

2

4-9-07



<twobarnes@comcast.net>

04/13/2007 05:39 PM

Please respond to
<twobarnes@comcast.net>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>,
<timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>,
<council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: artificial fields

Time: [Fri Apr 13, 2007 17:39:18] IP Address: [68.84.6.114]

Response requested: []

First Name: John
Last Name: Barnes
Street Address: 1005 Hardee Place
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 703.370.5438
Email Address: twobarnes@comcast.net
Subject: artificial fields

Mayor Euille and Members of the City Council,

I would like to express my support for the inclusion of funds for artificial fields throughout Alexandria. I appreciate very much the budget pressures you need to consider but feel that this would be a very good use of funds for the children of Alexandria and would have a very positive impact.

Comments:

Thank you very much for your kind consideration and for your leadership.

John D. Barnes
1005 Hardee Place
Alexandria, VA 22314



<jptokarz@comcast.net>

04/15/2007 11:25 PM

Please respond to
<jptokarz@comcast.net>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delppepper@aol.com>

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Turf fields

2
4-9-07

Time: [Sun Apr 15, 2007 23:25:48] IP Address: [69.143.37.43]

Response requested:

First Name: Pat
Last Name: Tokarz
Street Address: 3739 Col. Ellis Ave. Alexandria, Va.
City: Alexandria
State: Va.
Zip: 22304
Phone: 703 4619695
Email Address: jptokarz@comcast.net
Subject: Turf fields
Comments: Everyone I talk with recognizes the need for more and better quality athletic fields in Alexandria. Thank you for your help.



<cponikowski@msn.com>

04/15/2007 10:00 PM

Please respond to
<cponikowski@msn.com>

2
4-9-07

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Budget Considerations for Athletic Field Upgrades



Time: [Sun Apr 15, 2007 22:00:34] IP Address: [68.239.96.106]

Response requested: []

First Name: Chester
Last Name: Ponikowski
Street Address: 22 Sunset Drive
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22301
Phone: 703-548-1383
Email Address: cponikowski@msn.com
Subject: Budget Considerations for Athletic Field Upgrades

Dear Mayor and Council Member,

Comments:

I have been following ongoing discussion of budget considerations for athletic field upgrades and urge you to support financing five or more fields for artificial installation by fall of 2009. The turf fields will allow the city to save Alexandria taxpayers money in the long run. As you know the installation costs are going up each year. So the longer we postpone installation of turf fields the less money we save for taxpayers. Also the turf fields will provide better field conditions for our growing number of youth and adult players and allow them to have more practice time on the fields.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
Chester Ponikowski, Alexandria resident since 1984



<ellenstanton001@comcast.net>

04/15/2007 11:14 AM

Please respond to
<ellenstanton001@comcast.net>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: ACVA Tourism Marketing Benefits Everyone -Budget Hearing Testimony

2
4-9-07

Time: [Sun Apr 15, 2007 11:14:36] IP Address: [68.83.223.191]

Response requested: []

First Name: Ellen
Last Name: Stanton
Street Address: 2600 King Street
City: Alexandria
State: Va
Zip: 22301
Phone: 703 838.1610
Email Address: ellenstanton001@comcast.net
Subject: ACVA Tourism Marketing Benefits Everyone -Budget Hearing Testimony

I was unable to attend the budget hearing as expected due to work commitment. The following is my testimony on ACVA tourism marketing.

I am here today speaking in support of the ACVA's marketing budget and plan. I have served on the board for less than one year, but have been impressed with the caliber of work and amount of work that is generated by the ACVA staff and Board.

The King Street Retail Study concluded that tourism accounts for 10 to 20 percent of retail/restaurant business - critical for our small businesses. The ACVA reaches out to targeted audiences within the region and throughout the Mid-Atlantic to bring much-needed visitors to our City.

Earned Media Coverage - ACVA works with local, regional and national media. Last year, earned media coverage of Alexandria was valued at just over \$1 million. The value of coverage is up over three percent this year.

Direct Mail and Email Marketing - ACVA sends seasonal direct mail to qualified homes in our target markets and quarterly email updates to subscribers, using databases that have grown more than 16 percent in the past year alone.

Advertising - ACVA spends nearly \$1 million per year on data based, targeted advertising. Whether advertising regionally to our local market for day-trippers or advertising broadly to the mid-atlantic market, ACVA uses radio, television, print and electronic advertising to reach millions of people every day.

Popular Web Site - 51 percent of visitors to the ACVA's tourism website www.FunSide.com return to the web site for repeated visits.

New attractions within the region accompanied by new marketing dollars for each - National Harbor, Mount Vernon's new museum and education center, the U.S. Marine Corps Museum, and the U.S. Air Force Memorial - will bring the need for increased ACVA marketing outreach to bring these audiences to Alexandria.

These efforts not only build tourism, but also enhance the reputation of our City as a whole. Positive visibility of Alexandria's many attributions helps to draw new businesses and new residents to our City. The City's investment in tourism is an investment in all of Alexandria.

