# City of Alexandria City Council Legislative Meeting Tuesday, September 22, 2020 6:00 PM Virtual Meeting Meeting Minutes

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Present: Mayor Justin M. Wilson, Vice Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker, Members of Council Canek Aguirre, John Taylor Chapman, Amy B. Jackson, Redella S. Pepper, and Mohamed E. Seifeldein.

Absent: Absent.

Also Present: Mr. Jinks, City Manager; Ms. Anderson, City Attorney; Ms. Triggs, Deputy City Manager; Ms. Collins, Deputy City Manager; Ms. Baker, Deputy City Manager; Mr. Lambert, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES); Mr. Skrabak, Deputy Director, Environmental Quality, T&ES; Mr. Duval, Deputy Director, T&ES; Mr. Maines, Division Chief, T&ES; Ms. Tucker, Race & Social Equity Office, City Manager's Office; Ms. Suehr, Director, Department of Project Implementation; Ms. Taylor, Director, Finance; Ms. Slesinger, T&ES; Mr. Barre, Information Technology Services; Mr. Smith, Information Technology Services; Mr. Whatley, Emergency Manager, Fire Department; Ms. Jovovic, Office of Housing; Mr. Keeler, Deputy Director, Office of Housing; Mr. Routt, Director, Office of Management and Budget (OMB); Mr. Moritz, Director, Planning and Zoning; Mr. Eger, General Services; Mr. Bradford, Information Technology Systems; Mr. Spengler, Director, Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities; Ms. Bevis-Carver, Transportation and Environmental Services; Mr. McPike, Director, General Services; Mr. Coleman Deputy Director, General Services; Fire Chief Smedley; Ms. Henley, Director, Animal Welfare League; and Mr. Moss, Information Technology Services.

Recorded by: Gloria Sitton, City Clerk and Clerk of Council.

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## 1. Calling the Roll.

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order and the City Clerk called the roll. All members of City Council were present, with Councilman Chapman and Councilwoman Pepper joining the meeting during the work session. All members and staff were participating via video conference call.

Mayor Wilson noted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic emergency, the September 22, 2020 Legislative Meeting of the Alexandria City Council is being held electronically pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2(A)(3), the Continuity of Government ordinance adopted by the City Council on June 20, 2020 and/or Section 4.0-00(g) in HB29 and HB30 to undertake essential business. All members of the City Council and staff are participating from remote locations through a video conference call on Zoom. The meeting can be accessed by the public through the live broadcast on the government channel 70, streaming on the City's

website, and can be accessed via Zoom.

#### **WORK SESSION**

2. Work Session on Acceleration of Flood Mitigation and Stormwater Investments.

City Manager Jinks introduced Mr. Lambert, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services, who gave a presentation on the flooding events in the City and to review the action plan for reprioritizing and accelerating investments in stormwater management and flood mitigation for the City. Mr. Lambert and members of the Transportation and Environmental Services staff reviewed several areas including the action plan, investment areas, storm sewer capacity projects accelerated, storm infrastructure maintenance and standards, policy review and areas for immediate aid. Transportation and Environmental Services staff responded to questions from Council about the presentation and next steps for addressing the issues and community engagement.

\*\*\*Please note: The public discussion period will begin at 7:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter.\*\*\*

3. Public Discussion Period.

The following persons participated in the public discussion period:

- 1. Michael Fujka, Alexandria, spoke about flooding the recent flooding in the City.
- 2. LaMonica Johnston, Alexandria, spoke about the recent flooding in the City.
- 3. Jeff Reczek, Alexandria, spoke about the recent flooding in the City.
- 4. Kathie Hoekstra, Alexandria, spoke about amendments to the Ad Hoc Energy and Climate Change Task Force.
- 5. Arthur Impastato, spoke about amendments to the Ad Hoc Energy and Climate Change Task Force.

