held in trust primarily for the benefit of its residents.

The ARHA Board felt that, in making the decision it was making, it was being a good steward of the Authority's asset.

### October 16, 2015

ARHA informed the City Manager of its October 13<sup>th</sup> decision.

#### November 25, 2015

The Department of Planning and Zoning issued the Verification of Completeness letter for the DSUP.

### November 30, 2015

ARHA received the Verification of Completeness Letter and staff comments on November 30, 2015, three months after Preliminary submission, August 21, 2015. [Note: the Certification of Completeness was withheld due to the perception that alternatives for preservation were not explored. Ultimately, P&Z Staff determined that such exploration was not a completeness issue.]

#### January 21, 2016

The City requested a review of ARHA's analysis to verify ARHA's conclusions that renovation and preservation options were not viable. ARHA updated its analysis based on the 2016 tax credit rule changes and provided a detailed summary of its analysis to the Mayor and City Council, the Planning Commission and the ARHA Board of Commissioners on January 21st.

### January 22, 2016

ARHA participated in a telephone conference with city staff to discuss ARHA's analysis as well as the assumptions and facts that were used in the analysis. City staff asked for additional clarifications of its assumptions.

#### January 26, 2016

ARHA provided the requested clarifying information to the Mayor and City Council, the Planning Commission and the ARHA Board of Commissioners.

#### February 2, 2016

P&Z Director Karl Moritz, Housing Director Helen McIlvaine, and additional P&Z Staff audited ARHA's work and concluded the meeting with an understanding of what ARHA had done to date. Director Moritz requested the analysis of an additional option, which was the 4-story, 49 unit new construction building. This Option assumed that the land and one building would be subdivided for rehabilitation through other means and therefore not included in this concept.

#### February 3, 2016

ARHA provided P&Z Director Moritz with the analysis for the new option, ARHA's Option 6. ARHA determined that this option was somewhat competitive for the 9% tax credits but the cash flow did not provide a debt coverage ratio high enough to be attractive to investors, a necessity for the tax credit option to work. In addition, ARHA does not believe the community would agree to a 4-story building on this site, which is why the current proposal has a 22% reduction in (net new) units from the initial design and a reduction from 4 to 3-stories.

#### February 4, 2016 Planning Commission Hearing

P&Z Director Moritz submitted his conclusions that ARHA's analysis did not rule out the option of preserving one building and building 49 new units in a 4-story building. He stated that the development of the new building would be "potentially competitive" for tax credits and would require identification of funds to acquire and renovate the preserved building. Housing Director McIlvaine indicated that there was some creative financing that would address the low debt coverage ratio. The ARHA Board has not reviewed this information.

Later, same day, the Planning Commission hearing resulted in approval of the Master Plan and map amendment indicating that the increased density was consistent with the zoning ordinance and appropriate. The Commission denied the DSUP indicating that the evaluation of the alternatives for preservation of one or more of the buildings was an issue for the Mayor and City Council to address.

#### **Present Day**

The ARHA Board believes that ARHA has provided the City with everything they asked for to review the potential for preservation of one or more of the existing buildings, including a financial audit of ARHA's calculations and confidential tax credit application.

The ARHA Board reviewed the analysis of all of the options presented by ARHA staff and the City staff and determined that none are financeable or economical feasible *and* sustainable, a requirement for the ARHA Board to approve any project moving forward.

ARHA's perspective is that Option 6, while moderately competitive for the 9% tax credits, has a low debt coverage ratio which will not be attractive to investors, a necessity in financing the project. In addition, preservation of the building requires identification of funds for acquisition (~ \$950k, i.e. 25% of the \$3.8 million land value), financing and soft costs, and renovation. Maintenance in the long term as well as rent subsidy if the units are kept as housing affordable to the extremely low income will also need to be identified. Finally, the BAR and neighborhood residents strongly opposed a 4-story building, resulting in ARHA reducing the total number of units proposed by 17% in order to reduce the height to a 3-story building.

#### Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

There was a speaker at the Planning Commission meeting that questioned ARHA's ability to move forward with the City approvals and HUD's approval of a Disposition Plan for this project, before obtaining Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act approval. We reviewed the issue and verified our initial conclusion, that the decision regarding the City Council reversal of the BAR denial of

Heidi Ford -4 2-20-14

# Fact Sheet: Divergence of Proposed Redevelopment From Braddock Metro Neighborhood Plan (BMNP) and the Braddock East Plan (BEMP) Requirements

#### Density:

Table 5: DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

		EXISTING PARCEL				PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT					
Site	Net Parcel Area		Net Parcel Area Develop- Ho	Existing Housing Units	lousing Allowable Allowable Allowab	Current Allowable Development	Mex. Total Develop- ment	evelop- Range of Housing	Max. Heigh	Max. Height	
	sf	acres				feet	sf				feet
James Bland	370,000	8.49	200,000	194	0.75	45	277,500	647,500	400	1.75	50
Andrew Adkins	196,000	4.50 <sup>(1)</sup>	148,000	90	0.75	45	147,000	332,500	200-250	2.50	70 west of Payne St. 50 east of Payne St.
Samuel Madden	150,000	3.44	64,000	66	0.75	45	112,500	300,000	165-225	2.00	70
Ramsey Homes	31,000	0.71	14,000	15	0.75	45	23,250	21,000	15-30	1.40	45
TOTAL	747,000	17.14	426,000	365			560,250	1,301,000	780-905		

Taking into account the recommended height limitations, open space requirements and other design considerations, the resulting densities, expressed as a Floor Space Ratio (FAR), are up to 1.75 on James Bland, up to 2.5 on the Adkins site, up to 2.0 on the Madden site and <u>up to 1.5 on Ramsey.</u>
.... These FARs are the maximum that is likely to be supportable on these sites. (BEMP p. 47 - both chart and text)

The retention of existing public housing in the Braddock East area will be contingent upon:

- · constraints on the overall density and height on each individual site;
- · open space, parking and urban design requirements;
- · the market conditions that prevail at the time of redevelopment;
- the public funding available at the time of redevelopment; and the availability of secured sites elsewhere in the City to accommodate the replacement units. (BEMP p. 7)

This has been demonstrated by both the Chatham Square and James Bland redevelopments. Approximately one-third to one-half of the existing public housing units on these sites were/are to be relocated off-sited. This is due to constraints on the development of these sites, such as the need for open space, the limitation on heights and the need for compatibility with adjacent neighborhoods, ... In summary, it is likely that the densities needed to replace all of the public housing on-site in Braddock East, while adding enough market rate units to make the development feasible, may not be viable. Consequently, it will be necessary to replace some of the existing public housing units in Braddock East at other locations in the City. (BEMP p. 7)

Comment: The BEMP envisioned constraints on density, open space and design requirements being constraints on new developments, not the inverse. The BEMP includes a provision to fund off-siting of units should it be necessary to meet density and other plan requirements. For Ramsey Homes, the above chart shows 15—30 units as being the appropriate level of density. ARHA's 2012-2022 Strategic Plan also envisions 15-30 units in the redevelopment of this site.

#### **Character Areas and Prescribed Character of New Development:**

BMNP Character Areas: The urban fabric of the Braddock Metro neighborhood is far from homogeneous. Within the study area, **four distinct "character areas"** (diagram at right) mark shifts in visual character and tone. Along with the location of the walking streets, the **Plan's** recommendations for height and density reflect the existing scale and character of the four zones,.. (BMNP p. 88)

New buildings east of Route 1 will remain as walk-ups or townhouses with backyards. (BMNP p. 5)

Referring to Ramsey Homes: The quartet of two-story apartment buildings, built in 1942, could potentially be **replaced by mixed-income townhouses or live- work units**. (BMNP p. 56)

The James Bland, Ramsey and Samuel Madden public housing sites lie within the Parker-Gray Historic District. **Any redevelopment plan for these sites must pay special attention to building scale and cultural history** and will be reviewed by the Parker-Gray Board of Architectural Review. (BEMP p. 20)

This Plan recommends that **Ramsey Homes should either be rehabilitated** as part of the overall redevelopment program for the area, **with some potential for infill, or be redeveloped with townhomes or townhouse scale buildings that are consistent with the character and scale of adjacent residential** and are within the 30-40 feet height range. (BEMP p. 45)

Ramsey Homes: The character of development on this small site **will be determined** and be compatible with the scale and height of the adjacent townhomes.

Comment: Both Plans recommend townhouses or townhouse scale buildings for the site and requires that any development of the site is compatible with the adjacent houses. The BMNP goes further to require new buildings east of Route 1 being walk-ups or townhouses. The large apartment buildings the developer proposes do not meet these criteria. It is abundantly clear that both plans envisioned redevelopment at a much lower density than is now proposed.

#### Setbacks:

New development should create a compact "green edge" transition zone between residential buildings and the public sidewalk. The build-to line for residential buildings shall be located 6 to 15 feet back from the sidewalk to provide space for individual unit yards, plantings, fences, stoops and similar elements creating a privacy buffer between public space and private dwelling interiors. (BEMP p. 81)

Comment: The submitted site plan shows a set back of .1 ft on Patrick Street and .3 ft on Pendleton Street. This violates the above plan requirement for residential buildings to be located 6-15 feet behind the sidewalk. Of note, an earlier version of the project briefed to the Parker Gray BAR in

February 2015 featured "A green edge has been created along all street edges. North Patrick Street sets back 14 to 15 feet and Pendleton Street sets back by 16 feet." Thus, it is clearly possible to meet the 6-15 feet setback.

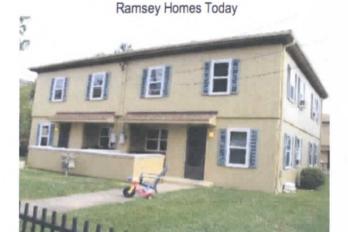
#### Open Space:

A variety of open spaces should be provided to meet the needs of the new residents of the proposed mixed-income communities. Public housing has a higher than average number of children per household. A range of open space is required to provide for the recreational needs of young children and teenagers. These areas should be designed and located to allow effective supervision and surveillance from surrounding streets, residential properties and/or community and retail facilities. Each residential block should have safe and convenient access to play spaces for young children. (BEMP p. 37)

Comment: Nearly 25% of the open space requirement for the Ramsey Homes development is on the building rooftops. This contradicts the BEMP recommendation that open spaces be readily visible. The staff report cites this space will be open from 9:00 AM - 10:00 PM, but ARHA has provided no confirmations that the space will be supervised. Is it really a good idea to have a space where teens and tweens can congregate unsupervised and unobserved?

#### ARHA 2012-2022 Strategic Plan Goal 7.

Goal 7: Preserve 15 Units of Affordable Housing by Redesigning and Rebuilding Ramsey Homes by 2020
Ramsey Homes is a small development with 15 public housing units. Though the property has good operating indices, its design is out of character with the surrounding neighborhood. We will redesign and rebuild this property, replacing the original 15 public housing units with replacement housing whose design reflects the character of the neighborhood. This redevelopment effort will also serve as an example of innovative design and management and will provide another incentive for residents to achieve the next tier of self-sufficiency. Additionally, we will optimize density to facilitate the production of up to 15 additional market-rate and/or affordable housing units on the site. Approximately \$8,250,000 will be required over the next ten years to accomplish this. The primary sources of these funds will be Public Housing Replacement Housing Factor Fund, Capital Funds, and Equity including LIHTC.



Ramsey Homes Possible Future



# 2-20-16

#### **Gloria Sitton**

From: Suzanne Shutty via Call.Click.Connect. <CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 19, 2016 4:29 PM

To: City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton

Subject: Call.Click.Connect. #90220: 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 90220.

#### Request Details:

Name: Suzanne Shutty

Approximate Address: No Address Specified

Phone Number: 7034070289
Email: sshutty@gmail.com

Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council

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

As a resident of the Parker-Gray district for over a decade, I wanted to voice my concerns regarding the Ramsey Homes development. I am unable to attend Saturday's meeting, as I have to work my second job. So yes, I fully support the need for affording housing in the city and I support redevelopment of this property – just not the rezoning and increased density of the proposed project.

ARHA wants to more than triple the density on the site to 53 units housing up to 230 residents. This level of density is inappropriate for this location. The Braddock East Plan clearly states that the specified FAR of 1.5 is the maximum that is likely to be supportable on the site.

The character of the proposed development (apartment buildings rather than town houses) along with the requested density (moving from a current .75 FAR to a 2.0 FAR and increasing from 15 units to 53 units) is out of character with my neighborhood zone.

My other concerns are parking and the loss of open space. Where are these residents going to park with only 29 underground spaces? We already are lacking sufficient parking on our 600 block of North Alfred Street. Currently the families in the Ramsey Homes utilize the outdoor green space, kids are playing, neighbors socializing, etc. An area atop the buildings is not the same as being able to run around and play as the children currently do.

As our elected officials, please vote against the rezoning on the basis that the multi-story apartments are not "beneficial to surrounding properties, in character with the applicable small area plan, and consistent with city policy."

Sincerely,

Suzanne Shutty Parker-Gray Resident

Expected Response Date: Friday, February 26

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 <a href="mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov">CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov</a> or call 703.746.HELP.

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

4-20-14



H. Carter Land, III
F. Andrew Carroll, III
Richard S. Mendelson
Duncan Wardman Blair
Martin J.A. Yeager (VA, DC, & MD)

BRENT J. SCHULTHEIS

524 KING STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314-3104 703-836-1000 FAX 703-549-3335 WWW.LANDCARROLL.COM

February 19, 2016

#### **DELIVERY BY HAND & ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Mayor Allison Silberberg & Members of City Council 301 King Street, Room 2300 Alexandria, Virginia 22314

> Re: City Council Public Hearing, February 20, 2016, ARHA – Ramsey Homes, Docket Item #4

Dear Mayor Silberberg and Members of City Council:

I am writing on behalf of our client, the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA), in connection with tomorrow's public hearing on ARHA's applications for a Master Plan Amendment, Rezoning, and Development Special Use Permit for the redevelopment of the Ramsey Homes property.

By way of this memo, we are proposing a solution that would provide additional time to evaluate alternative development schemes to insure a financially viable, first class project that is affordable for the citizens of Alexandria.

In particular, ARHA suggests the following:

- That the Alexandria City Council follow the recommendations of the Planning Commission and approve the Master Plan Amendment and Rezoning applications;
- Defer action or refer the Development Special Use Permit back to the Planning Commission to allow ARHA, the Community, and Planning Staff the time to explore other economically viable redevelopment schemes for the property.

#### LAND, CARROLL & BLAIR, P.C.

Mayor & Member of City Council Re: ARHA Ramsey Homes February 19, 2016 Page -2-

The redevelopment of the Ramsey Homes property is a complicated balance of many competing City interests. ARHA's goal is to insure, through this action, that its mission to provide safe and affordable housing for residents of the City of Alexandria is fulfilled, while ensuring that each new property contributes to the long term sustainability of the Authority under the certain future of decreasing HUD funding.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Very Truly Yours,

Duncan W. Blair, Esq.

LAND, CARROLL & BLAIR, P.C.

cc: Roy Priest

Connie Staudinger Daniel Bauman Mark Jinks

call before 1:30

alan 1:30:

PLEASE FINS ENCEOSED & CONTACT ME WITH

GLEN ROE 917-597-7140

ralenroe @ gmail.com

Aler

ANA QUESTIONS. Thank you-

705 N. Alfred Steet ARHA Property

CITY CEERK-

Received gotenduson

FEB 1 8 2016

Pursuant to Section 9.13 of the Charter of the City of Alexandria and Section 11-808 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Alexandria, the undersigned do hereby protest proposed Master Plan Amendment #2015-0003, Rezoning #2015-003, and Development Special Use Permit #2014-0035. The undersigned are owners of real property affected by the proposed amendment and proposed changes. Section 11-808 of the Zoning Ordinance states: "Effect of protest. If a protest to a proposed map amendment is filed, the city council may not approve the proposed amendment, except by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of its members."

**Property Address** Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign) **Email** 

	Property Owners Petition		
Pursuant to Section 9.13 of the	Charter of the City of Alexandria and Section 11-808 of t	the Zoning Ordinance	
	dersigned do hereby protest proposed Master Plan Am		
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702 North path	the		
700 N. Patrick 51.A	ALEX SOPHER NUTH DUM		
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## Landowners' Protest to Proposed Map Amendment (2015-0003) for Ramsey Homes Project

Pursuant to Section 9.13 of the Charter of the City of Alexandria and Section 11-808 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Alexandria, the undersigned do hereby protest proposed map amendment 2015-0003. The undersigned are owners of real property within 300 feet of the boundaries of the land affected by the proposed amendment and proposed changes. Section 11-808(D) of the Zoning Ordinance states: "Effect of protest. If a protest to a proposed map amendment is filed, the city council may not approve the proposed amendment, except by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of its members."

Property Address	Owner (Name)	Signature	Map # (if known)
701 N. Henry Street	ALCOIL	Gull Com	054.03
	Alexandur Lisidings	ERICLEMAN	
	SURIX		
		<u> </u>	

Drop OFF: 920 Pendleton St., Alexandria, VA 22314

## **Property Owners Petition**

Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	Email
501 FRANCIS CT, Alexandria VA 22314	FRANK A. TARAVELLA June De Sand	frank-taravella@yahoo con
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Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	Email
626 N. Columbus St.	Deborah Burtner Detal Buk	d1699eyahoo.com
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Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Prin	t & Sign)	Email	
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10161/2 Oronoco St	. Nancy Skline LCC	Klinenæyahoo.c

Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	Email
969 Pendleton ST	MyLhaylo PENARIN	webpaNARIN @ hotmal.com
Alexandria, VA 22314	1 the same of the	
918 1/2 PENSLETON	MICHAEL ANNE CASEY	
	K. Al Roe Corproxy wy permiss	gion, se attached Freil

Gmail – Need Neighbors Help 2/18/16 12:55 PM



#### **Need Neighbors Help**

michael casey @c@hotmail.com>
To: Glen Roe @gmail.com>

Thu, Feb 18, 2016 at 6:44 AM

That's excellent news!!! And yes, I am absolutely comfortable with you signing as proxy. Thank you so much for keeping us informed about the neighborhood!

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 17, 2016, at 07:55, Glen Roe graph gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Michael Anne-

Good news — we are over the 20% threshold required by City Code. Essentially, I don't need to worry about your signature being contested as a proxy and risk the petition being thrown out. That said, having your property down on the petition will help send a stronger signal to City Council (every bit helps). Are you ok with me signing as a proxy?

Thanks (and thanks for putting up with the back and forth)-

Glen

On Mon, Feb 15, 2016 at 9:28 PM, Glen Roe gmail.com> wrote: Hi Michael Anne-

Thanks for getting back to me. Unfortunately, I cannot act as a proxy. I could however sign it in your name and attach a picture of your signed petition - would that work? Essentially if you printed out the petition, took a picture on your phone, and sent it to me as a picture or text ( ). I could then print that picture and attach it to the petition. I know it's kind of convoluted -- but it will really help us if we can get your support. Let me know what you think. Thanks-

Glen

On Mon, Feb 15, 2016 at 6:25 PM, michael casey hotmail.com> wrote: Hi Glen,

Absolutely. Unfortunately we don't have a scanner. Is there a way for you to sign as proxy? Thank you so much for pushing this through!

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 15, 2016, at 08:10, Glen Roe @gmail.com> wrote:

Good morning Michael Anne & Chris-

I hope this message finds you well. We are nearing the final stages of our fight



Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	Email helmecound choim	
332 N. (donbers st	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)  Holy Mc (andless) & Thong Kaz		
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Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	Email
525 N. Alfred	Dorg Wright Live	
907 Pendleton St.	David Lawrence Jas Ja	DBL230@Nyv.edu
907 Pendleton St.	DENILE SINGLEY Dense Dogly in	

roperty Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	Email
911 Pendleton Unit B, C, D	William K Simon	pskeith@gmail.com
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	operty Address		Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	Email
51	4 N. Patrick St Alexandria VA	22314	Joshna E. Weston Onk & Westy	wester & smell con
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Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	Email
620 N. Patrick St.	Jim Sisco Sa	jasiscol@aol.com
614 N Columbus St	Gleen Conin allandon	- cronin cm IIasmail com
619 N COWMBISS	COPINNE MARLOWE	Corinnemarlowe@gmail.coi
G24 N. Columbus St	KERRY ANCAMP HAMMOND	Kerryaucamprogmail.com
GOT N. COlumbus St.	Kelly Conner	Kbcon541@gmail.com
634 N. Columbus S		Shannon . mcgahey @gmail
COA N. ALFRED ST	Suzanne Shuthy	SShuthy@gmznl.com
617 N. Columbus St	Kathhat Mathew thickey	Katrinapardo@gmail.com
600 N COLUMBUS ST	Meredian Elsenhart Mulay	meisenhartegman. (om
612 N COLUMBUS St	Vinayay Step / Jeffry Strup	Undray sterp@gmail.com
	Driving Cope	( All)

Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	inelson 357@ hotmail
624 N. Patrick Street	Susan Laver Susa Jan	lavers3@yahoo. Com
401 ORONOCO SL	Caroly Cary DAMThe MYERS	carolynlaueregmeil. com DANIESHACKETMATC. Com
626 N. PATRICK ST.	MUCZ MYERS Namy Lugars	MPATIETISEN4226)GMAIL COM
1000 Pendleton St.	David Tracy as Presdint, Classic Co Hoges,	LIC deteccoffages.com
522 N. Patrick St.	Dand Tracy as President, Classic Co Hogs,	
918 Pendle fon St	arthiam H. Pell MARCH	4 b = 11 456 @ com cust net
618 N. Patrick ST	Michelle Van Court Mechelle Van Court Edward Van Court Mechelle Van Court	edowned vaneous Ta gongil Goe
1881 DROADED ST	Baul J Loes An	LOPSER Q CONCAST. Net
518 Ni Patrick St	Gerenz futell	Jerenyportellahotmal.com
LOOL PELUPLETON ST	MOUTER CHAPTE MONE MO	AINDUEW. MADAYONCIMEN. (DIG
	71 10.00 -711/10	oly of

Pursuant to Section 9.13 of the Charter of the City of Alexandria and Section 11-808 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Alexandria, the undersigned do hereby protest proposed Master Plan Amendment #2015-0003, Rezoning #2015-003, and Development Special Use Permit #2014-0035. The undersigned are owners of real property affected by the proposed amendment and proposed changes. Section 11-808 of the Zoning Ordinance states: "Effect of protest. If a protest to a proposed map amendment is filed, the city council may not approve the proposed amendment, except by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of its members."

Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	Email
512 NAIPred St	Bobert & Martine Viner	Robirner a Guarl. com
	My FOUSR	Robinner @ Gmail. com marine @ CNF.con
		3

1 (10)