Ellen Stanton
Historic Preservation Representative on the
ACVA

2
4-9-07



<eintz@comcast.net>

04/15/2007 08:17 AM

Please respond to
<eintz@comcast.net>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>,
<timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>,
<council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: taxes



Time: [Sun Apr 15, 2007 08:17:24] IP Address: [76.21.168.120]

Response requested:

First Name: Marcus
Last Name: Rarick
Street Address: 11 South Floyd Street
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22304
Phone: 703-461-8386
Email Address: eintz@comcast.net
Subject: taxes

I should have known the proposed budget was to good to be true - no property tax increase - in either rates or actual dollars. I now read in the Washington Post that the Mayor and City Council are proposing an increase in property taxes to make up a shortfall in Federal and State funds. What was most disgusting in the article was the comment that the Mayor and/or City Council did not believe the "small" increase was that big a deal.

I am here to assure you that it IS that big a deal! City taxes are so out of control that the city has to provide tax assistance to those making more than double the average national income! If that isn't an indication that taxes are to high then I don't know what is. If you really want to make up for reduced Federal and State funding for some programs, then take the money from other Federal and State funded programs. Of course the other comment regularly heard is that city employees must receive continuing increases in salaries and benefits to keep pace with other jurisdictions. Has an in-depth study been done to identify how many city employees have left to go to work for other jurisdictions? Are there any city vacancies that have had no qualified applicants?

Comments: If there are qualified applicants for all city vacancies, or if no employees have left to go to other jurisdictions because of salary levels, then that is proof that salaries and benefits are NOT below market value.

My property taxes have increased 57% since 2002. My retirement income has increased by 11% (10% after accounting for health insurance premium increases). Yes, I know the value of my home has increased, but that doesn't justify the city increasing its revenue (and spending) by such a huge amount.

The actions of the lot of you has finally convinced me that Republicans are correct in their charge that Democrats believe in only one thing - tax and spend! My vote in the next election will go to those individuals who pledge not only to not increase taxes, but to actually reduce them. The city is currently living beyond its means - and the current incumbents apparently have no plans to bring city finances back under control.

Sincerely,
Marcus C. Rarick
eintz@comcast.net
11 South Floyd Street

2

4-9-07



<mjdiscenz@aol.com>

04/14/2007 07:44 PM

Please respond to
<mjdiscenz@aol.com>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Campaign for Turf Fields

Time: [Sat Apr 14, 2007 19:44:01] IP Address: [69.140.76.65]

Response requested:

First Name: Michael
Last Name: Discenza
Street Address: 3104 Old Dominion Blvd
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22305
Phone: 7039631647
Email Address: mjdiscenz@aol.com
Subject: Campaign for Turf Fields
To the Alexandria Mayor, Vice Mayor and Council Members -

I am writing to urge you to support the ASA and Department of Parks & Recreation's recommendation to accelerate the funding and installation of five new turf fields.

Comments: I am a 13 year resident of Alexandria and the father of two elementary school age daughters in the public schools here who have been active participants in the Alexandria Soccer Association soccer league for more than three years. Further, I have also been an ASA volunteer soccer coach during that time. My teams have played on most of the fields in the city and I must say that I find the state of our athletic fields substandard at best, and in many cases, unsafe - unlevel, patchy and often rocky. This is not good enough for a city of Alexandria's caliber. Even worse, Alexandria seriously lags behind neighboring cities in its commitment to building safe and accessible playing fields that can be used by the young and the not so young.

I urge you to approve this recommendation. It will be a visible show of support for all the families

who are committed to staying in Alexandria and making it a great place to raise a family. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely -
Michael Discenza

Michael Discenza & Cynthia Durakis
3104 Old Dominion Blvd
Alexandria, VA 22305

2

4-9-07



<ndavis2502@aol.com>

04/16/2007 09:37 AM

Please respond to
<ndavis2502@aol.com>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Five by '09



Time: [Mon Apr 16, 2007 09:37:22] IP Address: [149.101.1.124]

Response requested:

First Name: Nanette
Last Name: Davis
Street Address: 2502 Taylor Avenue
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22302
Phone: 703-836-2685
Email Address: ndavis2502@aol.com
Subject: Five by '09
Comments: I strongly support the Alexandria Soccer Association's "Five by '09" plan and hope that you will too. Thank you, Nanette Davis

2
4-9-07



<dsoergel@umd.edu>

04/17/2007 01:57 PM

Please respond to
<dsoergel@umd.edu>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: A compassionate and fair city budget

Time: [Tue Apr 17, 2007 13:57:57] IP Address: [129.2.175.77]

Response requested:

First Name: Dagobert
Last Name: Soergel
Street Address: 8941 Victoria Road
City: Springfield
State: VA
Zip: 22151
Phone: 7034262840
Email Address: dsoergel@umd.edu
Subject: A compassionate and fair city budget
Dear Mr. Mayor,
Dear Member of Council

After attending the budget work session on Human Services on March 29 and since I cannot come to the public budget hearings, I write to you with a very simple message: The majority of the citizens of our beloved Alexandria are compassionate and fair-minded people who want a compassionate and fair budget. If this takes an increase in the tax rate, they are willing to pay the difference if they are made fully aware of all the issues.

As became very clear at the work session, a budget that is predicated on no increase in the tax rate falls short of meeting the needs of the city. Needs in early childhood education and human services go unmet. (I suspect the same is true for needs in the public schools, but I am not familiar with their needs or budget.) The gap between needs and services would be even greater if it was not for a number of non-profit organizations in the city that perform public functions with minimal support from the city that does not anywhere near a 50% city share which would be normal for a public-private partnership. Many of

these organizations are at breaking point. They have survived so far only because of leaders that are willing to live with the constant stress of how to make it through a year financially. They do so out of dedication to help the poorest in our community, but any one person can only do this for so long. If one of these organization goes under, it will leave a ! gaping hole in the already frail safety net. The city needs to step up to the plate.

Comments:

The budget falls short on another front. City staff do good work, and the citizens of Alexandria expect the services only a capable staff can provide. Words of praise and appreciation are nice and necessary, but at the end of day pay will tell the employees how much their work is really appreciated. A budget that does not provide a cost-of-living increase is simply not fair to the staff. The citizens of this city want their staff treated fairly. Again, if the people are convinced that this requires an increase in the tax rate, they would rather have that than a budget that is not fair.

This is a time for leadership, a time for letting the people know what it takes to get done what they want to get done

Sincerely,

Dagobert Soergel

PS

I am the treasurer of CFNC (Child and Family Network Centers, also known as the Network Preschool), but the opinions expressed in this letter are entirely my own.

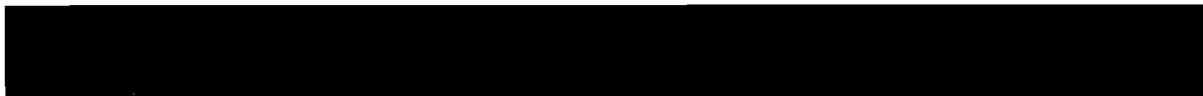
Dagobert Soergel
504 North Quaker Lane
Alexandria, Virginia 22304
dsoergel@umd.edu www.dsoergel.com

2
4-9-07



<luisalancetti@gmail.com>
04/16/2007 05:17 PM
Please respond to
<luisalancetti@gmail.com>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,
cc
bcc
Subject COA Contact Us: Expedited Installation of Turf Fields for Soccer (With Travel Team Access)



Time: [Mon Apr 16, 2007 17:17:22] IP Address: [70.21.90.28]

Response requested: []

First Name: Luisa
Last Name: Lancetti
Street Address: 2426 Davis Avenue
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22302
Phone: 703.549.2811
Email Address: luisalancetti@gmail.com

Subject: Expedited Installation of Turf Fields for Soccer (With Travel Team Access)

I am a very long-time resident of Alexandria as is my husband, Steve Cornwell. We have 2 daughters, one now in College and the other a freshman in high school. Both our daughters have participated in travel soccer for many years, with our younger daughter a current member of the Alexandria Arrows, WAGS soccer Division 2 team. (My younger daughter was one of the girls who attended last week's budget meeting. I also attended.) Soccer has been a very positive activity for my daughters and many other City residents and I am writing to ask the Council to expedite the installation of turf fields for soccer, and that the fields be made available for travel soccer practice and games.

Comments: Turf fields are very practical and are now commonplace in area jurisdictions. Having turf fields will allow our daughter and other children to have many more opportunities to practice and play the game.

My understanding is that the Council plans to install turf fields but that there will be delay with

only one field planned near-term at Minnie Howard and that travel soccer teams will not have access. Please consider installing more turf fields sooner, and please ensure that City travel teams have access to practice and play on such fields.

Soccer has been an important part of my childrens' lives and has made them stronger, healthier and more confident. I hope the Council will support this important and positive initiative.

Please contact me at 703.862.3978 if you have questions or would like to discuss. Thank you for your consideration. Regards.

Luisa Lancetti

2

4-9-07



<dahiatt@earthlink.net>

04/16/2007 06:33 PM

Please respond to
<dahiatt@earthlink.net>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delperpepper@aol.com>

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Proposal for Real Property Tax Increase



Time: [Mon Apr 16, 2007 18:33:18] IP Address: [68.83.217.184]

Response requested:

First Name: Dan
Last Name: Hiatt
Street Address: 603 N Saint Asaph St
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 5715270313
Email Address: dahiatt@earthlink.net

Subject: Proposal for Real Property Tax Increase

Comments:

I have read a notice of Proposal for a Real Property Tax Increase in my local mailroom. This is very troubling in a market in which real estate values are down. If the city is looking for revenue to fund shortcomings, why don't you start by enforcing restrictions on the HOV lanes through town? I can't tell you how many people I see driving illegally in this lane every day! With already high property taxes and also leisure expenditures to help support the local merchants, I think the homeowners are contributing enough to support the community. Stop this Property Tax Increase madness. I will take note of those who vote in approval of this action!!



<susannacarey@comcast.net>

04/10/2007 01:27 PM

Please respond to
<susannacarey@comcast.net>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: ACPS Budget

2
4-9-07

Time: [Tue Apr 10, 2007 13:27:04] IP Address: [69.140.71.252]

Response requested: []

First Name: Susanna
Last Name: Carey
Street Address: 1411 Russell Road
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22301
Phone: 703-519-4553
Email Address: susannacarey@comcast.net
Subject: ACPS Budget

Dear Mayor, Vice-Mayor, and Council Members:

Please fully fund the ACPS budget. We have made great strides in improving Alexandria City schools in recent years and we must continue to make that investment. Among other things, cuts in the budget would likely affect teacher pay and class size, areas that had been cornerstones of our commitment to quality.

To stay competitive with other school districts and meet the needs of all our students, we cannot let our support slip now. Strong schools do affect everyone in the city, not just those currently in the system. Please maintain our schools so Alexandria continues to be a community people want to live in.

Comments: I would like to point out to the Mayor and Council Members that I have several neighbors and friends who are planning a move to, or in the process of moving to, Arlington for the superior public schools. Why is it that Alexandria is a system that families are choosing to move out of instead of a system that families are choosing to move to? I am sure I do not need to tell any of you that the quality of the school system directly

affects the value of the property in that district. I also would like to point out that in the April issue of the Washingtonian magazine 20 of the area's great neighborhoods were compared.

Unfortunately, the property values in my neighborhood of Del Ray were \$200,000 to \$300,000 less than the values in North Arlington. I firmly believe that a big reason for that difference is attributed to the schools. I would like to ask you why, then, at this time you would actually decide not to invest in the public schools? I sincerely hope that I am not forced to leave a community I love so that my children will receive a quality education. When it comes to our children we will do what is best, and if Alexandria is not among the best, we too will leave.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Susanna M. Carey



<kogods4@comcast.net>

04/10/2007 07:53 PM

Please respond to
<kogods4@comcast.net>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Turf Fields

2
4-9-07

Time: [Tue Apr 10, 2007 19:53:17] IP Address: [68.34.7.101]

Response requested: []

First Name: Scott
Last Name: Clarke
Street Address: 2604 Cameron Mills Road
City: Alexandria
State: Virginia
Zip: 22302
Phone: 703-684-8658
Email Address: kogods4@comcast.net
Subject: Turf Fields

Dear Council Members,

As you deliberate on the operating and capital budgets for our city, I urge you take remarkable action that will not just start to address the existing soccer/sports field crisis, but solve it by accelerating current proposals for field installation. In short, you should act to authorize immediate construction - to be completed no later than Spring 2009 - of five synthetic "turf" fields.

Comments: I have been a soccer parent, Coach, and Alexandria Soccer Association Board Member over the past seven years. Our field problems have grown each year. I know you are well aware of the situation having obtained a complete study on the matter, so I will not belabor the point. We have all put off action for far too long - so long that the surrounding and far away jurisdictions have well surpassed us on this issue. Arlington has six turf fields, and DC is building five. Other jurisdictions have dedicated soccer complexes with multiple turf fields, many with lights. We have nothing. There are some many reasons to do this now, but I highlight just a few:

Really, really good fields for our children and

adults to play on year round
Lower maintenance costs
Direct economic benefits to local businesses from
tournament revenues
Really, really good fields for our children and
adults to play on year round (Yes I know I said
that twice)

Please consider acting in a remarkable way to
solve this problem.

Thank you all for your consideration and hard
work for our fine city.

Sincerely,

Scott Clarke

2
4-9-07



<lavalle1115@verizon.net>

04/10/2007 09:25 PM

Please respond to
<lavalle1115@verizon.net>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Playing Fields



Time: [Tue Apr 10, 2007 21:25:09] IP Address: [70.108.132.88]

Response requested: []

First Name: John
Last Name: LaValle
Street Address: 1115 Key Dr.
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22302
Phone: 703-379-9008
Email Address: lavalle1115@verizon.net
Subject: Playing Fields

I have been a resident of Alexandria for 39 years, all my life. Most of these years I spent on the playing fields participating in baseball, soccer, football and many other activities. Now my three children are participating in activities on these same fields; However, the conditions have vastly changed. We all realize that there is a field shortage issue and field conditions are poor and some would consider dangerous. It seems we are constantly trying to find a piece of decent land to line a soccer field. Last week I personally lined a field between the two baseball diamonds at Nannie Lee. The field will serve the need for a few games this year, but certainly is not a long term solution. My son just started playing soccer and is playing on fields that were clearly not designed for athletics, but because beginners play 3 vs. 3, we have created mini-fields on any grassy area we can find.

Comments:

I urge the Council to pass a budget that will allow for the acceleration of the turf fields currently proposed to be installed over the next 5 years. A few months ago, I was told (I am a Travel Team Manager) that we would not be able to practice on the fields at Potomac Yards because the City wanted to improve the condition of the field by limiting play and only use certain fields for games.

Good concept when you have ample playing fields; however, many teams were going to have to sacrifice valuable practice time for this to work. Next year, I'm sure we are going to see similar proposals as field conditions worsen. Things are getting worse every year and I would argue we are in critical condition right now, for all sports that depend on our fields. The quickest and most economical method to improve the condition of the City's fields would be to approve the acceleration of the turf field construction. Currently, over the next 5 years the fields will be developed. I ask ! to what expense to the kids that depend on the fields; obviously, hard to measure. The quicker the fields are developed the better for all that utilize the playing fields in Alexandria.

2

4-9-07



<dlindsay@washingtonian.com>

04/11/2007 08:58 AM

Please respond to
<dlindsay@washingtonian.com>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>,
<timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>,
<council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Budget and Athletic Fields

Time: [Wed Apr 11, 2007 08:58:17] IP Address: [216.194.197.194]

Response requested:

First Name: Drew
Last Name: Lindsay
Street Address: 326 Mansion Drive
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22302
Phone: 703-549-2967
Email Address: dlindsay@washingtonian.com
Subject: Budget and Athletic Fields
Dear Council Members and Officials,

Thanks for your time and work. I'm writing today to support the idea of including in this year's budget the funding for five synthetic turf fields in the city.