# ORAL REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL ON BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

## \*Virginia Railway Express (Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker)

Vice Mayor Bennett- Parker reported that the Board discussed the preliminary for FY2022 Budget that was referred to NVTC and PRTC for their consideration. Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker \$91.9 million, about \$500,000 more than the last budget, with staff working to identify expense reductions. Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker noted that the preliminary budget would not include any fare increases and no increase to jurisdictional subsidies and the preliminary budget assumes the budget will stay at the current range. Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker reported that the final budget would be presented to Board in December.

## \*Library Board (Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker)

Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker reported that the Library reopened to the public on August 17, with curbside service still available to patrons. The Library will continue with much of their virtual programming. Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker noted that the Board officers were re-elected to their positions. Vice Mayor Bennett- Parker noted that the Library received the 2020 John Cotton Dana Public Relations Award for their programming celebrating 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the library sit-in.

## \*Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) (Councilman Aguirre)

Councilman Aguirre reported that WMATA has a \$212 million budget shortfall and the Board recently approved management actions to address some of the issues, along with other board actions such as deferral of capital improvement projects.

## \*Economic Opportunities Commission (EOC)(Councilman Aguirre)

Councilman Aguirre reported that Jeff Caldwell was elected as chair of the Commission and the Commission received a presentation on the COVID response report. Councilman Aguirre also noted that the Commission were seeking new members and encouraged community members to apply.

# \*Transportation Planning Board (TPB-COG)(Councilman Aguirre)

Councilman Aguirre reported that today was Car-Free Day in the region and the Board reviewed a variety of issues, included reviewing the participation plan through the equity lenses to get input on public transportation and the setting of regional safety targets around fatalities, system events and reliability. Councilman Aguirre reported that the Board received an update on Visualize 2025, to review Vision Zero policies in the region.

# \*Potomac Yard Metrorail Implementation Group (PYMIG)(Mayor Wilson and Councilman Aguirre)

Councilman Aguirre noted that the project was on schedule and there would be an outage a couple of the Metrorail stations over the Presidents' Day holiday weekend.

Mayor Wilson reported that there was an overview of the project and he noted that he toured the construction site recently. Mayor Wilson noted the closing of the CSX railroad for moving of the pedestrian walkway in for installation and upcoming closing of Metrorail stations south of the station to accommodate the shifting of the tracks.

# \*Alexandria Transportation Commission (Councilman Aguirre and Councilman Chapman)

Councilman Aguirre reported that the Commission reviewed the Long Range Plan, to prioritize different projects and making sure they aligned with the City's goals. Councilman Aguirre noted that the Commission endorsed CMAQ/RSTP grants for eventual forwarding to Council for consideration and approval. Councilman Aguirre reported that the Commission also reviewed the legislative priorities. Councilman Aguirre also reported that Oscar Gonzalez was elected as the new vice chair.

# \*Census 2020 Complete Count Committee (Councilman Aguirre)

Councilman Aguirre noted that the City had 72.2% completion of the Census and that Virginia was in the top 7 for states with completion of the Census.

# \*Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy (ACAP)(Councilman Aguirre and Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker)

Councilman Aguirre reported that the group welcomed a new member, Zeda Morales. Councilman Aguirre noted that ACAP will celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year and will be release some new data. Councilman Aguirre noted that the group is still looking at ways to contribute to the Health Improvement Plan and the Youth

#### ORAL REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Jinks recognized Police Officer Bennie Evans, who was appointed to the Commonwealth of Virginia Criminal Justice Services Board and EMS Captain Lisa Simba who was appointed to the State Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board. City Manager also congratulated James Hixon, City Dockmaster, who will be retiring from the City of Alexandria and thanked him for his years of service.

