

Presentation to the Alexandria City Council

March 9, 2020

Mayor Wilson, Vice-Mayor Bennett-Parker, Members of the City Council,

My name is Chuck Ziegler, Director for Advocacy of the Friends of the Beatley Central Library.

I congratulate City Manager Jinks and his staff for the funding that they propose for Alexandria's Public Libraries in their FY2021 budget. While the library requested an additional \$100,000 towards their materials budget, the \$50,000 in the proposed budget is very much appreciated. I would also like to thank them for their continued support of the CFMP funding for the Beatley Envelope Project. The process to begin addressing the issues to the parking lot at Beatley is expected to begin this summer.

This support of our libraries is particularly important because, as you heard earlier this year, decisions by publishers like MacMillan are creating serious challenges for the library as they try to purchase material for their traditional and nontraditional users.

Budget decisions necessarily involve difficult choices among competing needs. To govern is to choose, and in this case, Mr. Jinks and his staff have chosen wisely, because there are good reasons for generously funding our public libraries. For instance, with the rise of fake news and confirmation bias on the internet, as well as new threats to public health, it is imperative that we have the most up-to-date and well-curated sources of information, such as provided by our public libraries. Consider that all the confirmation you could want that the earth is flat is freely available on the internet. By contrast, our public libraries constitute a community hub that provides ethical and unbiased access to *accurate* information that is available to *all* Alexandrians, regardless of income level or any other such consideration.

Also, with the increase in funding for Alexandria City Public Schools in this year's proposed budget, likewise it is important to support our public libraries, as they constitute a valuable additional resource for the education of Alexandria's children.

Let me close by urging approval of the proposed budget for our public libraries for the coming fiscal year. It is a sound investment in the public good.

Gloria Sitton

From: Jennifer McClory
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 1:26 PM
To: swbinvirginia@gmail.com
Cc: Gloria Sitton; Bob Williams; Yon Lambert; Morgan Routt; Jordan Lew
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL]City Budget- Improvements on King Street (Stormwater and Landscaping) between Quaker and 395

Dear Ms. Berry,

Thank you for your comments regarding the City's budget. Your comments will be posted with other comments received on the Budget web page within the next few days. For future budget comments, we request that they be submitted through the official budget input link: <https://www.research.net/r/AlexandriaVA-FY2021BudgetInput>

Best, Jennifer

Jennifer McClory | Dept. of Transportation & Environmental Services
City of Alexandria | 301 King Street, Alexandria Va. 22314 | Room 4100
t. 703.746.4025 | Jennifer.mcclory@alexandriava.gov

From: Susan Berry <swbinvirginia@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 7:24 AM
To: Gloria Sitton <Gloria.Sitton@alexandriava.gov>; Bob Williams <Bob.Williams@alexandriava.gov>; Yon Lambert <Yon.Lambert@alexandriava.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]City Budget- Improvements on King Street (Stormwater and Landscaping) between Quaker and 395

Gloria A. Sitton

City Clerk & Clerk of Council

Bob Williams, CPRP

Division Chief, Natural Resources

Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities (RPCA)

Yon Lambert, AICP

Director, Dept. of Transportation & Environmental Services

Greetings:

As a resident and taxpayer in Alexandria, I am writing to encourage the City of Alexandria to put in our budget funds to improve the stormwater management and landscaping on King Street between 395 and Quaker Lane. That area has been seriously neglected by the City (while at the same time millions of dollars have been allocated to stormwater projects that do little for our community).

Improving the entranceway to Alexandria on King Street between 395 and Quaker Lane would likely not be difficult (given its accessibility), nor would it involve a huge expense. However, attention to that area would make a significant difference. Currently, rainwater and snow melt from the King Street roadway and nearby areas run into ditches and low-lying areas that can be unsightly after large precipitation events. Pooled water catches and holds windblown trash. (As someone who volunteers to pick up that trash, I know it is a losing proposition given how quickly it gathers there.) Stagnant water in the ditches helps mosquitoes breed. The “trees” and other plants along the median are damaged, in poor health, or are overgrown with vines.