I have three kids who play sports. The oldest plays baseball and has enjoyed Simpson Field, Four Mile Run, and the other very good facilities available in the city. My two girls, however, play soccer and are frustrated by the poor fields available.

I went to a meeting of the North Ridge Citizens Association with Roger Blakeley, the city's parks director, and he acknowledged that Alexandria's fields are the worst in the DC area, bar none. When I told my girls about this later, they laughed: "We knew that already, Daddy." They often play games/scrimmages in other jurisdictions; after a game on synthetic turf in Arlington, one of them said, "Why can't we have fields like this?"

I truly understand that Alexandria is facing tough budget issues ahead. But as Blakeley describes them, turf fields are an investment that will yield

Comments:

considerable savings in the long run. Maintenance costs are so much less than with grass fields that he says the city would recoup the original cost within six years. Also, bidding out five fields now instead of one per year will get the city discounts from the builders. These fields will only get more expensive in the future.

It's not just the youth and adult sports leagues that would benefit from these fields. The city's reputation is hurt when teams come from other jurisdictions to play in Alexandria and find rutted, barren, unsafe fields. Referees have threatened to make Alexandria teams forfeit because fields were in such bad shape.

Before the vote on the budget, I urge you to look into this issue and talk about the potential savings for the city--and benefit for its citizens--of these fields. The field situation in Alexandria is a crisis, but synthetic turf offers an answer that not only fixes the problem but enhances the quality of life in the city and its reputation.

Thanks for your consideration.

Drew Lindsay
703-549-2967



<ecb404@hotmail.com>

04/11/2007 11:49 AM

Please respond to
<ecb404@hotmail.com>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>,
<timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>,
<council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: TAXES

2
4-9-07

Time: [Wed Apr 11, 2007 11:49:12] IP Address: [206.106.246.11]

Response requested: []

First Name: Edward
Last Name: Blau
Street Address: 404 Underhill Place
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22305
Phone: 703-518-4472
Email Address: ecb404@hotmail.com
Subject: TAXES

I cannot begin to describe how angry I was to read in the paper this morning that Council was voting to increase taxes (both the rate and, for me - since my home assessment did not drop this year - the taxes themselves) yet again this year, after the recent rapid run-up in taxes over the past several years.

Apparently you all cannot say "no" to the schools, no matter how much money they ask for, or how flat/declining the school population is. How come closing some schools is not being discussed? There are almost as many elementary schools now in Alexandria as when I was in the schools 30+ years ago (and when the student population exceeded 16,000 instead of 10,300 or so it is now). Every additional schoolhouse means another principal, more teachers, more custodial staff, more groundskeeping, more heating and utility bills. And didn't the Post recently report that Alexandria spends more per pupil than any of the other nearby jurisdictions, something in excess of \$18,000 per student? Why then the constant worry about mediocre test scores and so forth? If throwing money and staff at the problem was the key, how come Fairfax County's schools fare better by those measures?

And am I remembering correctly that I read that the new T.C. has room for 2200 students? Given the high cost of living in Alexandria, when are we liable to ever have classes of over 500 kids a year again, even if T.C. were to return to being a four-year high school?

I mentioned this to one or more Council members in messages I've sent in the past, but I will mention it again: the constant bleat that the teacher-pupil ratio needs to be lower. Well, when I was at George Mason Elementary, my classes were ALWAYS in excess of 30 students per teacher, and the school population was in excess of 600 kids (and that in a smaller building - we didn't have that gym in the back then). That as opposed to today's student body there of something over 300. Well, if a high student/teacher ratio is considered so debilitating, how can you assume I've been successful enough in life with such an early "handicap" that I can afford tax increases in excess of inflation (or certainly my income's increases) year after year after year?

I want good basic services - police, fire, roads, trash collection (including leaf collection - a blast on that in a second!), and, yes, schools. The rest is frills and spending other people's money on unnecessary things. Case in point- because DASH provides lousy scheduling of rush-hour service from the Pentagon Metro station to my home in the evenings, I very often end up walking the two miles from the Braddock Road Metro station instead of waiting for the bus from the Pentagon, which is timed to get in the carpool lanes just when all traffic is allowed on, so we crawl home. Fine, the walk from Braddock Road is good for me (as long as I don't get run over by an aggressive driver turning off of Mt. Vernon onto a side street). Why the devil are our tax dollars, MY money, being spent on stupid brick inlay sidewalks on Mt. Vernon Avenue? They don't match the surrounded structures architecturally, and something tells me they are more expensive to put in than normal poured concrete sidewalks. (Judging by how long the project is taking and how often I have to walk out into Mt. Vernon Ave. to avoid the sidewalk construction, they certainly take longer to install.) And they are not as trouble free or easy to walk on as concrete, since the individual blocks settle or heave up unevenly. They're fine in the crosswalks, since they provide a more visually obvious pedestrian zone, but as for basic

Comments: sidewalk material, they look "twee" and out-of-place (and since I feel overtaxed, they annoy me to see them going in where there were perfectly sound concrete walks already in place).

Leaf collection. I grew up in Monticello Park, and returned there five years ago. We never used to have to wait three weeks between leaf pickups, like we do now. And the first of the three scheduled pickups this past fall was in October, before hardly any leaves had fallen, and before hardly anyone put leaves out (although I had). And as far as bagging them - YOU all come over and wear out your back bagging my leaves, I ain't doing it. If the City had never provided leaf collection service before, I'd say don't start now. But the fact is that it is a long-established service, and before you start hiring more teacher's aides or putting in "cute" sidewalk materials, the Council should be making sure that the programs and services we already have are adequately funded.

Take care of what we already have, and stop looking to fund new stuff. Forget an all-sports field on Eisenhower Avenue. The drumbeat of how poorly maintained City fields already are is starting - I suppose next year you all will try to sell me a tax increase to rejuvenate those. Why aren't those costs already built into the City budget? And since apparently they aren't, why is anyone now or in the foreseeable future talking about building another one?

In regards to Old Town and the new developments in Prince George's County and water taxis and stuff - the cynic in me already sees how whatever increased tax revenues the City realizes from increased business in Old Town will get eaten up, with no relief for homeowners. The businesses down there will all cry about how the City needs to do this and that to promote Old Town businesses, and build more parking, and replace the sidewalks with something more appealing than the plain old bricks, and God knows what else. And Council will give in and subsidize them more, and citizens like me (who can only park down there for two hours without paying, even though our taxes pay for the roads down there, too) will be filched from again.

While I am in high dudgeon and complaint mode, let me issue another broadside. While my tax dollars are at work putting in unnecessarily dressy sidewalks on plain old Mt. Vernon Avenue, I am unable to get the City to replace the tacky blacktop sidewalk that makes up half the sidewalk

in front of my house with the normal poured concrete that makes up the other half. Why? Because the poorly chosen street tree in the median strip in front of my house (a half-dead maple, planted not by the City but by the previous owners of my house, that the City Arborist won't remove because it isn't dead and because, I'm told, the City has a policy of no net loss of trees) has buttressing roots that cracked the old sidewalk. Never mind that the tree is ugly and misshapen, never mind that the sidewalk looks tacky and is in fact uneven, never mind that I was willing to pay for the tree removal myself. I'm perfectly willing to replace the wretched tree with another (OF MY OWN CHOOSING - ! I see what the City plants - no thanks!) Too bad I don't live on Mt. Vernon Ave., the problem would have been solved.

When I voted for all of you all last year, it was with faith that there was an understanding that "enough was enough", the drunken spending binge in the schools and elsewhere was over, and there would be some time to fiscally catch our breaths after the rapid increases. I've been "had" again, and I'm not happy about it.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Blau

2

4-9-07



<billw@iadb.org>

04/11/2007 02:19 PM

Please respond to
<billw@iadb.org>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: R.E .Tax Rate

Time: [Wed Apr 11, 2007 14:19:19] IP Address: [199.79.165.12]

Response requested: []

First Name: Bill
Last Name: Watts
Street Address: 1200 Bayliss Drive
City: Alexandria
State: Va.
Zip: 22302
Phone: 703-683-0938
Email Address: billw@iadb.org
Subject: R.E .Tax Rate

Comments:

I knew it! I e-mailed you all 2 to 3 years ago that "today's" spending level is "tomorrow's" base level. You all have lived fat on the hog for the past 3 years on property owners' backs. I also suggested that once values stayed the same or went down, which they were apt to do (economic cycles), your only option to appease the special interest groups would be to raise the tax rate. You indicate that tax levels should remain the same and the we should not mind. Ha! You all have no backbone! The City Manager came up with a good budget, and you let the School Board (read Ms. Perry) blind side you (and its Chairman). How can you justify such an increase with declining enrollment and one of the highest per pupil costs in the area (both our kids have gone through the public school system). I dare you all to stand up for the property owners of Alexandria and still come up with a "tough but fair" budget that gives us some tax relief. Good luck. Bill Watts



<straight@ehsva.org>

04/11/2007 04:16 PM

Please respond to
<straight@ehsva.org>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>,
<timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>,
<council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Turf Fields

2
4-9-07

Time: [Wed Apr 11, 2007 16:16:44] IP Address: [66.166.186.25]

Response requested: []

First Name: Emily
Last Name: Straight
Street Address: 1200 N Quaker
City: Alexandria
State: Va
Zip: 22302
Phone: 7038457584
Email Address: straight@ehsva.org
Subject: Turf Fields

As Alexandria Youth Soccer Coach I am thrilled to hear you are considering adding five turf fields by '09. As a former Alexandria recreation league player, I only wish you had done it two years ago.

Two years ago I was playing in the adult league on a field over by Four Mile Run and off Mt. Vernon Avenue. It was raining, and you might be aware, there is little grass on the field. I was turning as my cleat sunk in several inches of mud, and unfortunately, tore my ACL and miniscus. I ended up with a complicated surgery and very expensive bills. I do understand this is the risk one takes when playing a game they love.

Comments: However, I'm convinced it wouldn't have happend on a better field. Luckily I was playing after six months of rehab, but I still am afraid to play in Alexandria until fields are improved. I'm excited to think it will happen.

I understand you will be receiving many emails regarding the crowded field conditions. I also wanted you to know that this is very much a safety issue, too.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Emily Straight

2
4-9-07



<amjbarbour@verizon.net>

04/13/2007 10:12 AM

Please respond to
<amjbarbour@verizon.net>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delperpepper@aol.com>

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Five by '09



Time: [Fri Apr 13, 2007 10:12:12] IP Address: [70.18.226.201]

Response requested:

First Name: Meredith
Last Name: Barbour
Street Address: 108 East Howell Avenue
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22301
Phone: 703 2996182
Email Address: amjbarbour@verizon.net
Subject: Five by '09

Comments:

I am writing in support of the city financing five or more fields for artificial turf by the fall of 2009. As a citizen of Alexandria since 1996, I see less and less field space and open space where my six year old son, Jack, can play. The artificial turf fields seem like a good and viable option to help the city maintain enough field space for our kids to enjoy.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Meredith Barbour



<marcia@mckinleyinc.com>

04/13/2007 08:57 AM

Please respond to
<marcia@mckinleyinc.com>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delperpepper@aol.com>,
cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Five by '09 -- Soccer Fields

2
4-9-07

Time: [Fri Apr 13, 2007 08:57:05] IP Address: [24.219.136.30]

Response requested: []

First Name: Marcia
Last Name: Call
Street Address: 101 West Uhler Terrace
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22301
Phone: 7035197904
Email Address: marcia@mckinleyinc.com
Subject: Five by '09 -- Soccer Fields

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Members of Council:

As a soccer mom, a resident, voter, and business owner in Alexandria, I am writing in support of the Alexandria Soccer Association's request for support of the Five by '09 initiative.

Recently, I read an incredible book by the Baltimore Sun writer Jim Haner entitled Soccerhead. I recommend it to all of you. In the pages of this entertaining and enlightening read, the sport of soccer came alive for me in a way that resonated with my experience as a spectator for ASA games. (I've been watching the sport in Alexandria for almost 12 years.)

Over these 12 years, beginning with watching Alex and Sara Rich push a ball down field, I have seen this sport explode. I am particularly passionate about the game because the soccer field is a place where children from diverse backgrounds come together and forge bonds that strengthen our schools and our community. Drop by Mt. Vernon, Charles Barrett, or Brenman field on any Saturday morning between now and June and you'll see what I mean.

Comments:

During that time, due to the tremendous use of our fields, I have seen deteriorating conditions. I have no complaint here -- I believe the City Rec Department does all it can to keep up with these fields. Rather, I have a request. I would like to see the City accelerate the construction of the City's five fields in order to take advantage of Alexandria's surge for the game.

I understand the many requests you have to consider and hope that you will take this opportunity to weigh the tremendous benefit to the City in having these soccer fields sooner rather than later.

My best to you,

Marcia

Marcia A. Call

President
McKinley Marketing Partners, Inc.

and

Soccer Mom
Eric Jensen's Hippogriffs

2
4-9-07



<brian_n_siebenlist@hud.gov>

04/12/2007 04:13 PM

Please respond to
<brian_n_siebenlist@hud.gov>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: soccer fields

Time: [Thu Apr 12, 2007 16:13:37] IP Address: [170.97.67.142]

Response requested: []

First Name: Brian
Last Name: Siebenlist
Street Address: 2725 Hemlock Avenue
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22305
Phone: 703 836-6999
Email Address: brian_n_siebenlist@hud.gov
Subject: soccer fields

Comments: I am writing to urge you all to please support funding additional soccer fields throughout the city. With two kids playing Alexandria youth soccer, I have seen first hand how the popularity of the program has created a need for more space. I have also seen how youth soccer presents a wonderful opportunity for kids to learn sportmanship, exercise, and interact in a positive way with other kids from diverse economic and racial backgrounds. Youth soccer really does build community, so I hope that you consider additional fields a smart investment. Thanks for your consideration and hard work on behalf of Alexandria.

2

4-9-07



<jt@thecormacgroup.com>

04/12/2007 01:02 PM

Please respond to
<jt@thecormacgroup.com>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Turf Fields



Time: [Thu Apr 12, 2007 13:02:34] IP Address: [67.103.183.38]

Response requested:

First Name: john
Last Name: timmons
Street Address: 2408 Davis Ave
City: alexandria
State: va
Zip: 22302
Phone: (202)255-1101
Email Address: jt@thecormacgroup.com
Subject: Turf Fields

Comments: I urge you to support a capital investment program which will install five turf fields in the City by the end of 2009. I believe if you closely examine the numbers, such a program would be significantly cheaper over the long haul than the City's current proposal of adding one field a year over the next five years. Savings would be found in economies of scale in purchasing, lower o&m costs, and reduced exposure to inflationary pressures, particularly in the volatile petroleum products market. Additionally such fields could be a source of revenue for City merchants and thereby the City.

Thank you for your time and dedication.

John Timmons

2

4-9-07



<Jordan4754@aol.com>

04/12/2007 10:44 AM

Please respond to
<Jordan4754@aol.com>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: 2007 property assessment



Time: [Thu Apr 12, 2007 10:44:58] IP Address: [205.254.147.8]

Response requested:

First Name: Robert and Rosalie
Last Name: Jordan
Street Address: 1105 Wilkes Street
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 703-706-5301
Email Address: Jordan4754@aol.com
Subject: 2007 property assessment

Comments: We and many others in Old Town are disturbed that the City has decided to increase the assessment rate for real estate in Alexandria. With property assessments moving down this year we thought that we would see some relief, but instead you are recommending a raise in the mil rates so we will in most cases continue to pay the same. How about reducing our social services and give back to the members of the community a real estate tax reduction. It is getting to the point that our neighbors are moving to get away from the high real estates taxes...when you tax base startes to move out especially those of us at the high end, your budget will be forced down. Before you raise the mil rate, we ask for you to reconsider and give the community relief.

Thank You

Robert and Rosalie Jordan

2
4-9-07



<dizs@msn.com>

04/12/2007 10:20 AM

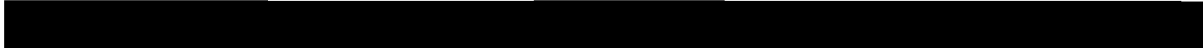
Please respond to
<dizs@msn.com>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delperpepper@aol.com>

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Turf Fields Plan



Time: [Thu Apr 12, 2007 10:20:03] IP Address: [161.203.16.1]

Response requested:

First Name: Carlos
Last Name: Diz
Street Address: 2600 Cameron Mills Road
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22302
Phone: 703-549-6906
Email Address: dizs@msn.com
Subject: Turf Fields Plan

Dear Mr. Mayor and Members of the City Council:

I've been a youth soccer (and baseball/basketball coach) in Alexandria for quite a number of years now and the lack of fields for soccer and insufficient field capacity in the city of Alexandria, particularly in the last few years, has reached a crisis stage. At a meeting of the North Ridge Citizens Association last month we were briefed on the City's plan for including turf fields in the current CIP. I'd like to thank council and city staff for including turf fields in the CIP to attempt to alleviate the lack of fields for soccer and other sports. However, the current plan, in my opinion, does not resolve the fields "crisis" quickly enough. Because of demographics and overuse within the next two to three years, I think that even our best fields will likely be in pretty bad shape - this is not a maintenance problem, the City does a fine job, but just cannot overcome the overuse. Thus, I believe that we need to accelerate the current plan, which calls for installing one turf field per year for five years, particularly considering that the first field is devoted to other sports, not soccer.

Comments:

This is, in my opinion, unfair to the largest youth sports program in Alexandria: soccer. The Alexandria Soccer Association represents 1,600 kids ages 5 to 19, and their parents and is the largest sports organization in the city – adult or youth that serves both boys and girls (of increasingly diverse membership – African-American, Spanish-speaking, Arabic-speaking and African). Moreover, 15% of ASA's players are subsidized at levels from about \$100 to \$1,500 per year and 30 teams (SFL and Travel) serving as ambassadors for the City to communities from St. Mary's County, MD to Warrenton and Hagerstown to Fredericksburg.

I support the proposal asking the City Council to strongly consider accelerating the installation of five fields by 2009. The five turf fields are already in the City's long-term budget and the money in the five-year capital improvement budget can be reprogrammed to allow turf field construction to be accelerated. This would not only be advantageous to the soccer playing community but also to Alexandria as it would allow us to get in on the regional soccer tournament market and bring more tourists to the City. Accelerating field construction could also provide a budgetary savings to the City since, as we were advised at the North Ridge meeting, every year construction costs will go up dramatically so the sooner fields are built the more the city would save.

Thank you for your consideration!

Carlos Diz
2600 Cameron Mills Road
Alexandria, VA 22302

2

4-9-07



<w.randall@verizon.net>

04/17/2007 03:15 PM

Please respond to
<w.randall@verizon.net>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>,
<timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>,
<council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: soccer fields

Time: [Tue Apr 17, 2007 15:15:10] IP Address: [65.220.5.16]

Response requested: []

First Name: Bill
Last Name: Randall
Street Address: 1400 Oakcrest Drive
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22302
Phone: 703-379-4839
Email Address: w.randall@verizon.net
Subject: soccer fields

Mayor, Vice-Mayor and Council Members,

Comments:

I have been a resident of the City of Alexandria since 1998, but only recently has my son started playing sports. I am concerned that as he advances in age, he will not have the soccer facilities to support his interest in soccer. I understand that five turf fields are in the budget over the next five years, but I do not think that will meet demand due to the current overuse of the fields. Hopefully, you can manage the budget and move funding to develop these fields by 2009. This would greatly ease the burden on the current field situation and allow my son and daughter along with thousands of other Alexandria kids to enjoy the sport of soccer on fields that are in good condition.

Respectfully,

Bill Randall

2
4-9-07



<bhickey@pbs.org>

04/11/2007 12:35 PM

Please respond to
<bhickey@pbs.org>

To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <macdonaldcouncil@msn.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <council@krupicka.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: real estate tax rate



Time: [Wed Apr 11, 2007 12:35:14] IP Address: [149.48.161.10]

Response requested: []

First Name: Betty
Last Name: Hickey
Street Address: 213 North Columbus Street
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 703-694-7066
Email Address: bhickey@pbs.org
Subject: real estate tax rate

Comments: For a while it actually sounded like you were going to give us taxpayers a break after sooooo many years----but, alas, you still won't do it! A \$33.17 reduction in 2007 real estate taxes won't even let me go out to dinner at one of our fine restaurants. For every dollar you continue to take out of my pocket some local business loses my business. At least Hartmann was trying to appease us and I do give him lots of credit and thank yous. bhickey