City Council approved each item on the consent calendar under separate motions. The City Manager's recommendations were as follows:

# REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER CONSENT CALENDAR (4-6)

## (Reports and Recommendations of the City Manager)

4. Consideration of Receipt of Fiscal Year 2020 Fourth Quarter Capital Projects Status Report Related to City Council Approved Capital Projects.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated September 16, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 4; 09/22/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson and carried unanimously, City Council received as information the FY 2020 Fourth Quarter Capital Projects Status Report. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

5. Consideration of the Appointment of the Chief Animal Control Officer.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated September 16, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 5; 09/22/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Vice Mayor

Bennett-Parker and carried unanimously, City Council approved the appointment of Mr. Anthony Rankin as Chief Animal Control Officer pursuant to City Code Section 5-7-44, which includes the requirement that Council appoint the City's Chief Animal Control Officer. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

6. Consideration of the Monthly Financial Report for the Period Ending July 31, 2020 and June 30, 2020.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated September 16, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 6; 09/22/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

**WHEREUPON**, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson and carried unanimously, City Council received the Monthly Financial Report. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

#### **END OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

### REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER FOR DISCUSSION

7. Race and Social Equity Officer Introduction and Update.

(A copy of the presentation is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 7; 09/22/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Jackson, seconded by Councilman Aguirre and carried unanimously, City Council directed staff to begin a public engagement process to gain community feedback and input on a resolution on race and social equity to be formally adopted at the conclusion of the engagement period. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein.

8. Update Regarding the Housing Contributions Policy Review.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated September 16, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 8; 09/22/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council received the Housing Contributions Policy update and the proposed schedules for further stakeholder engagement, as well as the timeline for final recommendations to be proposed for City Council consideration. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper,

and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

9. Consideration of a Comprehensive Intergovernmental Agreement between Arlington County and the City of Alexandria for Maintenance, Inspection and Rehabilitation or Replacement of the five Four Mile Run Bridges.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated September 16, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 9; 09/22/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Aguirre, seconded by Councilwoman Pepper and carried unanimously, City Council: (1) approved the agreement between the City of Alexandria and Arlington County related to the capital rehabilitation or replacement of the five bridges over Four Mile Run which service both Arlington and Alexandria; and (2) authorized the City Manager to execute the agreement and any additional necessary documents. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

 Consideration of Mitigation Measures for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Planned Three-Month Platform Reconstruction Closure of Arlington Cemetery Station.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated September 16, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 10; 09/22/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Chapman, seconded by Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker and carried unanimously, City Council approved the letter to Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) regarding mitigation for the planned temporary closure of the Arlington Cemetery Station. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

#### ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

11. Consideration of a Resolution to Establish an Ad Hoc Energy and Climate Change Task Force. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated September 16, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 11; 09/22/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Councilman Seifeldein and carried unanimously by roll-call vote, City Council: (1) approved the resolution establishing the Ad Hoc Energy and Climate Change Task Force, with the following amendments: under section 1, amend the paragraph to read as follows: That there is hereby established the Energy and Climate Change Task Force (the "Task Force") whose mission is to provide feedback and guidance on the update of the Energy and Climate Change Action

Plan, including a plan on specific, measurable, time-bound steps to implement the targets of the Environmental Action Plan (EAP) 2040 on climate change, energy, and transportation; and under section 2, include healthcare in the list of interests or expertise in relevant fields; and (2) authorized the City Manager to appoint no more than 13 members of the Task Force. The vote was as follows:

The resolution reads as follows:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2958**