With some attention and funding, great changes could be made. Modern stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) can catch and filter rainwater and greatly improve the appearance of this area. The addition of carefully planted native trees and shrubs would make this “western gateway” to Alexandria a beautiful urban landscape.

Please ensure funding in Alexandria’s operating budget and Capital Improvement Program for work in this area of the City. Please also take steps to see how the City could work with local organizations (including our many volunteer organizations dedicated to natural resource improvements) to lower costs.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Susan Berry

204 Commonwealth Ave.

Alexandria, Virginia 22301

DISCLAIMER: This message was sent from outside the City of Alexandria email system.
DO NOT CLICK any links or download attachments unless the contents are from a trusted source.



To: Yon Lambert, Director, Dept. of Transportation & Environmental Services
Bob Williams, Division Chief, Natural Resources
Gloria Sitton, City Clerk and Clerk of Council

Re: King Street corridor from 395 to Quaker Lane

Da: March 5, 2020

I am the President of Fairlington Glen which borders Alexandria at the corner of King Street and Quaker Lane. Our residents shop and eat at the Alexandria establishments in Bradlee Center and Centre Plaza.

We were delighted when the City decided to beautify Quaker Lane by installing plantings along the median near the King Street interchange. And we appreciate you keeping the plantings trimmed so they do not block visibility for cars and pedestrians entering Quaker Lane from 36th Street.

We understand that the City is evaluating the need for storm water management and landscape improvements along the King Street corridor. Judging by the declining health of the trees in the median between 395 and Quaker Lane, improvements in soil, water disbursement, and plantings are definitely needed.

The Glen has also noticed a decline in the health of our trees inside the fence along King Street over the past few years. As we are below the level of King Street, it is possible that water, winter chemicals, etc. may be draining down onto our property and adding to the deterioration of our trees.

King Street is a major thoroughfare and deserves your highest consideration in resolving the storm water issues so landscaping improvements can commence. The condition and appearance of King Street is not only important to Fairlington residents but also to enticing people to shop at the Alexandria businesses along this main roadway.

All my best,

Charlie Robbins
President
Fairlington Glen



**Fairlington Villages,
A Condominium Association**

March 2, 2020

Ms. Gloria Sitton
Clerk
City of Alexandria
301 King Street, Room 2300
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Ms. Sitton:

In January, it came to the attention of Fairlington Villages that the potential for stormwater management and landscape improvements along the West End of King Street (from the new West Alex Development at King and Beauregard Streets to the intersection of King Street and Quaker Lane) are on hold or potentially permanently cancelled.

This was a great disappointment to our homeowners, especially those who are residents of Alexandria and living on South Columbus Street. The drainage of rainwater and snow melt from the King Street roadway (and nearby areas) runs into ditches and low-lying areas that can be not only unsightly and dangerous after large rain and snow events. We contacted the City's Department of Transportation and Environmental Services Director Yon Lambert and were further disappointed in his response on how to best remedy this decision.

We request that as the City Council considers the 10-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for the residents of Alexandria at their meeting on March 10, 2020 that they include the needed stormwater management improvements along this area of King Street in the updated CIP and ensure that the needed funds are included in the City's Fiscal Year 2021 budget.

Due to the increasing population density and congestion that this corridor is undergoing, due to not only to additional residents, but also shoppers, at the West Alex complex and other developments, Fairlington Villages believes that by utilizing stormwater Best Management Practices and with the involvement of the Alexandria Beautification Commission, the City could bring stormwater and aesthetic improvements along the King Street median and curbsides in both directions.

Further, it is our understanding, that the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is currently developing guidance that will allow cities to take Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) credits under the Chesapeake Bay program for tree canopy plantings, which we hope will prove to be an added incentive.

Another issue we raised with Mr. Lambert was overgrown trees blocking signs along King Street and traffic signs that are in disrepair or dirty, making them difficult for drivers to read. We would like to thank Mr. Lambert and his staff for promptly remedying the situation that included both

of these hazards at the corner of King and South 30th Streets, one of the entrances to Fairlington Villages.

We ask that you please include this letter as part of the March 9, 2020 Public Hearing Docket.

Please let me know how we can be helpful in moving forward on these issues for the betterment of West End residents and visitors entering the City from King Street's West End.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry Placek". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Terry Placek
President, Fairlington Villages

cc: Bob Williams, Division Chief of Natural Resources, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, City of Alexandria
Yon Lambert, Director, Department of Transportation & Environmental Services, City of Alexandria



Carpenter's Shelter

At The Hubert N. Hoffman, Jr. Center for Homeless Families

Board of Directors

Officers

Edith Bullard, *Chair*
Jim Taylor, *Vice Chair*
Louise Roseman, *Treasurer*
Meghan Hendy, *Secretary*

Members

Will Bailey
Charlotte Hall
Michael J. Lyden
Michelle Millben
Collin Moller
Jennifer Poersch
Ankur Shah
Jonathan F. Wolcott
Laura Zabriskie

Executive Director

Shannon Steene

March 9, 2020

Mayor Wilson and members of the city council, my name is Shannon Steene and I am honored to serve as the Executive Director of the Carpenter's Shelter. I am here today providing budget testimony as part of an ongoing conversation that Carpenter's Shelter has been trying to have with the city related to the funding of homeless services.

Carpenter's Shelter provides the most diverse array of services and support to people that are homeless in the City of Alexandria. The signature service we offer to Alexandrians in housing crisis is a 60-bed year-round emergency shelter serving families, single women and men. We coordinate very closely with city staff to ensure that there are uniform standards and operating procedures on both who is served and what manner in which they are served regardless of whether they come to Carpenter's Shelter or are referred to the other shelter known as the Alexandria Community Shelter.

There is great uniformity in the services provided at the two shelters. There is not uniformity, however, in the financial support the City of Alexandria provides to each of the shelters. At the Alexandria Community Shelter the city issues a contract to provide the bulk of the operating support needed as well as providing a building in which to operate. Carpenter's Shelter, by contrast, provides its own building and we incur a real estate tax liability because of it. Further, in addition to the cost of providing the space in which we shelter city residents, we have no direct contract for providing shelter services. Instead, we compete with a wide array of other nonprofits for financial support from the Alexandria Fund for Human Services. When subtracting taxes we must pay for providing our own building, Carpenter's Shelter receives less than 10% of the operating support provided to the Alexandria Community Shelter for their operations.

This inequity has been longstanding and we respectfully ask that the city address it. Carpenter's Shelter did submit a request several months ago and it was not included in the draft budget package presented to you.

Carpenter's Shelter is proud to aid Alexandrians that are homeless and in need of shelter. It is what we do. Our ask to the city is to be treated equitably when deciding where to spend financial resources for sheltering people that are homeless. That is clearly not the city's practice at present. We look forward to working with you to rectify this. Thank you.

5701-D Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22304
t: 703 548 7500
f: 703 548 3167

United Way #8228
CFC #87293

CarpentersShelter.org

BUDGET 2021

Mr. Mayor, Members of Council and City Manager

Let me start by saying thank you for the increase in our night differential and the \$1.00 an hour for our **CDL Drivers**. 85% of employees that work for the city cannot afford to live here. We agree that there is a need to retain our first responders However, if you consider what **OUR PUBLIC WORKS PEOPLE DO THEN YOU MUST SEE THAT WE TOO ARE FIRST RESPONDERS**. If the city closes for any reason you can count on three departments reporting for duty, **Police, Fire and rescue and essential Public Works Services personnel**. We respond to car accidents, we are called when a tree is down in the road, we are the first too respond during weather events. While most of you are in your warm dry houses, we are out in the weather for 12-hour shifts. Rain, snow, severe thunderstorms, earthquakes and any other natural disaster we may not see our families for days. we are making sure the city is safe and the roads stay clear so Police, Fire and Rescue personnel can get to their emergencies.

We take care of the sidewalks, bridges, roads, streetlights, and other above ground infrastructure as well as all the City's underground Sanitary and Storm infrastructure. Our brick crew, in my opinion, is one of the best crews anywhere. Our asphalt crew works tirelessly to fix potholes. Our street cleaning department is also above reproach. Our sewer crew not only maintains our sanitary sewer system they also maintain over 2500 fire hydrants. Our BMP crew, MY crew, which consists of just **three people**, maintains 116 storm water structures, with 78 more structures coming online within the next two years, and 11,868 inlets and catch basins. In order to do a lot of our work we must be certified in confined

space entry. According to the U.S. department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics on average 92 people die every year in confined spaces. We take every precaution to ensure the safety of our people. **Other local Public Works Departments** like Arlington received a 6% increase this year.

The city of Alexandria should not be a follower, we should lead the other local jurisdictions or at least be near the top when comparing our pay scale. The City of Alexandria should be a place where people work for fair wages, and not receive specialized training and then move to other places for better pay. In recent years it has been very difficult to retain top talent.

Thank you

THOMAS KNIGHTON

BMP Labor Supervisor T&ES

I'm Victoria Almquist, a member of the Commission on Aging. I am here today to confirm the Commission's support for making the part time Business Service Specialist, in the 50+ Workforce Development Senior Employment Program, a full time position. It was proposed as full time in the Age-Friendly Plan for a Livable Community, which Council approved in 2018. The amount needed to make this position full time is \$47,000.

This position has been part time since it was created in ~~mid~~ 2018. In that fiscal year, the position served 100 clients, in 2019, 261 clients received services, and this year so far 167 clients have been served. These ever-increasing numbers reflect the need for support to assist older adults in our City find employment.

According to AARP, "Americans age 50+ face the largest overall increase in long-term unemployment, the longest spells of joblessness and the least likelihood of finding a job. Older women bear the greater share of this burden: 60% of women 65 and older have incomes insufficient to cover basic, daily expenses." Some older residents of Alexandria face difficult decisions as they determine where they will live as they age. The cost of living in Alexandria can cause some to leave the City, and for

those who face unemployment, remaining in the City may become impossible.

The Commission believes, as we stated in the Age-Friendly Plan, that “older adults can benefit greatly by having a workforce specialist dedicated to them,” and by receiving “specialized assistance in preparing themselves for a very different work environment and removing barriers not faced by any other group.” The Business Service Specialist provides clients that specialized assistance and helps them develop strategies to overcome barriers. The position also conducts outreach and networking as well as direct services to clients. An important part of the position is developing relationships with businesses to promote hiring older workers, which is not easy to do as a part timer. Additionally, the part time nature of the position has made it more difficult to attract those who would remain in the position for a good amount of time.

We urge you to approve the funds needed to move this position from part time to full time to assist more older adults in Alexandria find needed employment.

William G. Gillespie
4410 36th Street South
Arlington, VA 22206
(703) 820-3239

March 8, 2020

Mayor Justin Wilson and Members of the City Council
City of Alexandria
301 King Street, Room 2300
Alexandria, VA 22314
Submitted Electronically

Dear Mayor Wilson and Council Members:

I am writing to comment on City Manager's proposed annual operating budget for FY21 and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY 2021-2030. I respectfully request that the City of Alexandria provide funding to address long-delayed stormwater management and landscaping improvements along King Street from North Quaker Lane to I-395. Adequate funding should be provided in both the City's operating budget and the CIP.

