

# City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 26, 2004

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR, AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: BUDGET MEMO # 10 : WATERFRONT RESTORATION AND IMPROVEMENT FUNDING THROUGH HIGHER SLIP FEES

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This memo responds to Councilman Macdonald's request regarding waterfront restoration and improvements and possible from increased slip fees to pay for these costs. A separate budget memo will address the questions related to a "business investment or special service district" to pay for these costs as requested by Council Macdonald.

Normally at the waterfront the City has 60 slips available, including 40 for year-round leases and 20 for visitors. As a result of Hurricane Isabel, the A/B Pier was destroyed and 26 slips are currently unavailable. Staff maintains a waiting list for both residents and non-residents. Currently, there are 50 boaters on the resident waiting list and more than 30 on the non-resident list. Unfortunately, due to the one lost pier (which will be replaced once FEMA approves reimbursement), there is not sufficient space for all the returning year-round lease holders.

For year-round leases the City charges \$6.25 per foot per month for private boats. Short-term pleasure boats are charged \$5 for 4 hours or less. Visitors are limited to a maximum of 72 hours. For stays between 4 hours and 72 hours, visitors are charged \$1 per foot for each 24-hour period, plus electrical and water hook up charges of \$2 per day.

Belle Haven Marina also currently charges \$6.25 per foot per month, and it also has an extensive waiting list. Other marinas in the Woodbridge area have different rate structures that do not take into account, to the same extent, the size of the boat.

Staff does not recommend raising rates immediately for this boating season due to the limited space at the waterfront and our inability to serve all current leaseholders. Staff will return to Council before the beginning of the FY 2005 boating season with a proposed new fee schedule for Council's consideration.