**WHEREAS**, City Council wishes to establish an Energy and Climate Change Task Force, and

**WHEREAS**, the Energy and Climate Change Task Force will conduct specified tasks outlined in this resolution.

# NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA:

- That there is hereby established the Energy and Climate Change Task Force (the "Task Force") whose mission is to provide feedback and guidance on the update of the Energy and Climate Change Action Plan, including a plan on specific, measurable, time-bound steps to implement the targets of the Environmental Action Plan (EAP) 2040 on climate change, energy, and transportation.
- 2. That the Task Force shall consist of 13 members and the composition of the group shall be as follows:
  - 1 person designated by, but who need not be a member of, the Environmental Policy Commission
  - 1 person representing an environmental, clean energy, or climate change action advocacy organization or interests
  - 3 persons who are residents of Alexandria at-large and who's representation reflects:
    - The differing areas/neighborhoods of the City and differing interests of homeowners, condo or multi-family residents, and renters/tenants
    - o Involvement in civic or community organizations or faith organizations
    - o Interests or expertise in relevant fields such as renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy conservation, climate change vulnerabilities, climate change adaptation, land use, energy/resource economics, community engagement, transportation, healthcare, or finance
  - 2 persons with interest or expertise in diversity, race and social equity, and inclusivity issues of diverse Alexandria populations, including those of Alexandria's aging population
  - 2 persons representing Alexandria youth interests with specific priority of Alexandria high school students
  - 2 business representatives from the Alexandria business community which may include representation of a business membership organization, business owner,

- commercial building owner, or an institutional organization with consideration of ensuring representing racial and social equity among these representatives,
- 1 person representing the interest of leveraging climate change solutions to support the City's economic development goals as well as support Alexandria's COVID-19 pandemic economic recovery efforts
- 1 person who is a professional representing clean energy and climate policy or technology interests
- 3. The Environmental Policy Commission shall designate its own representative. The City Manager shall appoint the remaining 12 members of the Task Force and designate the Chair of the Task Force whose role is to serve as a meeting facilitator, spokesperson, and work with City staff to set Task Force meeting agendas.
- 4. That the City Manager be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to take such additional actions as may be necessary or convenient to establish the Task Force as set forth by this Resolution.
- 5. That members of the Task Force are expected to:
  - Provide feedback and guidance to City staff on the Energy and Climate Change Action Plan development process relative to their representation or area of expertise;
  - Assist and support the City's community engagement outreach efforts and meeting activities;
  - Attend all meetings prepared by reading assigned materials and information.
- 6. That the Task Force will be staffed by representatives of the Department of General Services, with support from representatives of the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services and assistance from other City departments and partner organizations. Additional assistance shall be provided as needed by consultants and outside experts.
- 7. That the Task Force will hold a minimum of (4) four public meetings or meet as needed.
- 8. Pursuant to City Code Section 2-4-8, the Task Force shall sunset upon the City Council's adoption of the Energy and Climate Change Action Plan update, or 365 days from the date of its initial meeting, or when it submits its final oral or written report to council, whichever occurs first.
- 12. Consideration of a Resolution to Establish an Ad Hoc RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group in Support of RiverRenew. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

(The City Manager's memorandum dated September 16, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 12; 09/22/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson and carried unanimously by roll-call vote, City Council adopted the resolution to establish an Ad Hoc RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group in support of RiverRenew; and (2) requested the City Manager and General Manager of Alexandria Renew Enterprises to

appoint members to the Ad Hoc Stakeholder Advisory Group. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

The resolution reads as follows:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2959**

**WHEREAS**, City Council wishes to establish a temporary stakeholder advisory group in support of RiverRenew;

**WHEREAS**, RiverRenew is the program being implemented by Alexandria Renew Enterprises in partnership with the City of Alexandria to remediate its combined sewer system and;

**WHEREAS**, a diverse group of City residents with a wide variety of interests can assist in monitoring the implementation of this program;

# NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA:

- 1. That there is hereby established the Ad Hoc RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group;
- 2. That the Ad Hoc RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group shall consist of nine (9) members, as follows:
  - a. One (1) member that is nominated by the North Old Town Independent Citizens' Association
  - One (1) member that is a resident or representative of a business near Tobacco Quay, Oronoco Waterfront Residences or Rivergate
  - c. One (1) member that is nominated by the Old Town Civic Association
  - d. One (1) member that is a resident, representative of a business, or representative of a non-profit near South Royal/Green Streets
  - e. One (1) member that is nominated by the Eisenhower Partnership
  - f. One (1) member that is resident or representative of a business of the Carlyle community or Duke Street corridor
  - g. One (1) at-large member that is a resident of the City with an interest in the RiverRenew project
  - h. One (1) member that is a resident with engineering, environmental, financial or related experience that is not a member of any firm involved with or in pursuit of work associated with RiverRenew.
  - i. One (1) member with interest or expertise in diversity, race and social equity and inclusivity issues.
- 3. That the City Manager, or his or her designee, and Alexandria Renew Enterprises General Manager, or his or her designee, shall appoint the eight (8) members for the Ad Hoc RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group, naming one as Chairperson;