Here is a quick description of the existing situation along King Street. Rainwater and snow melt from King Street and nearby areas runs into ugly ditches and low-lying areas that are unsightly after large rain/snow events. Pooled water catches and holds windblown trash. In warm weather, stagnant water in the ditches breeds mosquitos. The old, ugly stormwater ditches date from another time. Modern stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) can catch and filter rainwater and capture pollutants that would enter the Potomac and the Chesapeake Bay. BMPs would greatly improve the appearance of this area. Examples of BMPs can be seen at: <https://chesapeakestormwater.net/training-library/stormwater-bmps/>. Alexandria staff have made presentations in our community and have described the beautiful and effective stormwater structures that can be installed along King Street to solve the stormwater collection problems.

The landscape along King Street is also in serious need of attention. Many trees along the roadway are badly damaged, stunted, or in poor health. This "western gateway" to Alexandria should be a beautiful urban landscape with large canopy trees and plantings of flowers and native plants. It should be an area the entire city is proud of.

We are aware that the city plans to spend approximately 6.1 million on stream restorations of Strawberry and Taylor Runs. Spending far less, the city could improve stormwater management along King Street, capture stormwater runoff and the pollutants that enter Taylor Run, and make King Street a beautiful urban landscape.

I invite you to work with residents and homeowner organizations in both Arlington and Alexandria to make the vision described above a reality. Working together we believe something truly beautiful can be accomplished.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

William G. Gillespie

Gloria Sitton

From: Leslie Cameron <leslieacameron5@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2020 2:05 PM
To: Gloria Sitton; Bob Williams; Yon Lambert
Subject: [EXTERNAL]City of Alexandria: budget and CIP

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the City of Alexandria's budget.

I live in Fairlington, and we are regular shoppers over at Bradlee Shopping Center. The stretch of property from Quaker Lane and I395 is in dire need of improvements. Stormwater management is a problem here – in the winter runoff collects in the ditches and looks bad, and in the summer the standing water is a source of mosquitoes. In addition, trash collects on the standing water and looks bad as well. The trees along the median also are in terrible shape – they look damaged or diseased. Stormwater management needs to be improved, and both for stormwater management and appearance, landscaping is needed – preferably with native trees, shrubs, and plants suited to this difficult location.

I am writing to request that funding for improvements is included in the City's operating budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP), as well as to request that the City work with grantors to secure grant funds to lower the costs.

Thank you,
Leslie Cameron
4416 S. 34th St., #A1
Arlington, VA 22206

DISCLAIMER: This message was sent from outside the City of Alexandria email system.
DO NOT CLICK any links or download attachments unless the contents are from a trusted source.

Alexandria Commission on Aging (COA)
<i>Testimony for the Budget Public Hearing March 9, 2020</i>

Good evening Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett Parker and Members of City Council. I am Barbara Waters, Chair of the Commission on Aging, and I am here to present testimony from the Commission's Executive Committee. We sincerely thank you for your many years of unwavering support for the older residents of our City. We also thank Management and Budget staff for their budget presentation to the COA's Advocacy Committee in which they explained the proposed budget and answered our questions. Based on that information, we offer the following comments for your consideration this evening.

First, we ask that the Employment Training Specialist dedicated to Older Workers be upgraded from half to full time. This will entail a budget increase of \$47,000. We are grateful that Council restored the position to half-time two years ago which produced very positive results of (100 older adults served in FY 2018; 261 in FY 2019 and 167 so far in this FY). The reality is that the position needs to be full-time to meet current needs, as many older workers cannot enter retirement and need assistance in finding either full- or part-time employment, in order to maintain their residency in the City.

Second, we are concerned with the proposed fare increase for the DOT paratransit program. The increase from \$3 to \$4 in the City is a 33% jump which will create a hardship for riders. The round-trip fares of \$8 in the City and \$12 for travel over five miles from the City are simply too much to ask from older and disabled riders, *our most vulnerable residents*. We ask that you leave the fares as they are now.

Third, in our response to the City Manager's request for budget input last fall, we requested an increase in the Rent Relief program to address the waiting list, which is over 50% of the total current number of recipients. The estimated fiscal impact is approximately \$230,000. We believe the Rent Relief program is essential to help lower income older renters remain in the community.

Next, the proposed 2021 budget includes expanding the Park Mobile program to more blocks in Old Town. We reiterate our same concern as last year - namely, that the pay stations are too far apart for older and disabled residents who do not use smart phones and cannot use the Park Mobile app. We request that every block that has these residential parking restrictions also include a clearly visible pay station on every block to allow any person with a mobility impairment to more easily comply with the additional requirements to pay

We are pleased the proposed budget includes full funding for DASH, and a pay increase for drivers, without increasing passenger fares. We also urge your full support of DASH in next year's budget, which will include phase one of the Alexandria Transit Vision Plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight, and for your continued support of older Alexandrians. We urge you to continue that support with favorable consideration and adoption of our requests for incorporation in the FY 2021 City Budget. Subject to your questions, this concludes my presentation.

Alexandria City Council
Testimony of Mr. John Porter, Alexandria Member
Northern Virginia Community College Board

March 9, 2020

Mayor Wilson and Council Members, thank you for this opportunity to provide budget testimony and an update on Northern Virginia Community College's various partnerships in service to the City. My name is John Porter and I am honored to serve as the City's representative to the NOVA College Board.

The major focus for your community college is on "Workforce." We strive to be both responsive to the workforce needs of area employers and to the corresponding educational and skill-specific training needs of your citizens. Faced with literally tens of thousands of vacancies in Northern Virginia, area IT industry leaders have appealed to NOVA for the creation and filling of a pipeline of skilled workers. Their strong preference is to draw from among existing residents and members of our military community. This should be welcomed by elected leaders both as a timely and needed economic development opportunity and as a means of breaking the cycle of poverty for far too many struggling citizens.

For their part, these employers are working with NOVA to create and grow apprenticeship programs to begin addressing industry vacancies and to advise the college on degree and short-term certificate programs that lead to family-supporting careers. NOVA is currently working with corporate leaders to launch and grow a range of apprenticeship programs with an emphasis on IT and cybersecurity. This includes a pilot project with 12 companies which is being scaled through a state grant and in partnership with the Northern Virginia Technology Council.

Given these twin challenges of finding family-supporting employment and filling a growing list of quality job vacancies, the college is asking each of our nine supporting local governments to allow the college the flexibility to re-direct a portion of the capital support you have annually provided to NOVA since 1999. We would use this shift to fund the first phase of our "Grow our Own" workforce initiative.

What the college is specifically requesting for FY2021 is the ability to re-direct fifty cents from the current \$2.25 per capita in capital support to help fund the creation of an IT Employment Pipeline. Please note that NOVA is not seeking an increase in your local support – nor have we sought an increase in four fiscal years.

The region-wide shift in local funds would be pooled to grow high demand programs in concert with industry with a particular focus on buying-down the cost of targeted IT certification exams. These exams are administered by third-party credentialing organizations. Given that the cost of sitting for these exams usually exceeds the cost of

their NOVA courses, a very high percentage of our students do not take them. This is self-defeating as these third party credentials are what is most often required or sought by area IT employers. Based on existing partnerships and market research, our initial list of eligible programs and exams would include: Network +; A+ Software and Hardware; Linux +; Security + and AWS Cloud Practitioner. Going forward, the mix of eligible programs and exams would change as industry-demanded skills change

Depending on NOVA's success with this first "Growing our Own" workforce initiative, the college may seek similar support in FY 2022 to launch a Healthcare Employment Pipeline. We are in discussions with area healthcare executives to confirm what they need and how best to position NOVA programs to help fill their skilled employment vacancies. The Inova Health System is currently piloting direct recruitment of students from our Medical Assistant Program.

Your community college is focused on creating opportunities for residents and employers alike. Your support of the City Manager's recommended Fiscal Year 2021 level of support to the college coupled with the redirection of these funds as noted above will allow the flexibility needed to create this extremely important IT employment pipeline.

