

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Betsy Faga via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 25, 2017 4:51 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119603: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council at  
2280 N BEAUREGARD ST Dear Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor  
Wilson

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 119603.

**Request Details:**

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: Betsy Faga
- Approximate Address: 2280 N BEAUREGARD ST (See [map below](#))
- Phone Number: 703.407.8889
- Email: bfaga10@gmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Dear Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson and Council Members Bailey, Chapman, Lorain, Pepper and Smedberg,

Attached is a letter from the congregation of the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection requesting that Council fund the \$4.3 million needed to allow our vision for an affordable housing residence and church in the Beauregard Corridor to move forward.

We appreciate your consideration of our request and the information provided.

Kindest regards,

Betsy Faga  
Chair, Redevelopment Committee  
Church of the Resurrection  
703.407.8889

- Expected Response Date: Tuesday, May 2



N Beauregard St  
Lincoln Ave



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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Dana Lawhorne  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 25, 2017 3:31 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Proposed change to the City Supplemental Plan

Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council,

I ask you to table the City Manager's proposal that reduces the benefit options for our city employees. This change will adversely affect all our city employees, excluding Police and Fire. I do agree that some change is needed in order to make a minor financial correction to the plan. However, I disagree with the current proposal to correct the problem and I'm concerned about the way this was executed.

I spent many years working on the Police/Fire Pension reform and was elected to be the first Chair of the newly created P/F Pension Board. I learned many things back then, one of which is to never rush a change and make sure that all employees fully understand what is happening. Other than my own staff, who have taken upon themselves to ask questions, I question if most city employees truly know how this change will affect them.

Here are my concerns:

- **Could be an overreaction.** The proposed change is a drastic one that has a huge impact on the employees. The average loss to my employees ranges from 30-47%, not the nominal change as first reported in earlier discussions. My understanding is that the committee discussed several ways to implement a change and I believe the employees have a right to hear what those suggestions are. There are other viable alternatives that will have less of a financial impact on the employees.
- **The execution of the change.** This proposed change has been bantered about for two years. Now all of a sudden it's a mad dash to the finish line. The Pension Office scheduled employee town hall meetings in December 2016 but it was cancelled. It was rescheduled to January 2017 and it was cancelled. It did not occur until after the budget was rolled out in February 2017. The employees never stood a chance to lodge their objections before it got baked in to the Manager's Budget. Stop and take a breath.
- **You are boxed in.** Your hands are tied because this change has been linked to the budget. It's been said, "if we don't do this then we can't fund the end of scale step increase." It's unfair to the employees to even suggest that if they don't support it then they will lose a pay raise. This issue deserves the same independent scrutiny you have given to other city issues. Let it have its own airing of the facts.
- **Saving money?** It's been stated that a change is necessary to save a plan that may be in peril. They need to save money but yet turn around and use that money for something else. This is still baffling to the employees no matter how many times someone tries to explain it.

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Sadina Vanison  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 25, 2017 12:24 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** supplemental retirement change

Good afternoon Mayor Silberberg and members of Council. I have worked for the City of Alexandria almost all my work life. Thirty-nine years to be exact. I love what I do for the City of Alexandria and enjoy working for the public. I start out with the City as a part time employee in 1978 until they made our position full time. I've left the City once but stay on as a stand by driver while I was getting a higher education before returning. I'm able to retire in 2021 with full VRS benefits. When I found out that I would be losing \$58,000 with the new proposed changes if I took a lump sum. My husband and I have personal plans for that money. I'm really lost for words. I also live in the City of Alexandria and taxes on my house are going up every year. I know that the City has to do what they do to keep us all in a job instead of laying people off and I'm alright with that. But I feel that long turn employees should be grandfather in. I think that those who have 10 years or less shouldn't be affected by this change if Council decides to do this. Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sadina Vanison  
Supervisor of Transportation  
City of Alexandria Dept. of Community and Human Services  
Division of Aging and Adult Services  
(703)746-3275

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Zachary DesJardins via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 25, 2017 8:57 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119555: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council I was told that your minds are made up.

Dear **Call.Click.Connect.** User

A request was just created using **Call.Click.Connect.** The request ID is 119555.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "119555-GEG498".

- Name: Zachary DesJardins
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 716-201-0664
- Email: zacharydesjardins@gmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: I was told that your minds are made up. This year, Complete Streets and Safe Routes to Schools gets a third of what you allocated last year. Complete Streets could have fixed the W Braddock Rd intersection that Bonnie spoke to you about on Sunday, cutting the traffic lanes from 4 to 2 that she and her husband and seeing eye dog must cross and could provide a large refuge island in the middle, similar to the new King St. This part of Braddock Rd is right in front of Minnie Howard. Look at the attached picture and imagine crossing the street with your eyes closed. Complete Streets could have road dieted S Pickett St, providing Councilmember Wilson's mother with a safer place to walk, just like the new King St.

I was also told some of you perceived support for Complete Streets and Safe Routes to Schools to be thin. I hope whomever said "wow" on Saturday has rethought that assumption. I would also proffer the outpouring of support for the family of Rosemary Cruz, the many Alexandrians didn't come out to support less funding for projects which could have saved her life. The W Glebe Rd/Mt Vernon Ave hadn't been touched in 15 years for lack of funding and is only slightly safer than it was before. The 750+ Alexandrians who commented on the new King St was the second highest for AlexEngage and many more attended the 12+ community meetings. 62% supported the new configuration. Safer streets ARE popular.

While schools and WMATA are certainly pressing, Complete Streets and Safe Routes to School have support among the community and cost a fraction of those two excuses. Fully funding these programs would cost just 15% of the \$4 million recently spent to acquire one school building. A few months ago, you voted to reduce traffic deaths and serious injuries to Zero. How do you expect to get to Zero without funding programs which make our streets safer?

- Attachment: [Screenshot\\_20170425-084648.png](#)
- Expected Response Date: Tuesday, May 2

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Eldon Boes via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2017 3:04 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119352: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Hello,  
Mayor Silberberg and Alexandria C

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 119352.

### Request Details:

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: Eldon Boes
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-519-3937
- Email: boes509@comcast.net
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Hello, Mayor Silberberg and Alexandria City Council members,

I urge you to increase funding for the Complete Streets program, not decrease it as the current City Manager's budget would do.

I have been working intensively with ACPS, and with principals and PTA leaders at six of our elementary schools plus leadership at Francis Hammond Middle School in support of their proposal for a Safe Routes To School (SRTS) grant request to the Virginia Department of Transportation. Through these efforts, I've learned that many of our educational community leaders are very enthusiastic about enabling our school children to walk or bike to school safely on a regular basis. The City needs to support that campaign and this is one of the Complete Streets budget issues. The SRTS-related Walk Audits that the city is leading have identified numerous changes that would improve walkability. However, many of those improvements will require infrastructure changes, and based on preliminary estimates for a few of the schools, the total cost of those SRTS-related infrastructure changes may cost as much as \$900,000. The city should plan to fix those within at most 2 years.

I am very encouraged by Alexandria's adoption of Vision Zero and have been enthusiastically been telling my Porto Vecchio friends and neighbors about it.. Thank you for your support for that, and I am also grateful for Police Chief Michael Brown's strong endorsement of Vision Zero. However, this too is a Complete Streets budget issue. The projects and actions that the City conducts under the Complete Streets Program are almost perfectly aligned with actions that will be required to achieve our 2028 Vision Zero goal. In that context, we must increase Complete Streets funding, not decrease it.

My bottom line request of you is to, please, significantly increase funding for Complete Streets. At a minimum, we should provide adequate funding to both correct all of the SRTS-related changes within 2 years and to enable continuation of overall Complete Streets projects' implementation at or above current levels.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,  
Eldon Boes

- Expected Response Date: Friday, April 28

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Marie Randall via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 22, 2017 9:04 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119385: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Dear  
Mayor, Vice Mayor and Councilmember

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 119385.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "119385-972ED2".

- Name: Marie Randall
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-888-1730
- Email: randallmw@comcast.net
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and Councilmembers,

Although the current situation for the City's budget is being described as the perfect storm, those of us with children at ACPS have been lobbying for additional funding for more space and new schools for years. We watched as our schools were becoming filled to and then well over capacity, lunch beginning earlier and earlier to accommodate more and more kids in the cafeteria, libraries becoming smaller and smaller because space was needed for additional instruction, and we communicated this to you year after year. Our numbers were questioned, ACPS' projections were questioned, the state of our facilities were questioned, even though every year, our enrollment increased at the rate we reported to you and our facilities showed the increased strain, but we never received the funding that was requested. ACPS always had to reshift priorities and plans based on the funding that was provided by Council. Consequently, ACPS would then ask themselves and their families, "Is it prudent to try and fix an old HVAC system in a 50+ year old school that needs a laundry list of other renovations and improvements?" Every year, we returned at budget time with other options in order to do a more comprehensive and complete fix - and yet - the modernization of our old elementary schools is seen as a "want" - not a "need." They need these complete renovations because ACPS has not received the funding over the years to make comprehensive repairs that are needed.

Many parents cannot be there on Saturday morning or write letter after letter to the Gazette and the Times because we are constantly volunteering and/or doing things for our schools and children. If you really want to hear what parents are thinking - then hold your Saturday meeting at any of Alexandria's soccer fields or baseball fields or Chinguapin (or any of the schools and rec centers during the winter). We are always busy. I'm heading to Winchester this morning for a soccer game, so I cannot be there in person to speak. My husband is heading to a golf tournament to fundraise for TC baseball, so he cannot be there either. If you look at the Spring 2 Action website - please see how much parents contributed to all of the PTA's around the City, the booster clubs at TC, Alexandria Soccer, Alexandria Little League and all of organizations that support our children. Parents feel that pressure because without raising those funds, our schools and youth programs would not have very necessary funding for programming and even some vital services. ACPS can only do so much with the funding they have - residents that continue to say that ACPS is at fault for not keeping their buildings in repair may not understand the consequences of years of underfunding. Priorities are constantly shifted and very needed repairs can only receive



the bare minimum of funding and attention.

There have been many, many years to start addressing these issues. Council has helped to create this perfect storm, by making not raising taxes as Council's number one priority while also seeing more development on the West End and Potomac Yard, older garden apartments with very low vacancy rates, and additions being put on so many houses in our older neighborhoods. People want to live here - what a great problem! If folks are burdened by property taxes, Alexandria has programs that they can apply to for relief. However, Alexandria is an affluent jurisdiction. We need to be able to leverage that wealth - and that is through additional debt and additional taxes. Property values have quadrupled / quintupled (?) over the past 18 years since I have lived here. While everyone wants to cash out when they sell, some folks do not want to help support the development of the City (through schools, parks, etc.) that make folks want to live in Alexandria and send their kids to our public schools.

In an article in the Gazette, Mr. Smedberg said he was tired that parents consistently asked for more than the City Manager proposed in his budget. I have to admit that comment was very frustrating to read. Parents are very tired too. We are volunteering at our schools, on many sports teams, with girl scouts and boy scouts, with our churches, neighborhood civic associations, and many of us are two-parent working families. Council needs to understand the burden that NOT raising our debt ceiling or taxes puts on parents and members of our community.

I hope that Council understands all of these issues that current families are experiencing. We appreciate the work that you do and the service to our City. Please shift the conversation and continue to partner with ACPs. We cannot achieve a high-performing school system with over-crowded and deteriorating facilities. Thank you for your time.

Marie Randall

- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 1

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 22, 2017 9:58 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119387: 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 119387.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "119387-6348DB".