- 4. That the functions of the Ad Hoc RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group shall be to:
  - a. Review and monitor the progress of RiverRenew through the final design and construction phases;
  - b. Communicate the progress of RiverRenew to the community by leveraging existing networks and serve as spokespeople for RiverRenew;
  - Serve as a central body for receipt and dissemination of information for RiverRenew;
     and
  - d. Review and provide recommendations to minimize community impacts.
- 5. That the organizations listed will nominate an individual for appointment as their designated representative.
- 6. That all other members will be appointed by the City Manager, or his or her designee, and the Alexandria Renew Enterprises General Manager, or his or her designee, following a call for nominations that is publicized through public meetings, print media, online, and community and business association meetings.
- 7. That Alexandria Renew Enterprises, with support from the City, will staff the Ad Hoc RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group.
- 8. That pursuant to City Code Section 2-4-8, the Ad Hoc RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group shall meet on an *ad hoc* basis and will be formed for a duration of one (1) year starting from the date the group holds its initial meeting in January 2021. The duration may be extended by City Council by resolution for an additional one (1) year period up to three times for a total duration of three (3) years.
- 9. That pursuant to City Code Section 2-4-8, the Ad Hoc RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group member appointments shall be revisited on an annual basis.
- 10. That the Ad Hoc RiverRenew Advisory Group shall cease to exist upon (i) the completion of its enumerated functions, (ii) the date it submits its final oral or written report to City Council, (iii) the expiration of the term specified in this Resolution or of any extensions, or (iv) three years from the date of its initial meeting, whichever occurs first.
- 13. Resolution Consenting to an Extension of the Declaration of Local Emergency through March 31, 2021.[ROLL-CALL VOTE]

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated September 16, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 13; 09/22/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker and carried unanimously by roll-call vote, City Council: (1) adopted the amendment to Resolution 2928, Declaration of Local Emergency to extend the emergency through March 31, 2021; and (2) authorized the Director of Emergency Management to enter into contracts and incur obligations as enumerated in section 44-146.21 of the Code of Virginia. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

The resolution reads as follows:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2960**

# DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

**WHEREAS**, the Director of Emergency Management of the City of Alexandria, Virginia finds that the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a Communicable Disease of Public Health Threat for Virginia and is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a coordinated response by City departments, agencies, and voluntary organization.

**WHEREAS**, on March 14, 2020, City Council adopted Resolution No. 2928 confirming the Director of Emergency Management's Declaration of Local Emergency which extended through June 10, 2020. On June 9, 2020, City Council amended such resolution extending the Declaration of Local Emergency through September 30, 2020.

**WHEREAS**, the Director of Emergency Management finds that the emergency continues to exist and will exist into the future.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DECLARED, that a local emergency exists throughout the City of Alexandria; and

IT IS FURTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED, that during the existence of said emergency, the powers, functions and duties of the Director of Emergency Management shall be those prescribed by state law and the ordinances, resolutions and operations plans of the City of Alexandria, and that any actions taken under this declaration shall be directed at the prevention or response for, damages, loss, hardship or suffering threatened by, or resulting from, the emergency.

The declaration for COVID-19 effective as of March 9, 2020, at 8:00 am and shall remain in full force and effect until March 31, 2021 at midnight unless sooner amended or rescinded by resolution of the City Council.

