


City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: FEBRUARY 19, 2009  
TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER   
SUBJECT: RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE WATERFRONT PLAN PLANNING PROCESS

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**ISSUE:** To establish the public participation process for the Waterfront Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That City Council adopt the attached resolution.

**BACKGROUND:** At its meeting on January 13, City Council received a memorandum and draft resolution outlining the proposed public process for the upcoming Waterfront Plan planning process, and then a work session with Council was held on February 2 to discuss the proposed process and draft goals.

The objective of the Waterfront planning process as outlined in the attached resolution is to have a public process that is as inclusive as possible. To achieve that goal for the Waterfront Plan, it is recommended that the City hold a series of open public meetings, rather than have an appointed advisory group. In addition, the Planning Commission will play an active role in guiding and facilitating the process.

It is proposed that the initial series of public meetings be informational in nature. The meetings would include presentations to highlight national and international examples of successful waterfronts; tours of the Alexandria Waterfront on foot and by boat; a description of existing conditions and associated opportunities and constraints; a public forum to allow interested persons or groups to present their ideas for the Waterfront Plan; and at least one tour of a waterfront in another city. Public meetings would be designed not only to be informational, but also participative and broadly inclusive in obtaining public input. This would be followed by a series of visioning workshops with the community with the intention of developing a set of goals, values, principles and options for the Waterfront Plan.

Based on this input, then a draft plan would be prepared, following which there would be a formal public comment period. Those comments will be analyzed by the consultants and staff and presented to Planning Commission and City Council with recommendations for proposed changes to the draft plan. The plan will then be redrafted and released for a second public comment period. These comments will be presented to Planning Commission and City Council, along with further recommendations for changes to the plan. Final changes to the plan will then

be completed and presented to Planning Commission and City Council for approval and adoption.

The public process will commence in March 2009, and it is anticipated that the process described above will take about twelve months.

The attached resolution is identical to that presented to Council on January 13, as well as on February 2.

**ATTACHMENT:** Resolution to establish the public participation process for the Waterfront Plan.

**STAFF:**

Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager

Faroll Hamer, Director, Department of Planning and Zoning

Karl Mortiz, Deputy Director, Strategic and Long Range Planning

Kathleen Beeton, Division Chief, Neighborhood Planning and Community Development

Andrea Barlow, Principal Planner, Neighborhood Planning and Community Development

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, the revitalization of the Alexandria Waterfront is important to the quality of life as well as the economic and social health of Alexandria as a whole, and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to establish a public participation process for the planning of the Alexandria Waterfront that is open, fair broadly inclusive and facilitates the preparation of a plan for the area that takes advantage of limited opportunities presented by redevelopment and provides long-term benefits to residents and businesses in Alexandria as a whole,

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

1. There is hereby established broadly inclusive public planning process for the Alexandria Waterfront Plan.
2. All meetings held to discuss the Waterfront Plan will be open to all members of the public, including all residents and businesses of Alexandria.
3. A series of meetings will be held, to include:
  - a. Informational meetings to identify existing conditions, study other nationally and internationally successful waterfronts, and identify potential opportunities and constraints;
  - b. Interactive meetings to enable interested parties and groups to share their ideas for the Waterfront Plan;
  - c. A series of community workshops to establish goals, values, principles and options for the Waterfront plan; and
  - d. Walking and boat tours of Alexandria Waterfront and waterfronts in other cities.
4. The Planning Commission will play an active role in guiding the planning process.
5. Administrative and technical support for these public meetings will be provided primarily by the Department of Planning and Zoning staff, supplemented by a consultant team and staff other City departments and agencies.
6. Staff shall endeavor to present its findings recommendations to the Planning Commission and the City Council in twelve months.

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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WILLIAM D. EUILLE                      MAYOR

ATTEST:

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JACQUELINE M. HENDERSON    CMC    CITY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 2323

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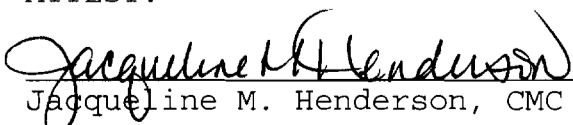
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ADOPTED: February 24, 2009

  
WILLIAM D. EULLE MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk