

4-4-05



"Bill Harris"
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03/31/2005 02:11 PM

To "Jackie Henderson" <jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject SeniorTaxi Shortfall

Dear Honorable Mayor and Members of the Alexandria City Council:

You have all received an e-mail from the Vice President of Senior Services of Alexandria (SSA), stating in some detail the financial problems SSA has had the past two years with the valuable Senior Taxi Program.

I will not repeat that detail, but simply and briefly summarize the following points:

1. In FY 04 SSA had to make up a shortfall of over \$21,000.
2. In FY 05 SSA looks to have a shortfall of \$28,650.
3. If current trends holds there will be a shortfall in FY 06 of another \$21,000.

These funds come from the generosity of our donors out of money SSA needs to pay for the many other important SSA programs -- Senior Employment; Money Management; Meals on Wheels; etc.

SSA had to submit its cost estimates to DHS in September of last year for the FY 06. We asked for \$20,000 in addition to the \$159,000 in FY 05, for a total of \$179,000. At that time SSA and DHS both thought that amount would be sufficient. However, six months later it looks like the costs for FY 06 will be closer to \$200,000, resulting in a shortfall of another \$21,000.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I urge the City Council to fund the full \$200,000.

Sincerely,

William P. Harris, President
Board of Directors
Senior Services of Alexandria