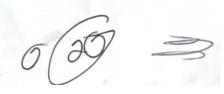
	Property Owners Petition	
Durant to Section 0.12 of the Charles		i oli
	er of the City of Alexandria and Section 11-808 of the Zon gned do hereby protest proposed Master Plan Amendme	***************************************
	nt Special Use Permit #2014-0035. The undersigned are	***************************************
	t and proposed changes. Section 11-808 of the Zoning Or	
	roposed map amendment is filed, the city council may	
	nt, except by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of its m	embers."
Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	Email
423 N. Patrick St	Leffrey D. Holf BHAT	jdholt 1971 @ gmail
423 N. Patrick St	Kaymarie Knapp KK Brooke Rinehart	Kaymaria. Knappe gmil.com
413 N. Patorick St 419 N. Patrick	Brooke Rinehart (Signing "FOR" with parmission) What	rinehart brooke @ ya hoo. com



Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	Email
433 IV Patrick St.	CHARLOTTE LANDIS Charlots Jandis	bandis of a comeast.
433 N. PATRICK ST.	ROBERT LANDIS DIE 19	landis co Concast. not
	& same owners as 928 Oronoco	

Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	Email
527 N. PATRICK ST.	TIFFANI FERRANTELLI	TIFFANI. FERRANTELLO
ALEXANDRIA, VA	Tiffan Temm Selli 9 Feb. 2016	TIFFANI. FERRANTELLES FIGNAIC, COM
22314	9 36. 2016	

	Property Owners Petition			
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***************************************	r of the City of Alexandria and Section 11-808 on ned do hereby protest proposed Master Plan Al			
	t Special Use Permit #2014-0035. The undersi			
	and proposed changes. Section 11-808 of the 2			
	pposed map amendment is filed, the city counci			
	t, except by an affirmative vote of three-fourth		bers."	
Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	Date	Email	
600 N. Alfred St	David Sprenger Des	2/9/16	davidspren	ger@mil.com
623 NAISred St	Ryan Bell	2/8/16	Aryanbe	1140 cmi
434 N. Alfres	I at Mich	2/416	Da. Frigh	Zou Con
610 N. Alfred St	MRISTEN NESPOLI	2/9/16	nes 20 0/01	e hotrail com
624 N Aifred St	KATIE TACOBS TOO	2/17/16	kahelain	enjacobs (grailce
622 N 6 humbers 5	Meliss of Zimmermal Timmen	2/15/16	melissae	mn erman
4636 NA412d St.	Mark Milly Man Milly Ser	2/14/16		ser @ mgc. com
GOGN AfenSt	Michael J Meaney	Yule	. we w	124
1004 Pensoleton St	CL Zadlo CLZOLO	2/17/18	Clado	Dyaho com



not approve the proposed amend	nent, except by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of	
Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	Email
1015 Ronal Lettern St	Robert Novice + Janke Davia Mark M	in renovince earthers. net
1003 pendletons	et Marsha Perez un	bella I VA Q hotmail com
1006 WYTHE ST	BRIAN JENNSON HORMAN	Jenhoff@Verizan.net
1012 Wythest	Anita Sachariah & Arun Sriniva	asau anita. Sachariaho
515 North Henry St	Lisa Apolis Jeff APOLIS  Sisa apolis John Arti	jeff@apolis.org
517 N parnok St	Molly Conway + Byan Convay Pris	venway 140 gmail
511 N. PATRICK 57		Juc5149 egnal com
1013 Pandleten of	Tobeyda Montes + Jess Campbell Burny list 1/8/ from la of Coverary Cord o V. Vian Nava Cord	good-myseatt.net
622 N Patrick	Tifany Behr	Kubehr Oyuhov.com
622 N. Pabrick SI	GIABRIEL BEHR Souked	Vubehr Oyaher. Cons
		a 6 h

Property Address	Propert	y Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)		Email
900 Pendleton	St, 22314	Clair Marie Marie	105 veda	L seus, de 9000 Com cent
900 PENDLETON.	57, 22314	JAMES DAVID WALSH James David Wolsh	JER D ja	mesdualsha comeast, met
902 PENDLETON ST		MICHELLE HAYNES	40	5m 44 @ yahoo.com
516 N. Alfre.	d ST. 22314	John William	S Johnow:	Mams 2 @ Juno. com
514 N. AIFRED	ST 22314	John Williams	John. Wi	MIAMS 2 @ JUND, Com
920 PENDLETON S 422 Pendleton	Lila M St. Robert	Nei Lee Who Mark	If loe tyles	
922 Pendleton	St. Emil	y Wilson milyu	·who	
				watery 1@ comcast. net
N				