In addition to copies of my testimony, I am also providing you with an update on NOVA's Alexandria Campus-based support for the community and a general update on our Workforce program.

In closing, thank you for your attention. Should you have any questions, Dr. Annette Haggray, the Alexandria Campus Provost, Mr. Dana Kauffman, NOVA's Director of College Government Affairs, and I will do our best to answer them.

Northern Virginia Community College in Service to the City of Alexandria

Service to Schools:

Each year, NOVA welcomes an average of 27% of T.C. Williams High School's Graduating Class as new students

T.C. Williams High School Graduates Enrolled
at NOVA, 2013-14 through 2017-2018

Academic Year	# Graduates	# Attending NOVA	Enrollment Rate (%)
2013-14	728	194	27
2014-15	685	173	25
2015-16	703	207	29
2016-17	728	201	28
2017-18	767	200	26
Total	3,611	975	27

Note: "# Attending NOVA" reflects T.C. Williams High School students who enrolled at any NOVA campus. For reference, 91 percent of T.C. Williams High School graduates enrolled at the Alexandria Campus in 2017-18.

Tech Pathways

- A first-of-its-kind regional career awareness campaign focused on raising awareness of careers in technology among K-12 students launched in all 140 middle and high schools in northern Virginia, including ACPS, in September 2019.
- The initiative was supported by all local jurisdictions, and is critical given the projection of over 112,000 jobs in IT over the next decade here in the region.
- Provides resources and support for students, educators, and parents to learn more about tech careers.

High School Outreach

- The Northwest Federal Credit Union is partnering with NOVA to expand the Aspire Higher/AVID program by sponsoring transportation to bring middle and high school students to the Alexandria campus from Alexandria City Public Schools and Arlington Public Schools. "Discover NOVA" is planned for the

first time this year where middle and high school students can come and visit the Alexandria Campus all day. Students will meet NOVA faculty, sit in college classes, tour the campus, hear a student panel, and participate in a luncheon/resource fair. Students will also learn about academic advising (both transfer and career options), dual enrollment, financial aid and support services. The first school visit will occur on April 1, 2020.

Service to Support Businesses and Grow the Workforce:

Partnerships and Career Services

- In the past year, NOVA has supported nearly 250 businesses in Alexandria by connecting them directly to NOVA students via Career Connection, an online portal where employers can share professional opportunities with all 85,000 NOVA students (credit and non-credit).
- NOVA has partnered with the City of Alexandria and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) to offer paid internships for NOVA students in summer 2020.
- The NOVA Automotive Technology programs are strengthening partnerships designed to aid students in obtaining internships and jobs in the field. A new partnership with Beyer Automotive led to the official designation of the NOVA Alexandria Campus as an official Subaru University school in 2019. This designation made it possible for the Alexandria Campus to receive a 2018 Outback vehicle along with other parts donations for students to have hands on training.
- NOVA offers short-term programs to train students to earn industry-recognized credentials to prepare them for new careers or career advancement. FastForward, a focused statewide financial assistance program, buys-down the cost of tuition for top, in-demand programs for careers as medical assistants, pharmacy technicians, and billing and coding specialists.

Apprenticeships and Paid Internships

- NOVA is working with the corporate community to launch and grow apprenticeship programs in nontraditional occupations, with an emphasis on IT and cybersecurity.

- NOVA has provided IT and cyber career pathway apprenticeship opportunities for more than 200 individuals in northern Virginia at several companies including Amazon Web Services and Alarm.com
- A new partnership between the NOVA Automotive Technology program and the Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association has resulted in a program at the Alexandria Campus that will provide tuition assistance and paid internships, leading to jobs.

Alexandria/Arlington Regional Workforce Council

- NOVA is engaged with the Alexandria/Arlington Regional Workforce Council by serving on the board, and as a training provider to support individuals in the community.

Special Programs for Special Needs:

NOVA's Alexandria Campus - Based Cybersecurity Program

- On any given semester, NOVA's Cybersecurity program enrolls between 1,500 and 1,600 students. The college's program follows Department of Homeland Security and National Security Administration cybersecurity education standards. It is an "applied" degree that transfers to more than four regional institutions, including George Mason University's Bachelors of Applied Science in Cybersecurity, The George Washington University College of Professional Studies BS in Integrated Information Science, and Technology, Marymount University BS Information Technology, and UMUC's BS in Computer Networks and Security degree. Additional transfer agreements are in process.

To focus on meeting employer needs, NOVA partnered with the Northern Virginia Technology Council (the largest such council in the country) on a workforce needs assessment to better identify the specific skills needed by the Council's 1,000 member companies. As a result, NOVA can and will continue to accurately align their programs to meet industry needs and better prepare students for family-supporting careers.

The Director of NOVA's Cybersecurity Program, Dr. Margaret Leary, has more than 30 years' experience in IT, the last 14 in cyber, and is a senior policy advisor to government agencies. In 2016, she assumed the first endowed faculty chair in the history of the Virginia Community College

System, becoming the Edward H. and Marilyn D. Bersoff Endowed Chair for Computer and Information Sciences. She was also just recognized by the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia with the Commonwealth's highest honor for faculty at Virginia's colleges and universities. Dr. Leary is the 13th NOVA professor to receive this prestigious recognition since the award's inception in 1987.

ESL Programs

- NOVA Workforce's American Culture & Language Institute (ACLI) serves local residents, visitors to Virginia, and international students.
- ACLI helps students achieve their goals of English language proficiency for self-improvement, academic studies, and professional development, serving hundreds of students on the Alexandria campus each year.

NOVA Sponsorship of Alexandria Community Service and Outreach Events:

Martin Luther King Day of Service

- On January 20, 2020 more than 250 NOVA students, faculty, staff and community members gathered together for a 'Day of Service' to join in a celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life. The event took place at Northern Virginia Community College Alexandria Campus' Center for Design, Media and the Arts. The college held a series of community events and campus service projects to benefit NOVA students, Alexandria residents and the homeless population in the area.

NOVA has participated in the MLK Day of Service for 11 years, partnering with nonprofit organizations and encouraging students and the community to volunteer. This year, NOVA partnered with NOVA Financial Stability Program, NOVA Student Life and Volunteer Alexandria.

The event had speakers such as; Senator Mark Warner, Commissioner Shawn Kelly, Ms. Sylvia Cyrus, Executive Director of the Association of African American Life and History, NOVA's President, Dr. Anne Kress and NOVA Alexandria's Provost, Dr. Annette M. Haggray.

Dr. Frances Villagran-Glover, Vice President, Student Services, describes the day of volunteering as a "day on, not a day off" to make it an opportunity for people to make an impact.

The Year 1619 - Race, Gender, and Government

- On October 8, 2019, a panel of three scholars discussed four aspects of the year 1619: the beginnings of representative government, the arrival of the first enslaved Africans, the experiences of women, and the enslavement of Native Americans. Northern Virginia Community College and the Office of Historic Alexandria co-hosted this event at the Lyceum.

Dia Del Nino

- The Alexandria City Police (APD), Casa Chirilagua and Northern Virginia Community College hosted this special, community-wide event on September 28, 2019 on the grounds of the NOVA Alexandria Campus.

The purpose of the event was to engage with residents and help them connect with APD, Casa Chirilagua, NOVA and other community service agencies to build stronger relationships.

NOVA Arts

- In March 2019, NOVA hosted the inaugural community-wide *Spring into NOVAarts Festival* at the Alexandria Campus, showcasing faculty and student works from all campuses. The Festival featured the talented students of the NOVAarts programs and student organizations, including the Novellas - NOVA's Official Acapella Group, the NOVA Nighthawks Jazz Ensemble, student art, photography and ceramic displays, a drawing workshop, theatre and dance performances, and professional portraits taken by faculty and students in NOVA's Photography program.