

City of Alexandria, Virginia

2019 Proposed Legislative Package

Priority Items and Overview of Items for Support



Why Does the City Have a Legislative Package?



- Communicate the City's legislative and budget priorities
- Virginia is a Dillon Rule state – localities only have the authority expressly granted to them by the legislature by state statute or in their charter
- Localities in Virginia request legislation every year to grant them enabling authority for specific powers they do not already have
- The requests generally originate from the City Council, City staff, and boards and commissions

Key Initiatives for 2019 General Assembly Session



- State Funding for Alexandria's CSO Project
- State Funding for School Facility Renovations and New School Construction

State Funding for Alexandria's CSO Project



- Asking the State to fund 20% of total project cost (\$400 million estimated project cost)
- Lynchburg and Richmond received significant State funding for their CSO projects
- Working closely with AlexRenew on funding request
- City/AlexRenew have requested \$25 million in the Governor's FY2019 budget amendments
- Engaging with Governor's staff, Cabinet, Chairs/members of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance committees, HAC/SFC staff
- Requesting strong support from the delegation, including letter of support to the Governor for our FY19 budget request

State Funding for School Facility Renovations and New School Construction



- ACPS Capital Improvement Program for 2019-2028 includes a new elementary school, new middle school and new high school building to fully address ACPS seating capacity needs by 2027, as well as renovations to existing buildings
- Ensuring the conversation about school construction financing includes new school construction as well as renovation of older facilities
- A number of funding proposals have been floated, including using half of the \$200-300 million internet sales tax “windfall” the state is anticipating to purchase \$4 billion in school construction bonds
- Additional options include funding for the existing but vastly underfunded Virginia Public School Construction Grant Program

Additional Proposals for Support During 2019 General Assembly Session



- Issues are of interest and concern to the City
- Align with the City's mission, vision and values
- An integral part of our work that supports our mission, reflects our values and helps make our vision of Alexandria a reality in our community

Alexandria's Vision: In 2022, Alexandria is a historic, inclusive city of kindness with distinct, vibrant and safe neighborhoods, a well-managed, government, flourishing arts, culture and recreation, a strong economy, thriving children and youth, active and secure older adults, environmental sustainability, healthy residents of all ages, and multimodal transportation.

Inclusive City



- Human Rights and Non-Discrimination
- Access to Voting
- Redistricting Reform
- Equal Rights for Women
- Living Wage
- Affordable, Workforce Housing
- Evictions
- “Ban the Box”
- Criminal Background Questions in Professional Licensing
- Driver’s Licenses for Undocumented Immigrants
- Immigration and Law Enforcement
- Immigration and Higher Education
- “Family”/Unisex Restrooms in Public Facilities

Well-Managed Government



- Net Metering for Localities
- Assessment of Court Costs to Support Local Law Libraries
- Decriminalization of Simple Marijuana Possession (SB 997 - Ebbin)
- Body-Worn Cameras for Law Enforcement

Safe and Resilient Community



- Animal Cruelty & Domestic Violence
- Expand Definition of Family or Household Member and Include Definition of Dating Relationships in Domestic Violence Statutes
- Emergency Protective Order “Check Boxes” Change
- Common Sense Gun Regulations
- Gun Possession by Individuals Involuntarily Committed to Psychiatric Facilities

Thriving Children and Youth



- Funding the True Cost of K-12 Education
- Funding for the Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI)
- Local Option for Setting the Opening Day of School
- Centralized Statewide CPS Hotline

Healthy Residents



- Mitigating Budget Cuts to Community Service Board
- Access to Dignity Items
- Opioid Crisis
- Expanded Prescriptive Authority for Expedited Partner Therapy
- Inclusion of Adult Dental Benefit in Medicaid
- Cigarette Tax Increase for Low-Income Healthcare

Multimodal Transportation



- Northern Virginia Transit/Transportation Funding
- Pedestrian Safety
- Bicycle Safety
- Distracted Driving
- Cut-Through Traffic in Neighborhoods
- Automated Speed Enforcement
- E-Bikes and Scooters

Other



- The “Appomattox” Statue
- Communal ABC Permit
- Stormwater Management
- Plastic Bags
- “Bottle Bill”
- Notification from Virginia Department of Historic Resources of Preservation Projects and Issues

Other Board and Commission Legislative Proposals



- Commission on Aging support for Northern Virginia Aging Network (NVAN) legislative platform
- Legislative proposals from the Commission on Persons with Disabilities

Legislative Package Dates of Note



- Public Hearing – November 17, 2018
- Work Session with the Delegation – November 27, 2018
- Final Adoption of the Package – November 27, 2018
- Governor Submits Budget Amendments – December 18, 2018
- First Council Legislative Subcommittee Meeting – January 4, 2019
- Session Begins – January 9, 2019
- Sine Die – February 23, 2019