- Name: **Call.Click.Connect.** Customer
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: No Phone
- Email: No Email
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Dear Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson and City Council Members,

First, thank you for all that you do for our city.

Second, thank you for your responses to my previous letters and comments on the issue of school funding, as well as on other occasions.

Finally, I am writing to request that you fully fund the modernization of Douglas MacArthur to improve the infrastructure for our current and future students. I also ask that you fund a healthy, well-built, well-equipped swing space for the time that Douglas MacArthur - and other schools under modernization or expansion - is under renovation.

Again, thank you for your consideration and your thoughtful efforts.

Sincerely,  
Molly Pugh  
Alexandria resident

- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 1

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Julie Okkema via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 22, 2017 2:16 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119398: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Dear  
City Council,As a disabled and

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 119398.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "119398-96C965".

- Name: Julie Okkema
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-801-7522
- Email: julieokkema@me.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Dear City Council,

As a disabled and fast approaching senior resident of Alexandria who has lived here since 1987, I ask you not to raise residential taxes the full advertised rate to \$1.13/\$100 assessed but rather accept the city managers recommendation of \$2.7/\$100 assessed.

Why do I ask this for the first time of City Council? My answer is because I live on fixed income due to long term disability and the \$5.7 cent increase/\$100 assessed will make payment extremely difficult. Additionally, I recently sustained a serous injury/fracture to my leg requiring two surgeries to date with a knee replacement soon to follow, as well as have done long hours of rehabilitation.. All my extra personal income has gone to medical costs in addition to bills and taxes.

After 30 years of contributing to Alexandria City, as a physician who practiced here, as a mom who contributed to fundraising at MacArthur Elementary as well as years supporting ACPS students and teachers with books, presentations and food in their classes and sports, it is personally frightening and hurtful to see our City Council consider such a large impact in real estate taxes on the backs of it's residents. Why is there no consideration in reduction of services within the City? That's what I have and had to do during tough times, and if you go through with the \$5.7 cent increase I don't know where I will cut costs as I don't go out to dine, nor to movies nor on vacations. My residential taxes have grown absurdly high over the last decades: feel free to look. My tax payments since 1994 have never resulted in a newly paved street, installation of sidewalks, nor installation of storm drains down Bishop in spite of me trying. At times, I feel very dejected and pained that such was never done over the last 23 years. Yet you want to tax me even more and overly high again? Where is your concern?

It is very painful to see City Council year after year treat residents as endless deep money pockets. The effect on the disabled and elderly is to push us out of our own City. We decades long residents paved the way for Alexandria City to be where it is today. Long term residents deserve support to age in place, and property taxes increase of \$5.7cents/\$100 assessed in addition to new significant add on fees isn't that. Cut the budget instead, and keep the tax increase to the \$2.7/\$100 assessed as City Manager Jinks proposes. I do and did support ACPS yet I feel they are well taken care of in the new proposed budget as written.

I was there for you for 30 years to help make Alexandria what it is. Now my time has come not to be pushed out by property taxes. Please limit the tax increase to Manger Jinks' advised amount. Thank you for your consideration of this plea.

Sincerely yours,  
Julie Okkema  
1300 Bishop Lane  
Alexandria VA 22302

- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 1

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**Jackie Henderson**

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**From:** Darlene Cannaday  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2017 10:17 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Supplemental retirement

Hello,

I have worked for over 20 years with the City. We were told we would have the lump sum benefit as one of our retirement options. I want to have this option preserved for my ultimate retirement date in another 10 years. Please do not go back on your word for the hard working employees of this great city.

Thank you,

Darlene Cannaday  
Family Service Specialist  
4401 Ford Ave. #103  
Alexandria, Va 22302  
703.746.3480  
703.203.0957  
Sent from my iPhone

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Debbie Ludington  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2017 10:19 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** A personal view - supplemental retirement change

Good morning Mayor Silberberg and members of Council. I have been an employee of the City for almost 31 years, and feel that I make a difference in the lives of residents every day. Many co-workers ask me if I will be retiring soon, given that I have worked more than 30 years for the City. Unfortunately, I need to wait until I am 65 (in 5.5 years), otherwise I will have a significantly reduced retirement. The reason for this is that 11 of my 31 years were in a part time status and none of those years counted towards VRS, and only 2 years counted towards the Supplemental Plan. I did purchase 4 years of prior service towards VRS, at a personal cost of \$14,132. So it is very disheartening to calculate that I would lose \$91,000 under the proposed changes to the Supplemental Retirement Plan if I choose the lump sum payout when I retire, hopefully in 2022. This represents a 31% reduction. We had planned to use some of those funds to help our 2 kids pay off some of their graduate school loans. This was taken into account when they decided to go to graduate school and take out loans. It will be virtually impossible for me to save an extra \$91,000 to make up for this loss.

I realize that it is fiscally responsible to keep the Supplemental Retirement Plan solvent, however I also feel that it's responsible for the City to keep the promises made to long time employees as to what would be available when they retire. It is not a feasible option for me to retire now in order to receive the full lump sum payout, as my retirement would be considerably reduced because I don't have 30 years in the retirement plans.

I urge you to consider other options, including lengthening the phase in period to at least 10 years.

Respectfully,

Debbie Ludington  
Long Term Care Coordinator  
City of Alexandria Dept. of Community and Human Services  
Division of Aging and Adult Services  
4401 Ford Avenue, Suite 103  
Alexandria, VA 22302  
Office: 703.746.5694  
FAX: 703.746.5975  
[www.alexandriava.gov/aging](http://www.alexandriava.gov/aging)

**Jackie Henderson**

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**From:** James Green  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2017 1:31 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** AGEA ORG; AGEA1 (agea.org1@gmail.com); Rose Abilmona  
**Subject:** Supplemental Retirement Plan Option

In respect to the senior staff, I am requesting that City council table this particular amendment as it relates to the layman senior staff who seem to be forgotten throughout the planning stages year after year. The level of devotion given to the city is far greater than the consideration given to the everyday layman. We sit quietly doing what is required of us and try not to ask question, only to have our silence misunderstood. There are times in a person's life that when he/she is uncomfortable with the due process of the government than something needs to be said. Is there any particular reason why we as your life long investment partners can't be heard. We have listened to you for years and have yet to have you listen to us.

Sincerely

AGEA Member

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Michael Wilker via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2017 2:58 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119522: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Dear  
Mayor Silberberg and City Council o

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 119522.

### Request Details:

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: Michael Wilker
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: No Phone
- Email: mwilker61@gmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Dear Mayor Silberberg and City Council of Alexandria,  
There have been many discussion about how Alexandria is to prioritize its budget over the past few months. The one item that got short-changed this past go-round is the expansion of the Chinguapin Aquatics Center. This is a shame and here's why: I was at Chinguapin on Saturday morning to swim laps with some Masters swimmers (not in a group on Saturday). The pool was packed, almost unsafely so. Babies and their parents occupied the shallow half of the pool; there were two busy lanes of adult swimmers; a swim team took up the last two lanes and half the deck near the diving well; the diving well had another 10-12 people. As you can see, the demand for additional indoor aquatics facilities is high. Alexandria needs to move forward with the improvement plans for the Chinguapin Aquatic Center and build the 50 meter pool (to regulations).  
I invite you all to visit Chinguapin this coming Saturday morning. It is terrific that the pool is being used so fully, but it is also horrific that the funding has not been approved for a much needed expansion for the city. If Arlington County can build 3 pools associated with its high schools, Alexandria needs to step up (swim up) and provide adequate year-round aquatic facilities for its population.

Sincerely,  
Michael Wilker  
2904 Landover St

- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 1

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**Jackie Henderson**

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**From:** Robin Wilson  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2017 4:12 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Supplemental Retirement

I am in agreement with AGEA that those that have five years or less be grandfathered.

Robin Wilson, CLP  
City Attorney's Office  
301 King Street, Suite 1300  
Alexandria, Va. 22314  
703-746-3753 (w) 703-838-4810 (f)

**From:** Debra Defreitas  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2017 4:34 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** Rose Abilmona; Valarie Wright  
**Subject:** Voting in favor of the City employee

Mayor Silberberg and Honorable Members of City Council:

As we come to the crossroads of another fiscal year budget vote, general salary employees find themselves at the mercy of yet another difficult budget. For the most part, we all agree that supplemental plan sustainability is very important. We can also agree that the supplemental retirement plan is currently and for the foreseeable future healthy, due to the lack of actuarial evidence to the contrary. At the end of the day, the vote on the proposed changes to the supplemental retirement plan- lump sum option boils down to this: Cut retirement payouts to veteran employees by at least a third, often more, so that the City can fund an end of step addition in FY 2018. Here are the possible voting options:

- (1) Vote to delay plan implementation for until the next budget season - This vote is a tough choice to spend City dollars as it has historically, to fund the supplemental retirement plan at its current levels and allows veteran City employees who can retire in the next 15 - 18 months and wanted to take the lump sum, without taking up to 47% financial losses.
- (2) Vote to implement the proposed supplemental plan changes with other grandfathering options - advantageous for veteran City employees but leaves a budget funding gap for other budget initiatives.
- (3) Vote to go with the City Manager's "this is the only way to go" proposed changes to the lump sum option - budget initiatives are funded at the expense of veteran City employees who wanted to take the lump sum option and will take an unrecoverable financial loss within months of retirement.

Given the big picture of the present employee compensation philosophy, choosing option three is detrimental to the general salary employee. Here's why:

- (1) The supplemental retirement plan is healthy and immediate changes aren't necessary for plan's sustainability. There is no immediate reason to cut retirement benefits, especially to those who will retire in the next 15-18 months.
- (2) When public safety pensions took a hit in the economic downturn in 2008 the City budgeted funds to prop up the plan. When the supplemental retirement plan for general salary employees shows no signs of immediate danger, the City wants to cut funding to the plan by at least a third to fund other things. Where is fairness?
- (3) General salary employees don't get periodic pay scale adjustments for market rates like employees on the public safety scales. Therefore changing GS salary retirement options for those closest to retirement is more devastating because there have been no market pay scale increases for more than a decade.
- (4) For FY 2018, why is funding an end of pay scale increase more important than keeping a pledge to the longest serving employees? The City has funded additional end of steps in past budgets under

difficult circumstances and not at the expense of the general salary retirement funding. Again, why is this plan the only plan?

(5) Bar some unexpected and sustainable economic windfall, when do salaries and benefits of the general salary employees NOT be fodder for solutions to difficult budgets?

Please vote in favor of the veteran general salary employee.

Debra F. Defreitas  
Accreditation Manager II  
City of Alexandria Sheriff's Office  
2003 Mill RD, Alexandria, VA 22314  
703-746-5027 – Office  
571-437-2845 – Cell  
703-746-5033 – Fax  
[debra.defreitas@alexandriava.gov](mailto:debra.defreitas@alexandriava.gov)  
Respect, Responsibility, Results!

"Progress is impossible without change and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything". – George Benard Shaw

## Jackie Henderson

---

**From:** Mark Pretzat via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2017 5:09 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119538: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Please  
support City Manager Jinks' propo

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 119538.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "119538-355C5E".

- Name: Mark Pretzat
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 202-649-3261
- Email: Mark.Pretzat@fhfa.gov
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Please support City Manager Jinks' proposed 2.7 percent real estate tax increase rather than the 5.7 percent increase proposed by Vice Mayor Wilson. No real justification for the larger hike has been provided relative known critical City priorities and the higher tax rate will present a significantly increased financial burden to a great many City residents. As new critical funding priorities emerge, the City Council can address these with additional new real estate taxes at that time.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 1

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

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

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**Jackie Henderson**

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**From:** R. Rapanut <robierap1@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 25, 2017 7:24 AM  
**To:** Jackie Henderson  
**Cc:** Gloria Sitton; Corey Smedley; 'Cordts, Jerome'; Ray Whatley  
**Subject:** Citizen Corps Council (CCC) Letter to City Council  
**Attachments:** CCC\_Letter\_to\_City Council\_Budget FY18\_V3.pdf  
**Signed By:** robierap1@comcast.net

<<...>>

Jackie,

Please email the CCC's annual budget letter to the Mayor and City Council.

Regards,

Rob Rapanut

Chair, CCC

[www.alexandriava.gov/citizencorps](http://www.alexandriava.gov/citizencorps)

703-370-9341



April 25, 2017

Alexandria City Council  
301 King Street  
Room 2300  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

*Delivered via email*

Dear Mayor and City Council:

We take this opportunity during the FY18 budget cycle to outline our emergency preparedness concerns for the future. While the city's commitment to the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) continues with the status quo from the adopted FY17 budget, we outline our concerns with the President Trump's budgetary posture related to FEMA's FY18 state and local grants and their fiscal consequences for the City.

As you know, the President outlined his federal budget goals for FY18. Included with those goals, the President highlighted (see below) a requirement for a 25% match for state and local FEMA grants.

*"Eliminates or reduces State and local grant funding by \$667 million for programs administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that are either unauthorized by the Congress, such as FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program, or that must provide more measurable results and ensure the Federal Government is not supplanting other stakeholders' responsibilities, such as the Homeland Security Grant Program. For that reason, the Budget also proposes establishing a 25 percent non-Federal cost match for FEMA preparedness grant awards that currently require no cost match. This is the same cost-sharing approach as FEMA's disaster recovery grants. The activities and acquisitions funded through these grant programs are primarily State and local functions."*

Currently, OEM administers several FEMA grants to include an exercise planner. Grants have been able to fund planning for integrated and coordinated emergency preparedness exercises such as mass shooting situations, an assessment of community needs and an update to the City's Emergency Operations Plan. The fiscal impacts of tens of thousands of dollars in unanticipated matching funds will hamper OEM's ability to address day-to-day activities. As an example of the effects of past decreases, OEM has cut back significantly on recruiting, training and overseeing the volunteer Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) to assist Alexandria's first responders during a catastrophic event (e.g., hurricane, terrorism). CERT's capability is a key part of OEM's strategy to train and then engage volunteers to bolster community emergency preparedness, safety and health in the event of a catastrophe.



While we recognize Congress has the final disposition on the FY18 federal budget, we highlight this negative posture and tone for local emergency preparedness needs. While we are confident in OEM's ability to strategize and advocate policy, we have concern with the stability of all the OEM programs to remain effective and tend to day-to-day activities and execute policy with reduced grant funding. In summary, our local fiscal prudence dictates anticipating these consequences by this shift in the Administration's priorities.

Finally, we feel it is very important to recognize Alexandria's leadership in emergency management across the entire National Capitol Region (NCR). As our citizens commute across the area for work and/or entertainment, and as our NCR neighbors likewise come to Alexandria for the same reasons, OEM's intensely collaborative approach to emergency planning is critical. Yet without strong regional leadership by OEM and the entire first responder and law enforcement professionals, our citizens and visitors will suffer. The uncertainties we face day-to-day can be mitigated with the right talent, with sufficient technological and personnel resourcing, and fused with a strong community spirit.

We can be contacted through our Chair, Rob Rapanut, via email [robierap1@comcast.net](mailto:robierap1@comcast.net) or (703) 370-9341.

Respectfully,

Alexandria City Citizen Corps Council

## Jackie Henderson

---

**From:** Janice Kupiec via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2017 4:00 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119357: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Good  
afternoon Mayor Silberberg, Vice Ma

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 119357.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "119357-2C4D6G".

- Name: Janice Kupiec
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: No Phone
- Email: [jkupiec@hotmail.com](mailto:jkupiec@hotmail.com)
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Good afternoon Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson and members of the City Council,

I am writing today to urge all of you to consider appropriately funding the Complete Streets and Safe Routes to School programs. I have communicated previously regarding general pedestrian safety in Alexandria. I have lived in Old Town for nearly 18 years and one of the main reasons I continue to live here is because it is an area that allows me to incorporate the benefits of urban living into my daily life. My family lives within blocks of the Potomac River, the Mt. Vernon Trail, King Street and our neighborhood elementary school. However, over the last year and a half I have had numerous near misses with cars while out and about on foot. I was nearly hit by a car one morning while walking to the King Street Metro station crossing over Daingerfield Road at Duke Street. Last September I was nearly hit by a car, again legally walking in the designated crosswalk, while crossing Washington Street at Jefferson Street on my way back from Lyles Crouch Traditional Academy (LCTA). In this instance Vice Mayor Wilson was very responsive after I contacted him and connected me with the Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee (BPAC). Jim Durham, the current chair of BPAC, was quick to reach out to me along with some neighbors and scheduled a walk around the neighborhood with a staff member in the T&ES department. As a result of this encounter, a leading pedestrian interval was installed at the intersection of Washington and Jefferson Streets. Though traffic continues to be heavy during rush hour at the intersection, I strongly believe the LPI has had a positive impact. I know I feel safer crossing whether I am alone or walking my child to school.

In November, I participated in a walk audit at LCTA with other parents, members of BPAC, a staff member from T&ES as well as the LCTA principal and the consultants conducting the audit. Though it was the week of Thanksgiving and traffic was lighter than most school mornings, many of us observed plenty areas around the school that are safety concerns. Vehicles travelling north on S. St. Asaph Street crossing over Gibbon Street did not always observe the crosswalks or the crossing guard and entered into the crosswalk area. Vehicles also travelled at excessive speeds. I witnessed this at the corner of S. Pitt Street and Gibbon as well. The evening rush hour is actually far worse and I have adjusted my route home when I am walking with my child to completely avoid the S. St. Asaph Street and Gibbon Street intersection. Vehicles continue to block the crosswalks, drivers have little regard for pedestrians and drive at excessive speeds over the short distances between blocks. This can be witnessed any weekday evening at the intersections of S. St. Asaph and Gibbon Streets; S. Pitt and Gibbon



Streets; S. Columbus and Gibbons Streets; S. Alfred and Gibbon Streets; and S. St. Asaph and Green Streets. It is very dangerous to be a pedestrian at any of these crosswalks, and this is a very limited area of the city. I am aware that there are plenty of intersections that are equally as dangerous that are also close to one of the other eleven elementary schools in the city.

Alexandria has also experienced an increase in residents being killed or injured while walking. It seems obvious that this would be something we would all want addressed. I strongly urge all of you to consider fully funding the Complete Streets and SFTS programs. The information I have reviewed estimates it will take \$148,000 to fix safety issues at two elementary schools, including LCTA. If the costs are representative of the needs at the remaining elementary schools, the estimate would be about \$900,000 for all 12 schools. Is \$900,000 too much to ensure that it is safe for the children who live in Alexandria to get to school?

As I previously stated, I do love living in Alexandria. I have been able to get to know many business owners in both Old Town and Del Ray and frequently feel that this is more of a small town than a city. Much of this is a result of my ability to walk around these sections of the city while doing errands, dining out or visiting a playground. But I need to feel safe and I need for my family to feel safe so that we can continue to do the things that we enjoy. Please consider fully funding these programs and the impact that they will have not only on the safety of residents but the quality of life that Alexandria provides.

Thank you,

Janice E. Kupiec

- Expected Response Date: Friday, April 28

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at [the \*\*Call.Click.Connect.\*\* staff interface.](#)

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Angela Willmore via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2017 6:34 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119364: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council As the  
parent of two, ACPS students, I a

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 119364.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "119364-DA62GB".

- Name: Angela Willmore
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-370-1091
- Email: amwillmore@gmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: As the parent of two, ACPS students, I am writing to request that the City Fully Fund Our Schools. This is an opportunity for the City to demonstrate that education of its children IS a priority.

Thank you.

- Expected Response Date: Friday, April 28

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

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

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Deanna Sibbald via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2017 8:35 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119369: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Dear  
Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Memb

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 119369.

### Request Details:

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: Deanna Sibbald
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 7035058910
- Email: dsibbald@comcast.net
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members,

Funding is needed for modernization of our school - Douglas MacArthur. We also need funding for swing space, as without it, modernization simply isn't possible for MacArthur, George Mason, Cora Kelly and others that should follow. As a 25-year resident of the City of Alexandria, I have seen many changes in the services offered by the City and State, many very positive. People love living in our City, but frequently choose to move to Arlington, Fairfax and Montgomery Counties for public school education opportunities. I realize there is intense competition for available dollars, but truly hope that we will keep our city competitive with our neighbors for educating our Children. Please support the School Board's proposed budget.

Best regards,  
Deanna Sibbald  
MacArthur PTA

- Expected Response Date: Friday, April 28

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

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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**Jackie Henderson**

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**From:** M V-H <mvadohawkins@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 8:28 AM  
**To:** Jackie Henderson  
**Cc:** Karen Ritter; cc: Lila Devi Ojha; Mary Holmes; Celicia Fowlkes; Yelytza Florero; Layla Al Maksood; Dianara Saget; Zeinab Yusuf; Farzaneh Mirzavand; deysi maradiaga; Jenny Strives; Mina Aziz; david hawkins; ahlam bentayaa; JENNY MAMANI GUTIERREZ  
**Subject:** Fully Fund ACPS A message from Class of 2016/2017 Alexandria's Parent Leadership Institute Graduates

*Dear Council Members,*

*We are members of the 2016/2017 Alexandria Parent Leadership Institute class and we are writing to urge you to fully fund our Alexandria Public Schools (ACPS) according to the purposed budget, accepted by the Alexandria City School Board. It is our view that enrollment growth and changing demographics, academic achievement, employee compensation, facilities management, and future capacity are all important drivers in the need to fully fund ACPS. Creating a brighter future for our children and our community depends largely on a quality education, and the appropriate resources necessary for our schools to provide this. Thank you for your time.*

*Sincerely,*

*The Alexandria Parent Leadership Institute class of 2016/2017*

## Jackie Henderson

---

**From:** Marie Randall via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 02, 2017 8:07 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120036: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Mayor Silberberg and Vice Mayor Wilson a

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 120036.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "120036-HBB4B6".

- Name: Marie Randall
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-855-8182
- Email: randallmw@comcast.net
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Mayor Silberberg and Vice Mayor Wilson and Councilmembers -

I am writing one more time to advocate for full funding of ACPS and for you all to support the 5.7 cent real estate tax increase. The federal budget was just passed without any major cuts to funding, and while I know the feds will need to do this all over again in September, I think you can use this as precedent that there are not going to be the major slashes that were proposed. There is just too much at stake in Congress to pass a budget that hurts local communities.

I am willing to take a likely \$50 a month property tax increase on my single family home. I know that not everyone has the same budget, but I want my children to have a comfortable learning environment that sets up our entire system for success. If there are folks with true budgetary challenges, then allow them to apply for relief. However, as I look at house after house being sold for \$600K, \$700K, \$800K up to over a million dollars, I think Council needs to understand that we have a very stable income population that could absorb these taxes relatively easily. Alexandria would still - even after the increase - have the second lowest real estate tax rate in the region.

City Council needs to be a champion for our public schools. The Scholarship Gala just raised over million dollars (again) to assist ACPS grads with their college education. What other community can say that it supports its public schools like we do? What other community has that type of commitment - and why doesn't Council use that great positive information and then build on it.

The investment in facilities will only increase the competitiveness for employers of the City with other locales. It shows an investment in the future and it will help meet the needs that exist now.

City Council needs to take this very large step now - and not kick this down the road again. I will be watching everyone's votes - and so will many others. These are YOUR schools - fund them - defend them - champion them. There are great kids coming out of these schools - and they have accomplished so much more than their peers in private schools who have no overcrowding, little socio-economic diversity, etc. Put your support - via your taxing power - behind these students.

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Kathleen Sokolove via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 9:33 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120029: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council There  
is no issue more important to me i

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 120029.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "120029-AB9GH6".

- Name: Kathleen Sokolove
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 7039690332
- Email: kathy\_hildreth@hotmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: There is no issue more important to me in Alexandria City than fully funding our schools. It affects me as a tax payer, home owner, and parent. I support an increased property tax to endure our schools will be equipped to serve the increased volume of students. The future of our city depends on our ability to maintain our infrastructures. Do the right thing and fully fund the schools as well as any other city issue.
- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 8

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

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** John Franke  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 3:57 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** City Supplemental Retirement Plan

Good Afternoon,

I agree in principle with D. Lawhorne's response to the massive reduction to the Supplemental Pension Lump Sum option. I however question the phase in timeline for the new plan.

I have been planning for the lump sum payout from the day I was introduced to the City benefit plans at employee orientation. Now at this late date in my employment, I now have to make the choice of taking a reduced pension benefit or a reduced lump sum payout. I lose either way. Either I have a reduced pension benefit by leaving early or I leave on schedule and basically lose ~20% of my lump sum supplemental payout. This is not a financial change I can recover from.

I understand that tough decisions have to be made, however using it to pay for other employee benefits just seems fair. Making these decisions in the dark of night with no input from employees and then ram rodding it through along with the mandatory budget process in an abbreviated timeframe just doesn't seem right. I would think a more phased in implementation of this drastic change would not be so destructive to the future plans of employees nearing retirement.

I originally accepted a position with the City of Alexandria at a lower pay scale because the benefits were better. I was thrilled as I was looking towards the future. I had a contract with the City. Now the benefits and pay have been clawed back in so many different areas, there isn't much left other than a paycheck. If you calculate the value of the benefits clawed back and the cancellation of COLAs I have actually taken a substantial reduction in pay. It is interesting to now note, that only a select group of City employees are receiving retention pay. What message is this sending the rest of the employees?

I have appreciated the opportunity to work for the City of Alexandria! I do however believe there is a more transparent way of implementing this change.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
John Franke

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Robert Hueckstaedt via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 04, 2017 11:12 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #115495: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Dear  
Mayor Silberberg and City Council M

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 115495.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "115495-8GD333".

- Name: Robert Hueckstaedt
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703 838 5713
- Email: rmhueckst@gmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Dear Mayor Silberberg and City Council Members,

I am writing to encourage you to hold the Alexandria public school superintendent and school board to greater accountability for their funding projections and spending practices. As the father of a 1st grader at Douglas MacArthur Elementary (with two younger children as well), I am aware and concerned about the need to upgrade school facilities. However, I find emotional appeals from the PTA for parents to blindly advocate in factor of the school board's funding requests unproductive. Given recent activities and choices, I see little reason for confidence that "throwing money at the problem" is the solution. Nor do I think I can afford it as a taxpayer.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Robert Hueckstaedt

- Expected Response Date: Monday, March 13

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If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Allison Silberberg  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 3:10 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Call.Click.Connect. #119843: Alexandria Mayor Allison Silberberg Good morning mayor my name is bettie my

FYI

-Allison

**From:** Bettie Thompson via Call.Click.Connect. [mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 29, 2017 5:18 AM  
**To:** Christine Widstrom; Allison Silberberg  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119843: Alexandria Mayor Allison Silberberg Good morning mayor my name is bettie my

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 119843.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "119843-8CCD2B".

- Name: Bettie Thompson
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703 593 4264
- Email: [sweetandbad47@aol.com](mailto:sweetandbad47@aol.com)
- Service Type: Alexandria Mayor Allison Silberberg
- Request Description: Good morning mayor my name is bettie my family and I have lived in alexandria for more then 25 years I live on the 206 e custis ave in delray I am sending you this email as I am a single women living here and I am very upset abouth my taxes going up to help fund the school here this should have been done years ago if the schools need funding why now for single person in alexandria it is getting hard for us we pay all kinds of taxes here I dont think this is right then the city let's someone open a daycare across for my home without letting this homeowner now abouth it we have lived here a long time now please don't get me rong but I am not in favor of higher taxes on my home
- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 8

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

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Diana Schwanhausser <dschwan13@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 2:37 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** retirement

Because of the changes just made, I have had to consider retirement this year. I have worked for the City for over 25 years. Some of us that are eligible for retirement but had not planned to retire in 2017, are now talking to financial advisers - crunching the numbers.

In a matter of a few months we have to get our paper work together for the City to even let us retire in 2017 under the current rules.

Where are the extra classes on retirement on short notice'?

It seems that we should have been given a year ... not even 6 months before all the paper has to be collected and turned in ... forget something and you do not get to retire in 2017.

A change has to be made - but why make the employees pay the price for this last minute/announcement decision?

thank you for taking another look at these changes - Diana Schwanhausser

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 2:03 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119966: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council To Mayor Silberberg and City Council -

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 119966.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "119966-2A7873".

- Name: *Call.Click.Connect.* Customer
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: No Phone
- Email: No Email
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: To Mayor Silberberg and City Council -

Supporting our schools is critical to preserving the strength and vibrancy of our community. School facilities have a demonstrable impact on student outcomes. Please demonstrate your commitment to education. Fully fund modernization of Douglas MacArthur and swing space to improve the infrastructure for our current and future students!

- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 8

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

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**Jackie Henderson**

---

**From:** Margaret Ano  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 1:55 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** BUDGET CONCERNS

One other point that needs to be address is the cola increases or lack thereof. We City employees have been told we are the city's greatest asset but how can that be when we have not had a Cola increase in 10 years. Merit increases are only 2-3%. By the time it trickles down to the city employees the ones with the most experience we only get maybe 20.00 after taxes. Cola increases should not weight against Capital Projects or anything else if we are not the City Best asset (from customer's point of view) then why are we still here. It is the time to show how you really feel about the jobs we do considering the letters of complements you all get all the time. Actions speaks louder than words if we are the best assets the city has then it is up to the City Council to prove it.

Sorry this needed to be addressed as well.

Thank You

Margaret Ano

## Jackie Henderson

---

**From:** William Pfister via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 1:46 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119958: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, and

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 119958.

### Request Details:

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: William Pfister
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 4044050770
- Email: wcpfister@gmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, and members of the City Council.

I am writing again to convey support for tax increases necessary to properly support our schools. No one realistically wants to pay more taxes but I, along with a majority of Alexandria, recognize that our schools need more resources than they have been receiving. You have heard many times the issues, including learning spaces that are overcapacity and generally unsuitable, leaky structures, rodents in classrooms, and failing, overly expensive-to-repair heating and cooling systems and other equipment. Our children, teachers, and community deserve better.

My wife and I have three young children that will be in Alexandria City Public Schools next year and our family has strong ties to Alexandria. I was a member of the ACPS Redistricting Review Committee and will be Douglas MacArthur's PTA President, so I am very familiar with the condition of our schools. I appreciate that you have many difficult decisions to make but this is by far one of the most important. We must act now to address the needs of our schools.

Thank you,  
Bill Pfister

- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 8

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## Jackie Henderson

---

**From:** Diane Smalley via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 11:52 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119934: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Please  
support Vice Mayor Wilson's budge

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 119934.

### Request Details:

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: Diane Smalley
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703 751 3388
- Email: dsmalley48@gmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Please support Vice Mayor Wilson's budget add for a contingency fund for early childhood services. We are grateful for the FY17 investment in child care subsidy and scholarships for four year olds. Without it in FY18, many low-income working families will not have access to quality child care and we will not be able to access the funds from the Virginia Preschool Initiative from the state.  
Thank you.  
Creative Play Schools
- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 8

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

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**Jackie Henderson**

---

**From:** Rose Abilmona  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 1:28 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** City Council Aides; Mark Jinks  
**Subject:** City Supplemental Proposed Changes

Dear City Council Members,

As the president of the Alexandria General Employees Association, I would like to give you some final thoughts;

- I support the Sheriff's recommendation that you implement the 5% for FY 18 only and pause on the next two years. This will give you the necessary funding for the end of scale merits that are in the proposed FY 18 budget and give us a chance to hear all the facts before you move forward on phasing in the next two years.
- Put this on the city council docket in the Fall for review.
- I have had numerous employees tell me that they are reluctant to get involved because of consequences. This needs to be acknowledged and dealt with in order to facilitate a free flow of information.

Thank you,  
Rose Abilmona,  
Alexandria Government Employees Association  
President

## Jackie Henderson

---

**From:** Robert Eiffert via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 10:46 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #119925: 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 119925.

### Request Details:

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: Robert Eiffert
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-862-4399
- Email: michaelandbob@comcast.net
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Dear Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council: This is Bob Eiffert writing on behalf of the Alexandria Commission on Aging to urge your support of the restoration of daytime hours at the Cora Kelly and William Ramsay Recreation Centers for daytime activities (\$45,572). These activities largely support senior programming. Many thanks to Mayor Silberberg and Council Members Bailey and Lovain for your initial support of this add item to the FY 2018 budget. We ask all of you to support this funding restoration. Thank you for your consideration, and for your many years of support for older Alexandrians.
- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 8

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

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**Jackie Henderson**

---

**From:** Ramee A. Gentry <ramee.gentry@acps.k12.va.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 9:08 AM  
**To:** City Council; Mark Jinks  
**Cc:** Board; Alvin Crawley  
**Subject:** Message from School Board on Budget

Greetings Madame Mayor, Vice Mayor, and members of Council,

As you enter your final period of deliberations for the 2018 Budget, we on the Alexandria School Board would like to take the opportunity to offer our feedback on the items that have come under discussion.

First, the Board thanks Council for including a real estate tax increase of 3 cents above the proposed budget. We understand that raising taxes can be a challenging decision, but we know that you understand the many pressing needs across our city and in our school division. We applaud this investment you are making for the future of Alexandria.

Further, knowing that both the City and ACPS do have many needs, and understanding that even with additional funding and revised debt policy there will be fiscal constraints, we also applaud the commitment to joint planning of both city and school CIPs. The School Board shares the Council's desire to begin this work soon. In order to set up the working group for success, we ask the Superintendent and the City Manager, as well as legal counsel for both our bodies, work together to finalize the document. Our goal is to ensure the final language can be adopted in order to start the work.

The School Board agrees with the goals of the proposed task force: to create a system of collaboration that moves CIP and facilities planning beyond a single fiscal year towards a shared long term approach. The School Board can direct the Superintendent to work with the City Manager to create a recommended structure for collaboration in developing a CIP plan that both identifies opportunities for joint facilities/co-location for City and school programs, and proposes to both bodies how to build this work into our current CIP process.

As discussed in the last City Schools Subcommittee meeting, in order for us to take advantage of a Task Force or other collaborative structures, it may be necessary for the budget calendar for the upcoming year to be realigned. We look forward to outlining this revised schedule, and propose it be a topic for discussion at our upcoming joint meeting, complete with recommendations from the City Manager and Superintendent.

