

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR, MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: COUNCILMAN MO SEIFELDEIN & COUNCILWOMAN AMY JACKSON

SUBJECT: *ResilientALX* CHARTER

The Alexandria Citizen Corps Council (CCC) has approached City Council with the initiative to draft a city-wide resiliency charter, referred to as *ResilientALX*, that would lay out the foundation for an action plan to make long-term investments to better prepare the City of Alexandria, its residents and businesses to face emergencies and natural disasters. The CCC is composed of a diverse group of stakeholders who devote their time to the promotion of community preparedness and provide individuals with opportunities to learn about emergency responsiveness, and their effort towards this charter is inspired in part to the Eco-City Charter framework. Councilwoman Amy Jackson and I serve on this council.

This charter would allow the City of Alexandria to be a model in community preparedness and resilience and will supplement the existing preparedness plans. It will include many of the potential threats and vulnerabilities that the City faces, such as flooding, transportation, and cybersecurity. With the Council's support, the CCC plans to present the *ResilientALX* Charter in coordination with National Preparedness Month in September of 2020.

The County of Arlington currently has an [Emergency Preparedness Advisory Commission \(EPAC\) Charter](#) drafted by community members who formed their commission in response to the September 11, 2001 attacks. The implementation of our own charter would help advance the CCC's mission of uniting people to prevent and minimize the consequences of disasters to people's health, property and safety.

It is an unfortunate truth that disaster can strike at any given moment. Considering the risks our country faces, it would be invaluable for citizens to be equipped with the knowledge to handle emergencies if they come. As September is National Preparedness Month, there is no better time than now to devote attention to the promotion of emergency planning in Alexandria.

We ask for your support in directing the Alexandria Citizen Corps Council to create our own *ResilientALX* Charter for the promotion of the well-being and safety of the people of our City.

cc: Mark Jinks, City Manager