Property Address	Property Owner Name(s) (Print & Sign)	<u>Email</u>
	MARK A. MUELLER, JR	
911-A Pendleton	MARKA. MUELLER, JR. Maka Milly.	MARKA MUELLERG HOT V
-		
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·



#### **Gloria Sitton**

From:

website <webmaster@alexandriava.gov>

Sent:

Tuesday, February 16, 2016 4:41 PM

To:

Jackie Henderson; Gloria Sitton

Subject:

City Council speaker's form submission received

Meeting Date: 02/20/2016

Docket Item# 4

Speaker's Name: Duncan W. Blair

Phone #: 7038361000

Email: <u>dblair@landcarroll.com</u> Address: 524 King Street

Representing self? No

If representing other: Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority

Position on the item: For

Nature of interest: Attorney

Are you being compensated? Yes

## SPEAKER'S FORM

DOCKET ITEM NO. 4

# PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND GIVE IT TO THE CITY CLERK BEFORE YOU SPEAK ON A DOCKET ITEM

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CIVIC

This form shall be kept as a part of the permanent record in those instances where financial interest or compensation is indicated by the speaker.

A maximum of three minutes will be allowed for your presentation, except that one officer or other designated member speaking on behalf of each *bona fide* neighborhood civic association or unit owners' association desiring to be heard on a docket item shall be allowed five minutes. In order to obtain five minutes, you must identify yourself as a designated speaker, and identify the neighborhood civic association or unit owners' association you represent, at the start of your presentation. If you have a prepared statement, please leave a copy with the Clerk.

Additional time not to exceed 15 minutes may be obtained with the consent of the majority of the council present; provided notice requesting additional time with reasons stated is filed with the City Clerk in writing before 5:00 p.m. of the day preceding the meeting.

The public normally may speak on docket items only at public hearing meetings, and not at regular legislative meetings. Public hearing meetings are usually held on the Saturday following the second Tuesday in each month; regular legislative meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays in each month. The rule with respect to when a person may speak to a docket item at a legislative meeting can be waived by a majority vote of council members present but such a waiver is not normal practice. When a speaker is recognized, the rules of procedures for speakers at public hearing meetings shall apply. If an item is docketed *for public hearing* at a regular legislative meeting, the public may speak to that item, and the rules of procedures for speakers at public hearing meetings shall apply.

In addition, the public may speak on matters which are not on the docket during the Public Discussion Period at public hearing meetings. The mayor may grant permission to a person, who is unable to participate in public discussion at a public hearing meeting for medical, religious, family emergency or other similarly substantial reasons, to speak at a regular legislative meeting. When such permission is granted, the rules of procedures for public discussion at public hearing meetings shall apply.

#### Guidelines for the Public Discussion Period

- (a) All speaker request forms for the public discussion period must be submitted by the time the item is called by the city clerk.
- (b) No speaker will be allowed more than three minutes; except that one officer or other designated member speaking on behalf of each *bona fide* neighborhood civic association or unit owners' association desiring to be heard during the public discussion period shall be allowed five minutes. In order to obtain five minutes, you must identify yourself as a designated speaker, and identify the neighborhood civic association or unit owners' association you represent, at the start of your presentation.
- (c) If more speakers are signed up than would be allotted for in 30 minutes, the mayor will organize speaker requests by subject or position, and allocated appropriate times, trying to ensure that speakers on unrelated subjects will also be allowed to speak during the 30 minute public discussion period.
- (d) If speakers seeking to address council on the same subject cannot agree on a particular order or method that they would like the speakers to be called on, the speakers shall be called in the chronological order of their request forms' submission.
- (e) Any speakers not called during the public discussion period will have the option to speak at the conclusion of the meeting, after all docketed items have been heard.