Finally, we hope that the Council will recognize that while we look forward to the recommendations of the Task Force, and a more collaborative approach to developing our CIP budgets in the long term, there remains urgent capacity and non-capacity needs in our school division. If no further adjustments are made to the budget, ACPS is scheduled to receive \$19 million in CIP funding, \$13.5 million less than the \$32.5 million identified for ACPS in 2018 in the City's Final Approved 2017-2026 CIP budget. In considering the proposed add/delete to keep funds from the tax increase in contingency, we urge the Council to remain open to considering the immediate capacity and non-capacity needs at ACPS that can be addressed with these funds in fiscal year 2018, and not delaying until the 2019 budget.

**Jackie Henderson**

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**From:** Margaret Ano  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 9:28 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Porposed Budget

I am a city employee as well as a city resident. I am writing because there somethings to be addressed.

City of Alexandria has no affordable housing when house is over 100,00.00 and a apartment not even A 1 bedroom is over 1,000 a month the only people who can afford those homes are those that make Over 80-90 thousand a year, that means the only people who can afford those homes are supervisors As long as they have a mate or partner who makes just a much. Anyone who works for the city who is Not a supervisor can't afford a descent place to live in the city.

Next they city merit system needs to be reexamined. Employees who have been here the longest should Be getting higher pay raises like the at the beginning of their step . Employees who have been here the Shortest should be getting the least amount. Human Resources has it backwards.

Now with the pension I can understand why to lump sum needs to cease but what I don't understand You feel the need to take any money from peoples pensions that equals to stealing. You may not see it that way, but that is what it amounts to. How many people have been arrested who have worked for the City because they stole money hours etc from the city. City employees have worked hard and they Don't need anyone taking money from them that they have gotten written documents from Prudential showing the amount each of us were supposed to be getting. Then what would you use it for not to pay people's merit increases that would be totally unfair. The only use for that money is for pension benefits nothing else it should be used for.

I ask that the City council respectfully reject the City Managers budget where it proposes to cut our pension Benefits from Prudential,

Respectfully  
Margaret Ano

## Jackie Henderson

---

**From:** Mark Williams via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 6:41 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120012: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council  
Proxies for the School Board have

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 120012.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "120012-E3H6G2".

- Name: Mark Williams
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 202.531.5125
- Email: markwilliams@yahoo.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description:

Proxies for the School Board have been contacting you with increasing frequency to insist that Council "fully fund ACPS." Council is doing so, generously. I urge Council to exercise restraint and to not enable the School Board to proceed with its plan to separate TC Williams into two high schools. This is exactly what the School Board is proposing to do, and this plan creates real risks with respect to educational equity and access.

The School Board has proposed and considered High School Educational Specifications at great length. The School Board has considered these HS Ed Specs at three different meetings, after dedicating both Staff and consulting attention to their development. These HS Ed Specs are explicitly intended to be binding, and not purely aspirational documents. They specify "requirements;" they must be consulted to assure "compliance;" they are to be used to "measure project deliverables" (see attached at pp. 8-9). They are a firm plan that Council should take both seriously and literally, as the HS Ed Specs themselves indicate.

After multiple rounds of discussion, the School Board unanimously adopted HS Ed Specs that provide for a new, second high school that is deemed by the School Board to be necessary based arbitrarily on the average size of selected other high schools (pp. 24-25). Nowhere in the HS Ed Specs is the applicability of other averages to Alexandria explained or justified.

The HS Ed Specs call for schools that are "neighborhood" based (p. 22), even at the high school level (the HS Ed Specs apply only to high schools, and not to elementary schools). Each high school is to be a full-service, nine-through-twelve school (p. 44). Each high school is to include a college placement office (p. 40), which would not be necessary if a 9/10 – 11/12 grade model were actually being considered. The School Board has been clear, in the HS Ed Specs, about its goals:

"ACPS currently operates its high school education from two campuses a ninth grade center and a grade 10 through 12 campus a few blocks away. ACPS desires to provide high schools that serve students in grades nine through 12 at a comprehensive campus with a junior college atmosphere." (p. 44)

The HS Ed Specs define, granularly, exactly what the School Board's intentions are: to depart from the current student-assignment system and to instead develop 9-12 campuses.

The effects of this dramatic move on students in the West End – a majority of the City's current population – will be extraordinary. Students will no longer all have equal access and proximity to athletic programs. Students will no longer be placed together in the same, common melting-pot. Students will no longer be assured of the universal access that they now have to the full academic and co-curricular programs offered to all students at TC Williams. West End families will feel – and will be – excluded from the best that the school division has to offer. West End real estate prices could be affected. And the students will suffer.

The School Board and its proxies are shrieking that TC Williams is overcrowded. Statistics do not bear out this claim. Publicly available real property and permitting records make clear that several area high schools offer materially less usable, completed, enclosed, square footage per student than TC Williams does today (for example, Washington-Lee, West Potomac, and Mount Vernon). Of particular note are two assertions that relate to safety: TC Williams cannot be rapidly evacuated, and TC Williams's corridors are unsafely overcrowded during passing/class-change period. At the School Board's April 20 community engagement meeting, the first safety assertion was explicitly refuted by Staff. The second assertion would indicate lengthening each passing period by two minutes.

I care deeply about our public schools, and I support them. I have manifested that support (privately), in part because the school division is the most fundamental of civic institutions. I do not take lightly the needs of ACPS for substantial resources. It is regrettable that the School Board has so athletically diverted all available funding to capital consumption that Staff salaries have been given short-shrift. Council's last chance to restore sense is approaching. The School Board's planned implementation of HS Ed Specs is imprudent, and Council has not been told a complete, accurate story by people that either have not correctly represented their plans, or – even worse – might not have thoroughly read them.

- Attachment: [C%3a%5cUsers%5cMP074002%5cDocuments%5chsedspecsexc.pdf](#)
- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 8

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 03, 2017 10:59 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120215: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Two things. the current school board do

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 120215.

### Request Details:

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- Name: *Call.Click.Connect.* Customer
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: No Phone
- Email: No Email
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Two things. the current school board does not listen to the recommendations of facility improvements from the School facility superintendent and their crew on improvement priorities. that's why the school infrastructures are so bad. instead the current school board who has no technical backgrounds in infrastructure came up with their own CIP infrastructure plan each year. secondly, the school board always ask for more money from the city because they know they never get the amount they asked for so that's why the asking amount is always so unrealistically high. it has nothing to do with what the school "need" or "want". the asking amount has no bases. besides, the school board doesn't know the infrastructure "needs" or "priorities". the school facility superintendent and crew are the ones that know the real story and know what the "needs" really are..

yes the blue ribbon thing is good to audit the school spending and provide recommendations. but two years and paying \$300k for consultants?? lol. the city already know what is wrong with the school board, why do we need to pay "consultants" or "hired guns" to tell the city that? you know the consultant will do what the policy maker what they to say!!! \$300k and two years later that just sound like fluff.. everyone of that school board below are at fault..and useless.. so city manager, mayor, vice mayor and council members please be wise when deciding on the budgets.. delete every item the school board ask for. it's their faults.

District A  
Bill Campbell  
Hal Cardwell  
Karen A. Graf  
District B  
Cindy Anderson (Vice-Chair)  
Margaret Lorber  
Veronica Nolan  
District C  
Ronnie Campbell  
Ramee A. Gentry (Chair)  
Christopher J. Lewis

- Expected Response Date: Wednesday, May 10

## Jackie Henderson

---

**From:** Jack Browand  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 02, 2017 5:19 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides  
**Cc:** Mark Jinks; Emily Baker; James Spengler  
**Subject:** Waterfront Commission FY 2018 Budget Memo to City Council  
**Attachments:** Waterfront Commission FY 2018 Budget Letter.pdf

Honorable Mayor and members of City Council,

Please find attached a letter from Stephen Thayer, Chair, on behalf of the Waterfront Commission.

Sincerely,  
Jack

Jack Browand, Division Chief  
Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities  
Park Planning, Design & Capital Development  
1108 Jefferson St.  
Alexandria VA 22314  
703.746.5504 (O)  
202.497.7452 (C)  
[www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation)  
[www.alexandriava.gov/SocialMedia](http://www.alexandriava.gov/SocialMedia)



# *Alexandria Waterfront Commission*

*Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities*

*1108 Jefferson Street*

*Alexandria, Virginia 22314*

May 2, 2017

Honorable Mayor & members of City Council  
City of Alexandria  
301 King Street  
Alexandria VA 22314

Re: FY 2018 Operating & Capital Improvement Program Budget

The Alexandria Waterfront Commission encourages City Council to approve the funding for the implementation of the Waterfront Small Area Plan as proposed by the City Manager in the FY 2018 Operating & Capital Improvement Program Budget. This funding continues to provide the resources necessary to facilitate the construction of the City Council approved priorities.

At its March 21, 2017, the Alexandria Waterfront Commission unanimously agreed that the implementation of the Waterfront Small Area Plan is the highest priority, with the multi-phase flood mitigation project as the most critical. The Commission, as a whole, encourages the City Council to consider advancing appropriate funding when considering the FY 2019 budget to shorten the construction timeline. This will provide the City with needed increased economic activity envisioned by the plan, and its residents and visitors can benefit from improvements in a shorter period of time.

Sincerely,

Stephen Thayer, Chair  
Alexandria Waterfront Commission

cc: Waterfront Commission  
Mark Jinks, City Manager  
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager  
James Spengler, Director, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities  
Jack Browand, Division Chief, Staff Liaison to the Waterfront Commission

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Benjamin Hopkins via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 02, 2017 8:29 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120165: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council at 108  
E CUSTIS AVE I write in support of the council's inte

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 120165.

### Request Details:

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: Benjamin Hopkins
- Approximate Address: 108 E CUSTIS AVE (See [map below](#))
- Phone Number: 2024318343
- Email: benjamindhopkins@gmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: I write in support of the council's intention to raise the city's property tax rate in order to fully fund the educational and infrastructure requirements of Alexandria in the 21st century. I have lived in the Del Ray neighborhood for seven years and have three children, the oldest of whom is presently attending Mount Vernon Community School as a first grader. I firmly believe in public education as a public good, and as a professor at George Washington University I daily encounter the consequences of investment (or lack thereof) in K-12 education. I find it disheartening that my daughter's teachers, who are outstanding, are occasionally forced to send requests for supplies and materials because the school budget does not cover their needs. This says nothing of the infrastructure requirements of ACPS, which the city is well behind on financing. Even though there has been a large residential development close to us at Potomac Yards, there has been no elementary school constructed to absorb the many children whose families have moved to the area. We all benefit from public education, whether we have kids in the system now, in the past, will have in the future, or have no children at all. That said, I also am keenly aware that the city's fiscal needs extend beyond ACPS to include, amongst other things, an upgraded storm water system so that pollution does not regularly overflow into the Potomac. We need to fully fund this, and need to do so through property taxes. We also need to fund the new Potomac Yard metro station. I realize that Metro is fun to beat up on at the moment, but what we are seeing there is the consequence of 40 years of underinvestment. It is now time to make that investment, not only for the present but the future as well. Better metro service has all kinds of positive knock on effects, including higher property values (and thus tax receipts for the city), less congestion on the roads and thus less wear and tear on our city streets, and a smaller, greener footprint for our community as a whole.  
I fully understand that there are those on fixed incomes who may find the proposed increase a strain on their already tight finances. I believe the council has it in its power to fashion a compromise and/or exemption for that relatively small number of households who will nonetheless be disproportionately effected. For the rest of us, however, those of us who are middle class middle income households, I think it totally appropriate and right for the city to ask us to pitch in for our collective good. I agree with Oliver Wendall Holmes: I like to pay taxes. With them I buy civilization.  
Many thanks for your service to the community.  
Benjamin D. Hopkins
- Expected Response Date: Tuesday, May 9



The Daily Goodmother

Del Ray Pizzeria

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 02, 2017 11:25 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120173: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Please do not approve the proposed 5.7 c

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 120173.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "120173-B3AD59".

- Name: Linda Wernery
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: No Phone
- Email: No Email
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Please do not approve the proposed 5.7 cent property tax increase. Alexandria residents are being squeezed with these constant increases in property taxes on top of higher property assessments. It's ridiculous. The city needs to learn how to manage its coffers better. Enough!
- Expected Response Date: Tuesday, May 9

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

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Tom Hyde via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 03, 2017 8:16 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120186: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Good  
morning.Enough with the tax inc

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 120186.

### Request Details:

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- Name: Tom Hyde
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: No Phone
- Email: vthyde@gmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Good morning.

Enough with the tax increases!!

In 2011 my property tax bill was \$5,418.87 and the tax rate was 0.998.

In 2016 my property tax bill was \$7,528.96, the tax rate was 1.073 and the now implemented refuse fee was \$350.00.

In 2017, based off of the proposed increases and the SOP 5% increase in my assessment, my tax bill will be \$8,396.55, plus the increased refuse fee of \$373. A total bill in 2017 of \$8,769 vs my 2011 bill of \$5,418 or a 61.8% increase!!! If you had kept the property tax rate constant at 0.998, my tax bill would still have increased to \$7415 or 36.7% based solely off increased assessments.

A constant tax rate alone would have seen my tax bill far exceed the rate of inflation! That's during a period in time when construction costs and wages in DC Metro were both flat!

It's time to focus on the cost side and not just a constant and accelerated increase in "revenues"!

Regards-

Tom Hyde

- Expected Response Date: Wednesday, May 10

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

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Tom Slayton via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 03, 2017 9:36 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120207: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Dear  
Mayor & City Council,As a 31-ye

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 120207.

### Request Details:

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: Tom Slayton
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-549-1199
- Email: ricetrader@aol.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Dear Mayor & City Council,

As a 31-year resident, I am under no illusion that you are going to soon vote to raise city property taxes by the maximum amount advertised. That said, I hope you will include in these property taxes the money intended to finance the waste water facility, so that they can at least be deductible on federal income taxes - where city fees cannot. This is particularly important given your plans to rapidly ramp up the size of these fees.

I understand the optics and political reasoning behind why you might want to show this as a separate fee, but it is contrary to current practice of funding of all other capital project that either the city or schools finance. Also, I understand we already have dedicated .5 cents to this in our property taxes already. I hope against hope that you will do the right thing.

- Expected Response Date: Wednesday, May 10

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

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Margaret via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 02, 2017 12:29 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120090: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Good morning - I read in the Washing

Dear **Call.Click.Connect.** User

A request was just created using **Call.Click.Connect.** The request ID is 120090.

### Request Details:

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: Margaret
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: No Phone
- Email: ritzertm@hotmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Good morning -

I read in the Washington Post this morning that the Council is set to raise both property taxes and stormwater management fees, which is expected to result in a total of over \$700 in additional expenses per year for the average Alexandria homeowner. I am writing today to oppose these increases.

While I understand the need to fund schools and sewers, I would urge the Council to also consider the effect of these taxes and fees on the different demographic groups within the city. Personally, as one of the younger homeowners in the city (we are in our thirties), it's already a challenge to afford our home here. It's no secret that cost of living is high in our area, but we have decided that it's worth it to live in such a culturally and historically rich area as Alexandria. That said, we are already worried that we may have to follow the path that many of our friends have tread before us, and move out to the further suburbs so that we can afford to both own a home and raise a family. An additional \$700 a year may not seem like a lot, but for us and other younger households it just makes it that much harder to stay here. At the very least, it's \$700 that we won't be spending in the restaurants and stores on King Street. At the most, it's another reason to move out to Manassas or Clifton.

I urge the Council to consider whether it wants to encourage a diversity of property owners within Alexandria, or whether it would be content to foster a more homogenous community of wealthy older homeowners. Perhaps a better approach would be to reconsider and reprioritize the allocation of the City's current income.

Thank you for your consideration.

- Expected Response Date: Tuesday, May 9

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

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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## Jackie Henderson

---

**From:** Charles Edwin (Mickey) Simpson, Jr. C.P.A via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 08, 2017 3:49 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120598: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Justify  
the Tax and Fees Increase Please

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 120598.

### Request Details:

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: Charles Edwin (Mickey) Simpson, Jr. C.P.A
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-6247630
- Email: Mickeys39@aol.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Justify the Tax and Fees Increase Please

I have lived or worked in the city of Alexandria most of my life. I have observed in excess of 50 budget cycles. This budget cycle was by far the most unusual.

A group of long term city council members who have been thru seven or more budget cycles just discovered that they had approved budgets that did not allow Alexandria to maintain its physical buildings, schools, and sewer system. The past seven budgets deferred replacement of the failing sewer system (parts of which are 100 years old) and ignored the fact that raw sewage was running into the Potomac River.

The citizens of this city have noticed this and have been asking questions about this for 15 years or more. How can long-serving members of the city council have not noticed this and allowed it to continue this long?

The city manager presented a very reasonable budget with a 2.7 cent increase in the real estate tax rate. That was a reasonable start on solving problems caused by low budgeting.

The Vice Major proposed a 5.7 cent increase without any intention of compromise.

The council had an "add and delete" meeting in which they supported the 5.7 cent increase with the only proposed deletions being offered by the Mayor.

It was apparent that some of the council members came to that meeting with no intent of compromising with the Mayor. They demonstrated arrogant thinking

This council cannot fix years of low budgeting with an increase of taxes and fees in one year.

This current budget has set aside millions of dollars in something like a slush fund. The use of which will be determined later. Three hundred thousand dollars is for potential use of consultants to study what the newly created task force will recommend to council. This city has a staff to perform this service.

This nearly 10 cent increase in taxes and fees imposes a hardship on a lot of our long term low and moderate income residents and seniors.

Charles Edwin Simpson, Jr. C.P.A.  
203 Yoakum Parkway #725  
Alexandria, VA 22304

- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 15

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

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Michelle Krocker via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 08, 2017 5:02 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120609: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council  
Mayor Silberberg and Members of City Cou

Dear **Call.Click.Connect.** User

A request was just created using **Call.Click.Connect.** The request ID is 120609.

**Request Details:**

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: Michelle Krocker
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-919-0049
- Email: michellekrocker@gmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Mayor Silberberg and Members of City Council, I am providing the attached letter on behalf of the Housing Alexandria coalition.
- Attachment: ThankyoultrtoCC.docx
- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 15

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

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

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May 9, 2017

Mayor Silberberg and Members of City Council,

We are writing to thank you for including \$4.3 million for The Episcopal Church of the Resurrection/AHC development of 113 affordable housing units in the City's final FY2018 budget.

We understand how difficult the budget deliberations were this year, and we appreciate your commitment to the issue of housing affordability – one of the top priorities for residents in the city. Without a diversity of housing choices, we will become a city of haves and have-nots – a distinction that none of us ever wants to see.

Thank you for hearing our concerns and for acknowledging the invaluable public-private partnership between the church and the city to address our goal of increasing the supply of affordable housing. With additional development projects in the pipeline, we are ready to work with you and the Office of Housing to devise creative strategies for how to ensure more sustainable funding for affordable housing in the future.

Thank you for your commitment to serving all the residents of our city.

Sincerely,

Michelle Krocker, Housing Alexandria and Executive Director, NVAHA

Rev. Jon Smoot, Executive Director, Habitat for Humanity Northern Virginia

Jane King

Lynn Thomas, Executive Director, Community Lodgings

Rikki Epstein, Executive Director, The Arc of Northern Virginia

Katharine Dixon, Pres and CEO, Rebuilding Together Alexandria

Shelley Murphy, Pres and CEO, Wesley Housing Development Corporation

Jody Manor

Pam Michell, Executive Director, New Hope Housing

Jon Frederick, Executive Director, Alexandria Housing Development Corporation

Walter Webdale, Pres and CEO, AHC, Inc.

Rev. Jo Belser, Episcopal Church of the Resurrection

Rev. Mary Beth Blinn, Lead Pastor, Fairlington United Methodist Church

Betsy Faga, Episcopal Church of the Resurrection

Kari Galloway, Executive Director, Friends of Guest House

Rev. J. Randolph Alexander Jr (Rector) and Rev. David M. Crosby (Associate Rector), Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

Rev. Deborah Porras, Beverly Hills Community UMC

Kym Burke

Rev. Jeannette Leisk, Corinne Baker Berkseth and Cheryl Malloy, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Rev. Collins Asonye, Rector, Meade Church

J. Glenn Hopkins, Hopkins House

Diane Charles, Executive Director and Patrick Anderson, President, ALIVE!

Carol Downs, Chair, Alexandria Commission on Aging

Ann Marie Hay

Rev. Noelle York Simmons, Rector, Nancy Carson, Vestry Member, Melanie Gray, Director of Outreach and Mission, Christ Church

Evelin Urrutia, Executive Director, Tenants and Workers United

The Rev Oran Warder, the Rev. Ross Kane, the Rev. Greg Millikin, Ms. Laura Simmons, Director of St Paul's Lazarus Ministry, Bob Steventon, Betty Livingston, St. Paul's Episcopal Church

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Betsy Faga via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 6:44 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120619: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Dear  
Mayor Silberberg and City Council M

Dear **Call.Click.Connect.** User

A request was just created using **Call.Click.Connect.** The request ID is 120619.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "120619-A48CD8".

- Name: Betsy Faga
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-407-8889
- Email: bfaga10@gmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Dear Mayor Silberberg and City Council Members,

Please see the attached thank you letter from the congregation of the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection.

Kindest regards,

Betsy Faga  
Chair, Redevelopment Committee  
Episcopal Church of the Resurrection

- Attachment: [Resurrection Thank You 2017-05-07.pdf](#)
- Expected Response Date: Tuesday, May 16

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at [the \*\*Call.Click.Connect.\*\* staff interface.](#)

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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## Episcopal Church of the Resurrection

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May 7, 2017

Mayor Allison Silberberg and City Council Members  
City of Alexandria  
301 King Street,  
Alexandria, VA

Dear Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson, and Council Members Bailey, Chapman,  
Lovain, Pepper and Smedberg,

We, the parishioners of Church of the Resurrection, want to extend our deepest thanks for keeping affordable housing on the forefront of the City's agenda by including \$4.3 million in the final FY2018 budget for that line item. Those funds will help develop 113 units of affordable housing in the Beauregard Corridor through a collaborative project between Church of the Resurrection and AHC, Inc., pending final plan approval by Council in November or December and a successful application for low-income housing tax credits in 2018.

We give special thanks to Councilman Bailey for initiating the add/delete submission form and those who co-sponsored the submission so the funding could be put on the table for discussion.

Every Sunday during our service, we pray together our Resurrection Redevelopment Prayer that says in part, ... *We thank you for giving us everything needed to do what you are asking us to do...to be your hands, voices, and hearts in our community...* We know this was a very difficult and challenging budget year, and many of us will feel the effect of the increased tax rate. However, you have given us the opportunity to take the next steps in reaching out to our community to meet one of the most basic of needs – affordable shelter.

The strong support for our project has been evidenced through your very complimentary remarks of our efforts, and we respect the differing views on how the funds within the city budget might have been generated. We look forward to continuing to work with you as our project moves forward and to being part of a broader conversation to ensure the sustainability of affordable housing projects in Alexandria.