14. Consideration of a Resolution to Request that the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Official Name be "Potomac Yard - VT" Metrorail Station. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated September 16, 2020, is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 14; 09/22/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson and carried unanimously by roll-call vote, City Council endorsed the resolution formally requesting that WMATA begin the process to consider "Potomac Yard-VT" as the name for the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

The resolution reads as follows:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2961**

- **WHEREAS**, the Potomac Yard Metrorail station is currently being constructed with an anticipated completion date of March 2022.
- **WHEREAS**, Virginia Tech's Innovation Campus will be located in Potomac Yard within ¼ mile of the station.
- WHEREAS, Virginia Tech's Innovation Campus will be the University's flagship campus in Northern Virginia and larger than the existing three campuses in Northern Virginia combined.
- **WHEREAS**, 750 Master's and PhD students are anticipated to be enrolled annually, resulting in two to three thousand students at the Innovation Campus.
- **WHEREAS**, The Innovation Campus will be a major center of activity at the Potomac Yard site.
- **WHEREAS**, Universities are commonly included in Metrorail station names, as a secondary name and using abbreviations.
- **WHEREAS**, At this time, there is no additional cost of changing the name of Potomac Yard Metrorail Station.
- **WHEREAS**, Residents and stakeholders have been notified of the proposal to change the Potomac Yard Metrorail station name and all written feedback supported such change.
  - **WHEREAS**, The WMATA board must approve all station names and name changes.
- **RESOLVED**, That Council supports "Potomac Yard-VT" as the official station name for the new station in Potomac Yard.
- **RESOLVED**, That Council requests that WMATA proceed with its process for vetting station name proposals.
- **RESOLVED**, That pending positive feedback from the market research, Council recommends that the WMATA board approve "Potomac Yard-VT" as the official station name for the new station in Potomac Yard.

#### ORAL REPORTS AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

- 1. Councilwoman Jackson recognized the passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg and noted that there will be a candlelight vigil and march to the Waterfront on Thursday, September 24 beginning at 7 p.m. on Market Square.
- 2. Councilman Chapman presented a memorandum to his colleagues requesting that board and commission applications be included as part of the docket for the public in an

effort to be more transparent.

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilman Chapman, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson and carried unanimously, City Council moved to docket for consideration at the next legislative meeting a request for including board and commission applications as part of the docket for the public. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

- 3. Councilman Aguirre recognized this month as Latino Heritage Month (September 15 through October 15) and noted that he would be requesting a proclamation for presentation at the October council meeting.
- 4. Councilman Aguirre recognized Retired Naval Captain Debra Magee who served the Alexandria Health Department for managing the call center for the past six months. Councilman Aguirre thank all MRC employees and volunteers for their service.
- 5. Councilman Aguirre recognized Ms. McIlvaine, Director of the Office on Housing, for receiving an award from Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance for her work in that area.

#### **OTHER**

15. Consideration of City Council Schedule.

(A copy of the City Manager's memorandum dated September 16, 2020, is on file is in the Office of the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, marked Exhibit No. 1 of Item No. 15; 09/22/20, and is incorporated as part of this record by reference.)

WHEREUPON, upon motion by Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker and carried unanimously, City Council: (1) received the updated FY 2021 City Council Schedule which includes: the City Council Retreat on Saturday, November 7, 2020 at 9 a.m., location TBD; dates for the upcoming budget work session from February 2021 through April 2021; Budget Public Hearing on Monday, March 8, 2021 at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers; and Budget Adoption on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 7 p.m., in the Council Chambers; and (2) adopted the FY 2021 City Council Schedule for September 2020 through July 2021. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

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THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED, upon motion Councilwoman Pepper, seconded by Councilman Seifeldein and carried unanimously, City Council adjourned the regular meeting of September 22, 2020 at 11:57 p.m. The vote was as follows: In favor, Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, Councilman Aguirre, Councilman Chapman, Councilwoman Jackson, Councilwoman Pepper, and Councilman Seifeldein; Opposed, none.

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	APPROVED BY:	
	JUSTIN M. WILSON	MAYOR
ATTEST:		
Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk		