

City of Alexandria, Virginia

Proposed 2021 Legislative Package

Legislative Principles and Legislative Priorities for the City of Alexandria
for the 2021 Virginia General Assembly Session



Proposed 2020 Legislative Package



- Statement of Legislative Principles
- Legislative Priorities

Priorities for 2020 General Assembly Session



- Funding and Authority for Infrastructure Investments in Alexandria
- Protection and Expansion of Local Authority and Funding for Localities
- Protecting our Most Vulnerable Residents
- Promoting Access, Equity and Equality
- Combatting Climate Change, Promoting Clean Energy

Funding and Authority for Infrastructure Investments in Alexandria



- CSO
- Transit/Transportation
- Affordable Housing
- Inland/Urban Flooding
- School Construction/Renovation

Protection and Expansion of Local Authority and Funding for Localities



- Regionally Scaled, Adequate Funding for “Shared Employees”
- Increased funding for K-12
- Modernizing the Local Tax Structure
- Tree Canopy Preservation and Expansion

Protecting Our Most Vulnerable Residents



- Human Rights Commission Authority
- Limited, Narrowly Tailored Information Sharing to Assist in Serving Vulnerable Youth
- Expanding Pool of Participants Who Can Serve on Teams Supporting Local Programs Funded by the Children's Services Act
- Streamline Application, Increase Funding for SNAP for Seniors

Promoting Access, Equity and Equality



- Limit Qualified Immunity
- Replace “Handicapped” with “Disabled” in Virginia Code
- Access to Voting

Combating Climate Change, Promoting Clean Energy



- Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Accelerate Deployment of Electric Vehicles
- Transportation Climate Initiative

Other Items



- Marijuana and “Social Host” Liability Law – Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition
- ABC License for OHA
- Electronic Meetings/Participation – FOIA Council

Statement of Legislative Principles



- 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.

Legislative Principles



As we work to ***be an inclusive city of kindness***...the City supports legislation to ensure Alexandria is a livable community for all, with affordable housing, a living wage, and workforce protections available to all Alexandrians...

- Wage theft
- Barriers to obtaining a “driver privilege card”

Legislative Principles



As we work to ***provide a well-managed government*** for our residents, businesses and visitors...the City supports the preservation of existing state aid to localities, requests the full funding of all state funding commitments to localities, and opposes efforts to shift the costs of shared services to localities.

- HB 599 funding for local police departments
- Local road maintenance funding
- Electronic meetings/electronic meeting participation



Legislative Principles

As we work to ***create a safe and resilient city*** for every resident, worker and visitor in Alexandria, the City supports legislation that helps our well-trained, highly respected staff protect the most vulnerable members of our community, including children, youth, older adults, survivors of domestic violence, individuals in behavioral health crisis, and those of differing abilities...

- Criminal justice reform
- Common sense gun legislation
- Private prisons
- Cut-through traffic

Legislative Principles



As we work to ***create a strong economy in our community*** that benefits every resident, business and worker in our city, the City supports legislation to enact a state prevailing wage and protect workers from wage theft...

- Family-friendly workplaces
- Recycling markets
- Broadband



Legislative Principles

As we work to ***ensure children and youth in our community are thriving***, the City supports legislation and budget priorities that fully fund K-12 education and acknowledge the true cost of K-12 education in education funding...

- VPI/Pre-K funding and flexibility
- Early childhood education and childcare
- Vulnerable youth

Legislative Principles



As we work to ***create an environmentally sustainable city***... the City supports legislation that assists in our efforts to protect and expand our tree canopy and attain clean air and clean waterways...

- Urban and inland flooding
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- City's Environmental Action Plan 2040

Legislative Principles



As we work to ***support a wide variety of safe, connected, multimodal transportation options in our city*** that enable access to daily activities in our community and our region, the city supports legislation and budget priorities that ensure Alexandria has safe, reliable and frequent mobility choices regardless of resources or ability...

- Vision Zero
- Contributory Negligence reform

Challenges of the 2021 General Assembly Session



- Virtual? In Person? Hybrid?
- Carryover from 2020 Special Session
 - ✓ COVID-19
 - ✓ Criminal Justice Reform
- Bill Limits
 - ✓ Senate – 40/25
 - ✓ House – 30/15
- Budget/Revenue Picture
- 2021 Elections
 - ✓ All House members
 - ✓ Many members of the GA running statewide
 - ✓ Administration Appointments
- Legislation from 2020 Interim Studies



2021 Legislative Package Dates of Note

- Pre-filing Began – July 20, 2020
- Special Session Reconvene – November 9, 2020
- Work Session with the Delegation – November 14, 2020
- Public Hearing – November 14, 2020
- Pre-filing Ends – November 20, 2020
- Final Adoption of the Package – December 8, 2020
- Gov. Presents FY 20-22 Budget Amendments to – December 16, 2020
- Session Begins – January 13, 2021
- Sine Die – February 27, 2021