Yours in Christ,

*Jo J. Belser*

*Betsy Faga*

*Kat Turner*

*Ken Gay*

Stephen H. Hilt  
Kim Hilt

Thomas C. Hilt

Christina Bruckert

Jerry Schaak

Emeline A. Wilson

Louise Bennett

Linda D. Goff

Robert A. Nae

Frances Barnett

Margaret Riccardelli

Christa Granna

Kathleen Barnes

Peggy Tiedemann

Rg Mandell

Alfred John-Wick

John John-Wick

Allen Tiedemann

Rebecca Ashitey

Denna Jaworski

Sam Weber

Susan Jones

Robert Kerner

Barbara Bonebrake

Maureen Bryant

Carol J. Childs

Anne C. Stephens

Barb Eversman

Ann S. Hilt

Elizabeth P. Raymond

Joey Isaacs

Bob Mott

William C. McKeth

Cheryl McCool

Bea Taylor

Ken Pearce

Ruth Allen

Harie C. Seme

Gay Co. SENE

Sam Jones

Robert A. Barnett

Pamela Halgean

Thy Graham

David Jones

Gay Co. SENE

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Rosa Byrd via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 08, 2017 2:47 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120584: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council The  
residents of Auburn Village, Arlandr

Dear **Call.Click.Connect.** User

A request was just created using **Call.Click.Connect.** The request ID is 120584.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "120584-H9224G".

- Name: Rosa Byrd
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-549-2931
- Email: rebyrd@comcast.net
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: The residents of Auburn Village, Arlandria, Hume Springs and Lynhaven thank Mayor Allison Silberberg, Councilman William Bailey, Councilwoman Del Pepper, and Councilman Timothy Lovain for maintaining the hours of operation at Cora Kelly and William Ramsay Recreation Centers. As always, we thank you for caring. Last but not least, we appreciate the many hours spent during the budget approval process.
- Expected Response Date: Monday, May 15

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

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Robert Eiffert via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 05, 2017 2:37 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120456: 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 120456.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "120456-54AHB7".

- Name: Robert Eiffert
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-862-4399
- Email: michaelandbob@comcast.net
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Dear Mayor Silberberg, Vice Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council: This is Bob Eiffert writing on behalf of the Alexandria Commission on Aging to thank you for restoring the daytime hours at Cora Kelly and William Ramsay Recreation Centers. We sincerely appreciate your consideration and support of senior programming at those sites. I'm sure the participants there are also very grateful for your support!

I would also like to remind you of the Commission on Aging's annual awards ceremony this Tuesday, May 9 at 5:30 p.m. in the Vola Lawson Lobby of City Hall. We hope you will be able to join us so we can publicly acknowledge your wonderful support.

- Expected Response Date: Friday, May 12

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

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, May 05, 2017 9:52 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120417: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council at 1250 South washington Street # 811 Alexandria, VA 22314 After an increase of 13% in my property

Dear **Call.Click.Connect.** User

A request was just created using **Call.Click.Connect.** The request ID is 120417.

### Request Details:

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: **Call.Click.Connect.** Customer
- Approximate Address: 1250 South washington Street # 811 Alexandria, VA 22314
- Phone Number: No Phone
- Email: No Email
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Problem address entered by customer: 1250 South washington Street # 811 Alexandria, VA 22314

After an increase of 13% in my property taxes last year you are about to increase again by 5% PLUS whatever increase in assessments comes up. An increase of this magnitude in two years is HIGHWAY ROBBERY!!!

As an Alexandria voter I will MAKE SURE TO VOTE ALL SIX COUNCIL MEMBERS OUT next time!!!!!!!!!!!!!! They will NEVER be able to spend other people's money again!!!

Out with these people: Wilson, Smedberg, Lovain, Bailey Sr, Pepper and Chapman!!!! They are all out to rob my money and spend it!!!!

- Expected Response Date: Friday, May 12

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

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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**Jackie Henderson**

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**From:** p <joan5johns@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 04, 2017 4:40 PM  
**To:** Jackie Henderson; Jackie.hendon@alexandriava.gov  
**Subject:** vote on 5/4 on taxes

I am not in favor of the higher tax rate for property owners. We too are struggling and will soon be forced to leave Alexandria if this continues

JoanJohnson  
1115 Cameron Street  
Alexandria Va 22314

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 04, 2017 4:37 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120381: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council The moment I heard the city is going to

Dear **Call.Click.Connect.** User

A request was just created using **Call.Click.Connect.** The request ID is 120381.

### Request Details:

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: **Call.Click.Connect.** Customer
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: No Phone
- Email: No Email
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: The moment I heard the city is going to increase tax for a contingency fund. That just sounds crazy. Is it even legal? Do you want the residents or Can the residents band together and sue the city on this? You just don't raise funds for no particular reason. If they is a need, then tag the needs with the tax. If it is just a want from some council members or from the city manager, just remove them from the budget. That is just bad government and bad PR. A contingency fund is just like a slush fund. If you have excess fund in the budget, now that is a different story. You can put that excess in a rainy day funds. So council members please move cautiously before you vote on something that has huge consequences and implications.
- Expected Response Date: Thursday, May 11

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at [the \*\*Call.Click.Connect.\*\* staff interface.](#)

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## Jackie Henderson

---

**From:** Sandra Woods via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 04, 2017 4:14 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120376: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council  
Comment about vote to raise taxes in Ale

Dear **Call.Click.Connect.** User

A request was just created using **Call.Click.Connect.** The request ID is 120376.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "120376-558243".

- Name: Sandra Woods
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-548-8919
- Email: crazy4pe@aol.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Comment about vote to raise taxes in Alexandria:  
I believe the city council should NOT raise the city taxes by 5.7 percent, as proposed by Justin Wilson. As a native of Alexandria and a retired teacher I believe that is going to put a strain on city residents, especially retired citizens on fixed incomes. Please reconsider this proposal and come up with a better solution.

Sincerely,  
Sandra Woods

- Expected Response Date: Thursday, May 11

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

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** TIMOTHY CONWAY via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 04, 2017 3:03 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120367: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council YOU  
NEED TO STOP THESE CONSTANT TAX INCR

Dear **Call.Click.Connect.** User

A request was just created using **Call.Click.Connect.** The request ID is 120367.

### Request Details:

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: TIMOTHY CONWAY
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 7035489232
- Email: treid31@juno.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: YOU NEED TO STOP THESE CONSTANT TAX INCREASES. THEY ARE BREAKING THE BACKS OF WORKING PEOPLE. WE HAVE ONLY ONE INCOME, AND NO PETS, NO CABLE, NO VACATIONS, NO FRILLS. THERE IS NOTHING LEFT FOR US TO PULL THE TAXES FROM.  
  
STOP THESE OUTRAGEOUS AND CONTINUOUS HIKES.
- Expected Response Date: Thursday, May 11

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

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Nancy Richards via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 04, 2017 2:29 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120354: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council  
Congratulations! You are about to price

Dear **Call.Click.Connect.** User

A request was just created using **Call.Click.Connect.** The request ID is 120354.

### Request Details:

This is a "public" request. Information may be provided to anyone who requests it.

- Name: Nancy Richards
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: No Phone
- Email: richardsna@verizon.net
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Congratulations! You are about to price this senior citizen out of her home of 35 years. Tonight's planned vote on a \$0.057 increase in the real estate property tax rate, when coupled with the 5% increase in the assessed value of my house will lead to a whopping 10.6% increase in my tax bill in one year. And a 33% increase since 2012. My pension increases by roughly 2% per year. How is that math supposed to work?
- Expected Response Date: Thursday, May 11

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

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** ghillson@yahoo.com via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 04, 2017 12:15 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120346: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council  
Council:Why is Fairfax freezing sala

Dear **Call.Click.Connect.** User

A request was just created using **Call.Click.Connect.** The request ID is 120346.

### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "120346-98B6CB".

- Name: **Call.Click.Connect.** Customer
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: No Phone
- Email: ghillson@yahoo.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Council:

Why is Fairfax freezing salaries but not Alexandria? If the supposed answer is because we need to raise salaries to be competitive in the regional labor market, can you point me to a study, analysis, or benchmarking report that shows that? Thank you.

- Expected Response Date: Thursday, May 11

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

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Ramee A. Gentry <ramee.gentry@acps.k12.va.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 04, 2017 10:56 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** Board; Mark Jinks; Alvin Crawley; John Cafferky; James Banks  
**Subject:** Your vote tonight

Dear Madame Mayor, Vice Mayor and Council members,

As you prepare to vote on the budget tonight, the School Board reiterates its sincere thanks for the decision to raise the tax rate to the advertised rate. As I sat in Council Chambers Monday, I had the opportunity to hear many of you speak eloquently and forcefully that the critical need for increased school funding was the driving factor in your decision to support this tax rate. We thank you for recognizing this need, and I know the many citizens of Alexandria who have come to speak to you and written to you in support of our schools--many of them without currently enrolled ACPS students--also thank you. We all look forward to seeing the promise of increased funding for our schools fulfilled in the coming years.

In my previous message to you, I shared the desire of our School Board for further discussion and deliberation prior to your vote on the resolution forming the City Manager's proposed task force. Docketing the resolution for this evening prevents such dialogue from occurring. However, our attorney has had an opportunity to discuss the resolution language with Jim Banks.

Based on that discussion, I would request that the following minor revisions be made to the language of the resolution.

### Section 5

- a. Develop Review and recommend a long-range Joint City-Schools Facilities Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) with prioritization of City and School facilities utilizing identified available funding;
- b. Determine Review and recommend opportunities for joint facility/site/co-location opportunities for City and School programs;

The changes above means these two items (a) and (b) will now match same sentence structure as items c-f in the same section, which all begin with the phrase "Review and recommend"

### Section 3

That the members will be appointed by the City Manager among applicants and recruited nominees including three nominees proposed by the School Superintendent.

Removing the number from this sentence eliminates confusion. Right now it's not clear how "nominations" work (is it 3 nomination for one "slot"? 3 nominations for 3 different slots? Which slots?) Avoiding overly specific/prescriptive language allows for the intended spirit of collaborative discussion between our two leaders to proceed in the coming weeks as the membership of the task force is formed.

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** mimi goff via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 04, 2017 7:57 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120298: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council I am  
concerned about the proposed extra

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

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### Request Details:

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- Name: mimi goff
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 7033700094
- Email: wgoff1950@aol.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: I am concerned about the proposed extra 3.6% tax increase proposed by Justin Wilson. I believe that the proposed tax increase by the city manager of 2.7% is well within the city debt ceiling and manageable for the citizens of Alexandria. Yes the city is facing a lot of issues that have not been addressed in the past. It is embarrassing that the city wants to continuously ignore the sewage problem that has been known for decades and add more fees for the citizens on top of the tax increases. The schools are a mess and again the over crowding is not a new issue nor are the conditions of the buildings. The school board has made it perfectly clear in the last school board meeting that they do not need the city council or a panel to help them decide how to spend their money. They also make it perfectly clear that once they get the money from the council they can do what ever they want with it. I caution fully funding in a time where there still is not a guaranteed cost yet for Patrick Henry, constant underestimating budgets of projects, the school boards lack of foresight about the capacity problem till in crisis mode and the unwillingness to accept help. Since all the schools cannot be be rebuilt we need to address the major issues now including adding trailers to relieve the overcrowding. Maybe the Metro project needs to be put on hold till we address the schools and the sewage problems. Metro has its own problems and the city needs to contribute its part but not a new station now.  
Taxes and fees are getting too high for Alexandria residents and I think it is going to hurt the economy here if the council continues to ignore advise from the City manager. Mimi Goff
- Expected Response Date: Thursday, May 11

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## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Stephanie Sample via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 04, 2017 8:12 AM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #120300: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Dear Mayor and City Council, Thank yo

Dear **Call.Click.Connect.** User

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### Request Details:

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- Name: Stephanie Sample
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-548-0536
- Email: sssample@comcast.net
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Dear Mayor and City Council,

Thank you for your diligence and dedication during this very challenging budget season. My husband and I recognize that you are pulled in many different directions but we feel strongly that raising the tax rate in order to fully fund our schools is essential. Not only are the schools bursting at the seams with children, but they are also falling apart due to years of neglect.

Our son is at Mount Vernon Community school and in two of his classrooms there is a freestanding HVAC unit with a big tube up the the ceiling...the existing heating/cooling in those rooms does not work. I can't imagine how his teachers can teach - and the children can learn - with this piece of equipment in the room. Our daughter is a George Washington Middle School. She has 34 children in her algebra class. 34! And for the first few weeks some of the kids had to sit on the book shelves because there weren't enough desks or seats. While there are enough seats now, the desks are crammed from wall to wall. As our kids get older they'll end up at Minnie Howard and TC Williams. While we're excited because I've heard such great things, we are concerned about the large class sizes coming up the ranks. Where will they go? Will it be safe? This is a huge concern of ours.

We feel proud of ACPS schools and frustrated when bad reputations from decades ago color peoples' opinions. As parents actually involved in ACPS, who know the truth, we urge you to believe in the schools and fully fund them!

Stephanie & Jim Sample

- Expected Response Date: Thursday, May 11

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113 queen ST.  
April, 2, 2017

The Alexandria City Council  
301 King St. Suite 2300  
Alexandria, Va. 22314

Subject: Real Estate Tax Policies for Elderly Living on Fixed Incomes Set by Earnings of 10, 20, or 30 Years ago But Not Meeting the Current Assets Criteria for Tax Reduction.

Dear Council Member:

As we face yet another increase in Home Real Estate Taxes further highlighted by additional fees; it is highly appropriate that you consider some of the human consequences of your actions on the subset of your constituents named in the subject of this letter. More and more of these Citizens are being driven from their homes by cost of their Real Estate Taxes!

**A PROPOSED POLICY:**

First: set a target age: say 70 or 75

Second: Set a target number of years the constituent has paid taxes on their current residence –say 25 or 30,

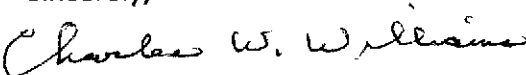
Third: Freeze their real estate tax to the tax paid in that last year.

**ADVANTAGES OF THIS APPROACH:**

1. Requires continued support of city services.
2. Aligns that level of support with the constituents earning basis – permitting that basis to coincide with the citizen's actual experience.
3. Permits the constituent to finance continued life in their home (so far as city policy is concerned).
4. Possible for citizen to build an equity investment in Alexandria; making possible continued good citizenship as a part of the community to remain in force
5. Will naturally begin with a small impact on the City's budget ( due to the progressions of age and decline of each year's group.)

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

  
Charles W. Williams

**Jackie Henderson**

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**From:** AGEA Association <agea1.org@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 19, 2017 10:25 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** Rose Abilmona; Debra Defreitas  
**Subject:** Proposed changes to the supplemental retirement plan - lump sum option

Honorable Mayor Silberberg and Members of City Council:

As we draw near to budget adoption, the members of AGEA ask you once again to reconsider making immediate changes to the supplemental retire plan-lump sum option so that grandfathering options may be considered for employees who are closest to retirement. The proposed changes are unnecessarily financially devastating and unrecoverable to those employees who are within months of retirement but who are ineligible to retire by December 1, 2017.

The longest serving general salary pay scale employees will take brunt of the financial losses to their retirements, ranging anywhere between a 30% and 47% , if the changes to the supplemental retirement plan are implemented as prescribed by the City Manager. The proposed changes to the supplemental retirement plan have been touted as necessary for the plans' long term sustainability while no actuarial forecasts have been provided. In the proposed budget's current iteration, the money being saved by taking money from employees' supplemental retirement lump sum option is funding an end of scale increase, the immediate benefits of which will only be felt by a few. In past budget cycles, the City has funded end of scale pay increases without taking money from employees' retirement funds.

Unlike our co-workers on the some of the public safety pay scales, general salary pay scale employees do not enjoy the benefits of periodic pay scale adjustments, while healthcare and other benefit costs steadily increase. It is unfair that we now have to fund an end of pay scale increase at the expense of our retirement.

Sincerely,

Debra Defreitas

AGEA Vice-President

**Jackie Henderson**

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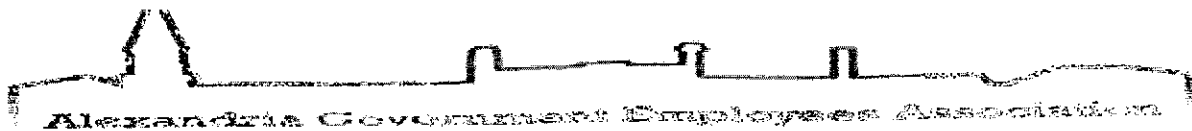
**From:** Rose Abilmona  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2017 3:04 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** City Council Aides; City Manager Mark Jinks; Debra Defreitas  
**Subject:** AGEA Position Paper Re: Proposed Changes to the Supplemental Retirement Lump Sum Option  
**Attachments:** Proposed Changes.pdf

Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council, please see attached Position Paper from AGEA reference proposed changes to the City supplemental lump sum option.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

*Rose Abilmona*  
*AGEA President*



April 12, 2017

Position Paper

Re: Changes to the Supplemental Retirement Plan - lump sum option

Mayor Silberberg and Members of City Council:

The members of AGEA request that you delay making changes to the City supplemental retirement plan-lump sum option until the next fiscal year. Between now and the next fiscal year, we would request that the Council add provisions to grandfather those employees who are closest to retirement into the supplemental retirement plan as it currently stands.

While each of us has a vested interest in the longevity of the supplemental retirement plan, the proposed changes to the lump sum option are financially drastic, devastating and demoralizing for those employees closest to retirement. Unfortunately, these are also the employee groups (general salary employees and Deputy Sheriffs) who have not had a pay scale increases for a decade, only increased costs. Of those employees surveyed so far, most employees suffer 30% to 47% decreases in their retirement benefit if they wanted to choose the lump sum option. Without an option to grandfather those who are closest to retirement into the current plan, it is impossible to recover such losses on such short notice.


As represented to us by the City's Pension team, the current supplemental retirement plan is healthy. There was no "failure by" date presented to us. When queried about arriving at such a date, we were told that doing so would be "planning on failure." Our logical conclusion is that the plan is in no immediate danger and could sustain itself for some time. Therefore there is no reason to pull the rug out from under those employees who have made retirement plans based on the current plan calculations.

There are numerous ways to protect those employees closest to retirement:

1. Add a grandfathering option for those employees with 25 years of service and within five years of retirement
2. Add a grandfathering option for those employees with 20 years of service and within 10 years of services
3. Add a grandfathering option for those employees hired on or after 2009 (like VRS).

Again, AGEA is not opposed to making changes to the supplemental retirement plan to ensure its viability into the future but we are opposed to deliberately harming employees without cause.

Sincerely,

  
Rose Abilmona  
AGEA President

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Anne Washburn via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 09, 2017 10:21 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click  
Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #118401: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Dear  
Alexandria City Council: On beh

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### Request Details:

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- Name: Anne Washburn
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: No Phone
- Email: awwashburn@gmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Dear Alexandria City Council:

On behalf of the Lynhaven Citizens Association, I ask that you reconsider the "budget-saving" effort to reduce the public hours of Cora Kelly Recreation Center by opening the doors at 2PM instead of the usual 9AM. At a time when the City is raising our tax rate, reducing our access to public facilities and programs for a mere savings of \$20,000 annually (one hourly worker) is incredibly short-sighted and ineffective. Public trust and support is critical to the work of Council and nickel and diming senior citizens and youth programming will go unsupported by this neighborhood civic association.

I strongly urge you to re-consider the plan to condense and re-locate many senior and youth programs from Cora Kelly to facilities that might be newer, but vastly smaller and less accessible (some locations have less parking or even NO parking – such as Mt. Vernon). The City needs to take a much closer look at the number of users as well as the capacity of other facilities to take on any additional users.

The Council must also take into consideration the possibility that seniors will choose to forfeit their fitness and healthy living activities instead of finding a way to get to locations farther afield. Hence, by reducing the hours at Cora Kelly and "moving programs", the City will essentially be cutting these programs on the backs of its most vulnerable citizens: seniors and youth. All of this for the price of an hourly worker and a request for higher taxes from its citizenry. The Lynhaven Citizens Association strongly opposes this poorly considered budget balancing at the expense of both our own community members and those of our neighboring communities.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Anne Washburn  
President, Lynhaven Citizens Association

- Expected Response Date: Monday, April 17

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

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** Bill Rivers via Call.Click.Connect.  
<CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 08, 2017 1:56 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #118360: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Members of C

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

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### Request Details:

This is a "private" request. Information should only be provided to the original customer or those who know the full Call.Click.Connect. request number for this, which is "118360-E35A2E".

- Name: Bill Rivers
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 703-683-6526
- Email: rivers.15wmtida@gmail.com
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Members of Council:

I just wanted to clarify a letter that you got recently from the Park and Recreation Commission (P&RC). I talked to Jen Adkins about it after it was sent out and we are in agreement about AAA's concerns. Most of the letter is very good, expressing a concern over the condition of aquatics in Alexandria and supporting funds for both the Chinguapin and the Therapeutic Pools. However, I'm sure that you noticed some inaccuracies in it, but I just wanted to make sure that you had the latest information:

- The P&RC has expressed a concern over the funding for the Therapeutic pool at the Lee Center. This is because the funding for even the demolition of the pool has been removed from the long-range CIP. This may be a reaction to the discussion of the Lee Center as "swing space" for the school CIP program, but the City Manager would be in a better position to comment on the removal. However, just to emphasize, AAA supports an aquatic feature at the Lee Center, but our top priority at this time is the new multi-use pool at Chinguapin. Fortunately this is also recognized as a top need by the P&RC.

- On the second page of the P&RC letter, it refers to \$1.4 million in design funds for the Therapeutic pool that were "paused" by the City Manager. As you are aware, that \$1.4 million was actually supposed to be used for the design of the new Chinguapin pool.

- The letter also refers to the "renovation" of the Chinguapin facility as part of the new pool facility at Chinguapin. Again, there seems to be a misunderstanding in terms of the words used. The maintenance fixes for the current Chinguapin facility are needed whether there is a new pool or not. They are critical to making the facility safe and usable. They are the minimum necessary to keep the current facility functional for use by our residents. The new pool will be an expansion of the Chinguapin facility – not a renovation. We just wanted to make sure that the distinction is made between the maintenance of the current facility and the expansion with the new pool – both high priority items that need to be done to meet the needs of Alexandrians.

- A final concern is the letter's request to have the funds for the new pool at Chinguapin moved to FY 2021. As you know AAA is completely against any movement of the funds to a later year. Not only will it delay the benefits

of the new pool for Alexandria citizens, it will have a crippling effect on the private sector fund raising effort.

Jen understands our concerns; agrees with our stand on the timing; and is more than willing to talk to you about the problems in the letter. Again, the thrust of the letter is on target; just some of the details are confusing. Please let Jen or myself know if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Bill Rivers  
Advocates for Alexandria Aquatics

cc: Jen Adkins

- Expected Response Date: Monday, April 17

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