



Stephanie Brown  
<SBrown@VisitAlexVA.com>

04/14/2009 02:58 PM

Please respond to  
Stephanie Brown  
<SBrown@VisitAlexVA.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Tourism Industry Supports Trolley

2  
4-13-09

**Time:** [Tue Apr 14, 2009 14:58:56] **IP Address:** [74.92.158.242]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Stephanie

**Last Name:** Brown

**Street Address:** 421 King Street, Suite 300

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22314

**Phone:** 703-746-3302

**Email Address:** SBrown@VisitAlexVA.com

**Subject:** Tourism Industry Supports Trolley

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and Members of City Council:

Thank you for the

opportunity last night to express support for the King Street Trolley on behalf of Alexandria's tourism industry.

An increase in the transient

lodging tax generated revenue to fund the trolley. During the first 7 months of FY 09, this tax generated \$1.4 million more than the same period FY 08. This expense has been considered a worthwhile investment by the tourism industry.

The trolley has attracted new visitors from several

sources. First, more than 65,000 visitors came from National Harbor via water taxi (100,000 tickets were sold in total). The trolley is an important connector used to attract these visitors.

Ridership at the

King Street Metro was up 4.5% in November and December (the only months

provided to us). The trolley was promoted heavily in the regional marketing campaign that received \$134,000 in free advertising from Metro.

**Comments:**

The

trolley has been instrumental in attracting the meetings and conventions that supported double digit hotel revenue growth throughout much of last year (13.5% increase last 12 months). The trolley enables us to promote Alexandria as a walkable city that saves meeting planners money.

The

tourism industry in Alexandria is working hard to thrive and continue to generate important tax revenue for Alexandria. Visitor spending generates more than \$20 million annually to support the services that are used by those you live, work and visit this great city.

Respectfully

submitted,  
Stephanie Pace Brown  
President & CEO  
Alexandria

Convention & Visitors Association

P.S. It would be very exciting to

test trolley service between Old Town and Del Ray.



"Chet and Sabra Avery"  
<cs.avery@comcast.net>

04/14/2009 01:48 PM

To "Michele Evans" <michele.evans@alexandriava.gov>, "Jim Hartmann" <jim.hartmann@alexandriava.gov>, "Justin Wilson" <justin.wilson@alexandriava.gov>, "Ludwig Gaines (E-mail 2)" <Charles.Benagh" <cbenagh@comcast.net>, <Mike.Hatfield@alexandriava.gov>, "Jim Maslanka" <jim.maslanka@alexandriava.gov>

bcc

Subject budget testimony april 13, 2009

2  
4-13-09

**ALEXANDRIA COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

421 King Street, Suite 400

Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Mike Hatfield, Staff Disability Resource Coordinator

Tel. 703 746-3148

TTD 703 838-4976

Email [mike.hatfield@alexandriava.gov](mailto:mike.hatfield@alexandriava.gov)

April 14, 2009

**SUBJECT: Budget Testimony on DASH MetroAccess Fare Waiver and DOT Fares In Budget Memo 69**

**Honorable Mayor and Members of Council:**

**My name is Chet Avery, the Transportation Committee Chair of the Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities. I am here tonight to request that you take action to save City resources by requesting that DASH adopt a MetroAccess Fare Waiver for MetroAccess users displaying their photo ID's and reconsider and withdraw Budget Memo 69, which proposes increases in DOT fares that would drastically increase the City's payments made to MetroAccess by establishing incentives for DOT users to migrate into MetroAccess for out-of-city trips.**

**The Commission commends the Mayor and Council for its ongoing support of the DOT Paratransit Program and for other measures that have led the City of Alexandria to be designated year after year by the National**

**Organization On Disability as one of the most accessible cities in America.**

**In particular, the Commission would like to commend Council Member Tim Lovain for championing the adoption by DASH of The MetroAccess Fare Waiver which would provide financial incentives for MetroAccess photo ID holders to use DASH, at great savings to the City. This MetroAccess Fare Waiver would provide financial incentives for Alexandria's citizens with disabilities to use DASH rather than paratransit, especially after persons with disabilities receive the currently planned special travel training program, which will provide encouragement and techniques for MetroAccess users to take DASH rather than MetroAccess, which costs the city \$40 per trip.**

**The Commission also shares the belief contained in Council Member Lovain's Add-Delete memo that the City could save over \$90,000 each year with the investment of \$10,000 to offset any costs to DASH. Moreover, as the Mayor, who sits on the WMATA Board, knows, the City's DASH Transit Service would join the many other large fixed route transit systems who currently provide the MetroAccess Fare Waiver to Alexandria's citizens with disabilities using the Metro, Metrobus and other bus fixed-route systems.**

**The Commission is extremely dismayed by Budget Memo 69 which recommends fare increases in the DOT Program for Alexandria's citizens with disabilities. The Commission fully supports the City recommendation contained in this budget memo for the travel training program for persons with disabilities which the Commission has endorsed by a letter attached to the grant application.**

**The Commission is disappointed in the City not involving the Commission in the city's decision-making process for the DOT fare increase and the preparation of Budget Memo 69, for the Commission has been a valued partner in the DOT Program from the time the City asked the Commission to co-chair the Task Force establishing DOT in 1983 to the present. The Commission has provided whatever guidance it could to the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services(T&ES) liaison that has led DOT to be identified as a national model paratransit system.**

**If the Commission had been asked to provide input into Budget Memo 69 and the DOT fare increase for in-city trips from \$2 to \$2.50 and the out-of-city Northern Virginia trips from \$2.50 to \$3.50, the per trip DOT fare of \$3.50 for Northern Virginia trips most likely would never have been proposed.**

**Under ADA, the City has the authority to raise the DOT fare up to twice the cost of the fare of the DASH fixed route fare to \$2.50 for in-city trips. The proposed fare increase from \$2.50 to \$3.50 of out-of-City trips in Northern Virginia, however, would have drastic costs for the city, for the estimated 1,400 DOT users currently not enrolled in MetroAccess would have a financial incentive to apply for enrollment in the MetroAccess Program to save \$1 per trip, as MetroAccess costs \$2.50 for trips in the WMATA region. Moreover, the eligibility cost of each DOT applicant for MetroAccess to the city would range from \$150 to \$200 per application--\$40 for each way trip to the MetroAccess Assessment Center and \$70 plus dollars for each assessment. Moreover the average cost for each DOT trip would also be increased from the average \$22 to \$40 per trip outside the city. In addition, DOT users, who have trips limited to Northern Virginia, once enrolled in MetroAccess, would suddenly be able to take trips into D.C. and Maryland, further burdening MetroAccess resources and the budget of the City.**



**If the City chooses to raise the fare of DOT , the application of the ADA rule of twice the Fare of DASH would provide the City with additional revenue of \$.50 per trip and encourage persons with disabilities to maintain their current participation in DOT.**

**In conclusion, the Commission fully endorses the facts and figures contained in Council Member Lovain's Add-Delete Memo for having DASH adopt the MetroAccess Fare Waiver, supports the special travel training program for persons with disabilities to have options to move from Metroaccess to DASH and other fixed-route systems, and supports an increase in DOT fares from \$2 to \$2.50, the same fare as for MetroAccess for in-city and Northern Virginia trips in keeping with ADA funding rules.**

**Members of the Commission thank you for your careful budget deliberations and for your ongoing support of transportation and other measures designed to make Alexandria a barrier-free City for all its citizens.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Chet Avery, Chair**

**Transportation Committee, Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities**

**CC Jean Niebauer**

**Mike Hatfield**

**Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities Members**

**Jim Maslanka**

2  
4-13-09



**Cindy McCartney**  
<divaboutique@comcast.net>

04/14/2009 12:42 PM

Please respond to  
Cindy McCartney  
<divaboutique@comcast.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: King St. Trolley

**Time: [Tue Apr 14, 2009 12:42:05] IP Address: [76.21.173.82]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Cindy

**Last Name:** McCartney

Diva

**Street Address:** 116 S. Pitt St.

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22314

**Phone:** 703-683-1022

**Email Address:** divaboutique@comcast.net

**Subject:** King St. Trolley

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of Council,  
I am writing to express my

support for the continuance of the King Street Trolley...I have heard that

some

residents have not been supportive of the initiative. I feel that it

**Comments:**

is a very worthwhile and welcoming addition to the City and we encourage  
our clients to take advantage of this convenient way to get up and down the  
street.

Thank you. Cindy McCartney

2  
4-13-09



**Melanie Young**  
<abby122lic@yahoo.com>

04/14/2009 12:05 PM

Please respond to  
Melanie Young  
<abby122lic@yahoo.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: School positions

**Time:** [Tue Apr 14, 2009 12:05:49] **IP Address:** [206.158.3.10]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Melanie

**Last Name:** Young

**Street Address:** 1336 Edison Street

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22305

**Phone:** 703-586-8227

**Email Address:** abby122lic@yahoo.com

**Subject:** School positions

Dear City Council,

My son Derrion attends GWMS and he sees the counselor

there. He told me that job is going to be cut. Please consider keeping

**Comments:** that job there. It helps the kids alot. my son has a lot of problems and

he needs someone to talk to.

thank you.



"Warren, Cynthia M."  
<cmwarren@vorys.com>  
04/14/2009 10:41 AM

To "jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov"  
<jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov>  
cc "william.euille@alexandriava.com"  
<william.euille@alexandriava.com>, "delpepper@aol.com"  
<delpepper@aol.com>, "ludwig@gainwithgaines.com"  
bcc

Subject FY 2010 City Budget Comments

2  
4-13-09

Dear Ms. Henderson,

On behalf of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, Andrew Palmieri has asked that I submit the attached document to you for the official record of yesterday's public hearing regarding the City's FY 2010 Budget. The Chamber thanks the City Council and City Staff for their efforts in planning the FY 2010 Budget, and if any City representatives wish to discuss the Chamber's comments and recommendations, please feel free to contact Andrew to arrange a meeting.

*Cindy*

Cynthia M. Warren  
Assistant to Andrew F. Palmieri and Kara D. Lehman  
**Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease LLP**  
277 South Washington Street  
Suite 310  
Alexandria, VA 22307-3674  
Direct Dial: (703) 837-6974  
Direct Fax: (703) 518-2766  
Email: cmwarren@vorys.com  
[www.vssp.com](http://www.vssp.com)

From the law offices of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP.

IRS CIRCULAR 230 DISCLOSURE: In order to ensure compliance with requirements imposed by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, we inform you that any federal tax advice contained in this communication (including any attachments) is not intended or written to be used, and it cannot be used, by any taxpayer for the purpose of (i) avoiding penalties that may be imposed under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code or (ii) promoting, marketing, or recommending to another person, any transaction or other matter addressed herein.

---

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail message is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and destroy all copies of the original

message. If you are the intended recipient but do not wish to receive communications through this medium, please so advise the sender immediately.



ALEXANDRIA-#8613127-v6-FY\_2010\_City\_Budget\_Comments\_(ACC\_GRC).DOC

**ALEXANDRIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**Comments on City Budget**  
**April 13, 2009**

**PART I – LONG RANGE PLANNING.**

As we all know, 2009 has been, and will continue to be, a challenging year with many difficult decisions. In many respects, the difficult decisions of last year's City Budget process have eased some of the burdens of 2009 and prudence dictates continuing a fiscally responsible approach to planning the City's FY 2010 Budget.

In 2008, the Chamber urged the City Council to oppose differential tax rates, and in accepting this challenge, Alexandria stands as a fair tax oasis in Northern Virginia that can and should entice more businesses to locate in our City.

As the Chamber looks to 2010, we urge the City Council to take a much broader view of Alexandria's future. This is a time to not only address the short term needs of delivering critical services to constituents during economic crises, it is a time to stake out a vision that will lead the City to a stronger economy and to plan and fund the infrastructure that is necessary to place Alexandria in the forefront of the next economic growth cycle.

This is no small task. But the time has come, and we – the business community, the residents and the government – must collaborate to secure Alexandria's future economic sustainability.

When the Budget Process for FY2010 is complete, the Chamber urges the City Council and City Staff to immediately implement a planning process for FY 2011 that will adopt a multi-year budget for both the City's operations and capital improvement projects. A tandem budget that demonstrates long-term funding of operations and capital improvements is critical to creating fiscal certainty and private growth that will benefit the City's coffers. The Chamber recommends a six year budget cycle.

In adopting a long-term view, the City will prioritize much needed capital improvement projects that languish without funding and provide certainty for implementation through coordination with the operating budget. This level of certainty enables businesses to plan development that coincides with City planning functions.

For instance, the planning of an integrated transportation system throughout the City will create transportation "nodes" for increased development. This development will bring greater concentration of office, retail and housing opportunities at designated transportation centers, decreasing traffic congestion, utilizing less energy and increasing tax revenue. But this vision requires coordinated planning from both the public and private sectors. A long-term City Budget serves as the road map to achieve these strategic goals.

There are many untapped resources that are available to spur Alexandria's economic resurgence, such as the Waterfront, Potomac Yard, Eisenhower Valley, Landmark/Van Dorn and the Seminary/Beauregard corridor. Every effort should be made to develop or redevelop these, and other areas of the City, through comprehensive planning efforts that encourage responsible yet economically viable projects.

Business leaders, civic leaders, City Staff and the City Council spend countless hours serving on task forces for projects ranging from Windmill Hill Park and the Waterfront to Metro feasibility and motor coach management. It is time to commit that all such projects become a reality within specific time frames at defined costs with funding identified during the planning process.

A multi-year operating budget could be coordinated with the CIP budget so that the City may plan for the use of cash capital or debt financing and anticipate the impact of these choices on the operations of the City.

## **PART II – BUSINESS IS GOOD FOR ALEXANDRIA**

The City's core mission is to provide life-safety services, quality education, and basic infrastructure. These services are funded primarily through the imposition of taxes, and a substantial portion of the City's tax base is raised from businesses operating in Alexandria.

Currently, businesses provide a substantial portion of the City's tax and non-tax revenue.

This revenue is derived from real estate tax, sales tax, business license tax, business personal property tax, hotel tax and meals tax.

In return, the level of services required by businesses are comparatively low when contrasted against residential services. Specifically, for every business tax dollar that it receives, the City keeps 81 cents or more after paying for the services attributable to local businesses. Businesses are good for the City's financial health.

Furthermore, every business tax dollar received by the City represents one less tax dollar that has to come from the real estate tax on our homes. That's right, "OUR" homes because many business owners in Alexandria also live in Alexandria.

Businesses also provide the services that Alexandria residents want and enjoy. If businesses are conveniently located in Alexandria, Alexandrians will spend their tax dollars in the City, thereby reducing residential real estate taxes or funding expanded levels of service to residents. This is a far better alternative to spending our tax dollars in Arlington or Fairfax.

We thank the City for supporting the "Buy Alexandria" campaign, promoting the use of Alexandria businesses. But the City must do more to support and expand the Alexandria business economy. The City Council should consider reducing business license tax rates,

which in comparison to other jurisdictions, are very high. The City's BPOL tax rate structure undercuts the City's ability to promote itself as a business tax safe harbor. So while we have rejected differential real estate tax rates, we have offset this benefit with a tax on productivity.

The Chamber recommends that the City form a task force to study this issue, not only in terms of the tax rates charged, but also in relation to the categories used. Expanding the range of categories could increase clarity for the taxpayer and help with the ease of administration.

The Chamber urges the City to continue to provide resources for businesses to attract customers such as the King Street Trolley, which is funded by the hotel tax, and Ornamental lighting. As recommended in the Chamber's Legislative Agenda, the King Street Trolley concept should be considered for other business districts in the City.

The Chamber urges the City to continue to invest in an economic development infrastructure that will secure new business opportunities for the City. Though we are facing a difficult budget cycle, supporting organizations such as the AEDP, SBDC and ACVA remains critical to the City's growth and viability. The Chamber recognizes that the City has been judicious in its budget cuts to these organizations. We encourage the City's continued support of these organizations, as well as the development of a marketing plan that promotes the City as a "must locate"/"must visit" destination.

### **PART III – TAX RATES AND CLOSING COMMENTS.**

The Chamber supports the adoption of a taxing method that projects predictable tax increases over the life of a multi-year budget cycle. This will allow predictability for the taxpayer and the City and removes fluctuation based on increases or decreases in property values. This approach would also provide a stabilized basis for long-range budget planning.

The Chamber supports the City Manager's budget and priorities regarding public safety, education and the social safety net, and we commend the City Staff and City Council for making the difficult choices necessary to ensure that these needs remain an important priority for the City. We also support expanded hours for the King Street Trolley, which enhances tourism and business in the historic district, generating further revenue for the City and vital City services.

Alexandria has a storied history as a center of commerce. We enjoy the benefits of living and working in this beautiful, historic City. One of the major benefits is the convenience and proximity of Alexandria's fine restaurants, retail establishments and businesses that offer quality goods, services and employment to residents, neighbors and visitors. Commerce remains a critical element of Alexandria's present, and if properly planned, commerce will lead the way to a prosperous future for all of Alexandria.



Remember, Commerce is Good for Alexandria. We are the Chamber of Commerce, and we are vested in the success of this City, its businesses and the quality of life for our employees, families, friends and neighbors. Thank you.



Fay Carter  
<fay@christmasattic.com>

04/14/2009 10:38 AM

Please respond to  
Fay Carter  
<fay@christmasattic.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Old Town Trolley

2  
4-13-09

Time: [Tue Apr 14, 2009 10:38:27] IP Address: [70.21.73.37]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Fay

**Last Name:** Carter

**Street Address:** 125 S. Union St

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22314

**Phone:** 7035482829

**Email Address:** fay@christmasattic.com

**Subject:** Old Town Trolley

I want to reiterate my strong feelings in support of the Old Town Trolley.

Those of us who depend on tourist traffic to support our businesses need to have an easy way for tourists to travel from store to store in Old Town.

The trolley has been incredibly beneficial for our business at The Christmas Attic. Every day customers comment on how easy it is to get around our beautiful city. We have many visitors who come from Washington

for the day & use the trolley to travel from one end of King Street to

the other. The trolley also connects customers from the National Harbour water taxi to the shops and restaurants up and down the length of King

**Comments:** Street. If we want to continue to market Old Town as a shopping and dining destination, transportation from one place to another is imperative.

Whenever I visit a town that has many tourists such as Charleston or Savannah, they have trolley systems to help people easily manage the size of the town. Our town is too large to expect customers to walk the distance from the Metro to the waterfront. We have so much for visitors to enjoy in

Old Town, lets continue to make it a positive experience. The trolleys are a beautiful representation of our transportation system. The trolley fits with the ambience of our community. It sends a message to our visitors that we care about them as visitors in our wonderful city.

2  
4-13-09



Tara Zimnick-Calico  
<events@torpedofactory.org>

04/13/2009 07:53 PM

Please respond to  
Tara Zimnick-Calico  
<events@torpedofactory.org>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: King Street Trolley

**Time: [Mon Apr 13, 2009 19:53:41] IP Address: [98.141.239.250]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Tara  
**Last Name:** Zimnick-Calico  
**Street Address:** 612 South Pitt Street  
**City:** alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:** 703-548-0226  
**Email Address:** events@torpedofactory.org  
**Subject:** King Street Trolley

Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Pepper, and All City Coucilmembers ---  
The

King Street Trolley has assisted in putting Alexandria on the map for additional access for both tourists and locals alike. As a resident I love the option of jumping on and off a free trolley that accesses our main attraction, King Street. Since I am a fan of walking to everything it is great to know that the trolley is available when it comes to traversing to upper King Street, especially now with the new Kimpton hotel, The Lorien, and its restaurants which I look forward to frequenting.

As Director

**Comments:** of Special Events at the Torpedo Factory Art Center the trolley allows me to sell that Old Town and the Torpedo Factory Art Center are indeed Metro accessible and convenient. Not to mention the charm that it brings to the area.

In this economy a free trolley is an asset that we cannot afford

to lose.

Regards,

Tara Zimnick-Calico  
Old Town Alexandria

Resident  
Director of Special Events at the Torpedo Factory Art

Center  
President, Old Town Business and Professionals Association



**Jerri Muhammad**  
<jerri.muhammad@acps.k12.va.us>

04/13/2009 03:42 PM

To jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov

cc

bcc

Subject citizen testimony to be read

2  
4-13-09

Good Afternoon, Ms. Henderson:

I would like to submit my testimony to be read at tonight's hearing. I am resident and educator for the city and my son attends Hopkins House preschool academy. I really would like to share my sentiment. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Jerri Muhammad



jerri Muhammed Testimony 04.13.09.doc

**Alexandria City Council**  
**April 13, 2009 Public Budget Hearing**  
**Submitted by:**  
**Jerri Muhammad, Hopkins House Parent**

Dear Council Members and members of the community,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today and for your continued support of the children of our community.

My name is Jerri Muhammad and my son Darren is a pre-K student at Hopkins House. On behalf of children, parents, Hopkins House and the Alexandria community, I urge you to set aside a portion of the Children's Fund fiscal year 2010 allocation to help reduce the number of children on the City's waiting list for Childcare Fee Subsidies and to match childcare "scholarship" funds raised by nonprofits.

As an educator, I know that early child education is critical to the child because it creates an imprint of the value of learning for the child. Early childhood education helps to mold and shape that curiosity and builds confidence within the child for years to come as a life long learner.

As a parent and part of the Hopkins House community, I know what Hopkins House and the city's child care subsidy program have meant to my family. When my family was new to the area, Darren's father lost his job. Hopkins House helped us to get the child care subsidy. We were able to pay a reasonable amount of money for high quality early childhood education.

Darren has blossomed from his initial entrance into Hopkins House nearly 2 years ago. At one time Darren had some speech issues. The Hopkins House teachers and aides worked as a team with Darren's father and myself and support was given from all angles. Today, Darren is talkative and looks forward to entering the Hopkins House doors each and every school day.

Each step of the way and for each transition, the staff has worked tirelessly with Darren. I love the warmth, dedication and care that each child receives from the teachers, aides and administrative team.

I also greatly value the support I have received from Hopkins House. I have attended budgeting, credit counseling and home ownership classes sponsored through the family outreach department. And I have attended Dinner Theaters, which give parents the opportunity to communicate and learn from each other.

I know that these budget decisions will be very difficult. As you make your decisions, please consider the overwhelming benefits that the Childcare Fee Subsidies and matching “scholarship” funds can bring to our children, families and entire community. Reducing the number of children on the city’s subsidy waiting list will benefit us all and make a critical difference for families like mine.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Jerri Muhammad





Eileen Grey  
<egrey1@verizon.net>

04/13/2009 06:38 PM

Please respond to  
Eileen Grey  
<egrey1@verizon.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Support for New Beginnings Program at  
Northern Va Juvenile Detention Center

2  
4-13-09

**Time: [Mon Apr 13, 2009 18:38:14] IP Address: [72.75.45.21]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Eileen  
**Last Name:** Grey  
**Street Address:** 8 W. Oak St.  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22301  
**Phone:**  
**Email Address:** egrey1@verizon.net  
**Subject:** Support for New Beginnings Program at Northern Va Juvenile Detention Center  
Dear Mayor Euille and Honorable Council Members -

I had hoped to  
participate in today's budget hearing, but am unable to do so, so I  
respectfully submit a request to maintain level funding for the New  
Beginnings program at the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center. It  
is also known as a post-dispositional (post-d) program because it provides  
services for adolescents younger than 18 who have been adjudicated  
delinquent of an offense that is not so severe that the child must be sent  
to Beaumont or other Department of Juvenile Justice correctional center.  
The children in New Beginnings have a stipulated program of education and  
**Comments:** health programs and families are required to participate in a mentored  
meeting at least once per month. While at New Beginnings, the children are  
not so far from home that visits are difficult, and for some of the  
children who need continued services, they can maintain the same  
professional contacts in the community for less disruptive, more productive

services. All the latest research in juvenile justice shows that the smaller sized programs closer to home have better success rates than large institutional centers. Please continue to give these children a chance.

The improvements the juveniles make in the New Beginnings program is amazing.

Thank you.

Eileen Grey

2  
4-13-09

Statement from the Homeless Services Coordinating Committee  
On the City of Alexandria, FY 2010 Proposed Budget  
April 13, 2009

Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Pepper, Members of the City Council, and City Manager Hartmann:

I'm Allen Lomax and serve as co-chair of the Advocacy Committee of the Homeless Services Coordinating Committee (HSCC). HSCC is comprised of representatives from over 30 public and non-profit organizations and its mission is to ensure the planning, coordination and implementation of an effective continuum of care to eliminate homelessness in our City. Components in the continuum of care include prevention and intervention services to help persons avoid homelessness; outreach, assessment and supportive services to address the individual needs of persons who become homeless; emergency shelter and transitional housing; supportive services housing for homeless persons with special needs; and housing and services to help homeless persons make the transition to permanent housing and independent living. In summary, the HSCC is a true partnership between public agencies and non-profits to help address the needs of those most vulnerable in our community.

Today, people in our community are facing unprecedented choices due to the current economic crisis. Some of our fellow community members must decide to use their dwindling incomes to pay their mortgage or rent, buy food for their families, or pay for needed medical, mental or dental care for their children and themselves. No one knows for sure how long this current economic crisis will last but we know today and tomorrow that we have people in need in our community. There are some disturbing indicators of the problems facing our fellow community members. For example, over the few years the number of homeless in our City has been slightly decreasing. However, in the last point-in-time count of homeless in Alexandria, conducted in January, showed a 28 percent increase in the number of unsheltered (chronic) homeless. It also has been recently reported that the number of homeless students in our school systems have been increasing.

Some of the statistics presented in Budget Memo #19, Acute Needs as a Result of Economic Downturn, dated March 3, 2009 are also disturbing such as:

- The monthly case average for Food Stamps has increased from 236 in FY 2008 to 284 in FY 2009.
- The month case average of people with immediate and emergency needs such as shelter, clothing and utilities has increased from 158 in FY 2008 to 275 in FY 2009.
- Regarding health care needs, the WIC program has seen a 13 percent increase in the total number of persons enrolled, rising from 2,832 for the period October to December 2007 to 3,251 for the same period in 2008.
- As compared to the same time last fiscal year, 20 percent more residents have sought mental health, mental retardation, and substance abuse.

- Households seeking assistance with evictions increased 32.2 percent in Calendar Year 2008 over 2007, increasing from 214 households to 283 households in 2008. From January 1 through February 27 this year, 47 households sought assistance with evictions.

Statistics gathered by the HSCC further highlight the problems our fellow community members are facing:

- Christ Church/Lazarus Ministries had an increase in food requests—from 297 requests in January through March, 2008 to 388 during the same months this year.
- Christ Church/Lazarus Ministries also had an increase in fuel and utilities requests—from 145 requests in January through March, 2008 to 201 during the same months this year.
- ALIVE! Last Saturday Food Distribution had a 41 percent increase in the number of people who were provided groceries—from 1612 individuals in December 2007 to 2279 individuals in December 2008.
- As of last week, the Department of Human Services had 7 families on the wait list to get into shelter. Many of these families were homeless for the first time.
- Carpenter's Shelter is also seeing an increase for assistance. This time last year, early April, they were housing about 50 children, men and women and had empty family rooms. Now all the family rooms are full--12 families with a total of 25 children live there, almost half of the children are above 10 years of age (teens).
- Currently, Guest House is full and has a waiting list of about 60 people, 11 of whom have been accepted and are currently waiting for an open bed.

We share these statistics to stress that the safety net in our community is fraying and the problems facing people are not likely to improve in the near future. We are pleased that the federal government stimulus funding will provide urgent and needed funding for homeless prevention services. However, the funding reductions proposed for the FY 2010 City Budget will further fray the safety net because we will not be able to help everyone whose situations are past prevention and are now in the acute stage.

We know that you face tough financial decisions in this budget process but so do many families and individuals in their own budgets. We respectfully request that the City Council increase the property tax to restore funding that focus on the acute needs of our fellow community members. These families and individuals need these acute services to help them return to self-sufficiency.

We support the recent budget restorations proposed by the City Manager in Budget Memo 73: Possible FY 2010 Budget Restorations, released on April 3 and specifically the funding restorations of \$763, 241 for the Department of Human Services and Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse for:

Department of Human Services – \$463,241

- Emergency Shelter Fund – \$78,580 to provide emergency shelter services

- One Community Services Client Intake Services Worker Position – \$44,519 to manage increased caseloads
- Two Public Assistance Eligibility Worker Positions – \$55,543 to manage increased caseloads
- Child Care Assistance Day Care Fee System Support – \$100,000 to provide child care services
- Companion Services Supervisor and Companion Aide Services – \$52,860 to provide adult companion services
- New Horizons contract for Youth Services – \$31,739 to provide services to at-risk youth
- Alexandria Fund for Human Services – \$100,000 to provide funding for grants to non-profit organizations providing social services

Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse – \$300,000

- Substance Abuse Programs – \$300,000 to provide substance abuse services to youths and adults

Restoring funding in these areas will go a long way to helping maintain the vital social safety net in our City and the families and individuals who are most vulnerable in this current economic crisis. Additionally, it will allow our City to continue to make progress on achieving the City's Strategic Plan Goal 5—A Caring Community that is Diverse and Affordable.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Attachment

HOMELESS SERVICES COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

ORGANIZATION	NAME
Alexandria City Public Schools	Arnechia Moody
Alexandria Commission on Aging	Bill Harris and John Smucker
Alexandria Community Service Board	Judy Carter and Lynn Fritts, Nan Goodwin and Renee Chandler, Dana Woolfolk
Alexandria Community Service Board, Office of the Sheriff	Jennifer McFarlane
Alexandria Community Shelter	Elizabeth Suarez, Ellen Shepard and James E. Green
Alexandria Department of Health	Debbie Bowers and Melinda Gray
Alexandria Department of Human Services	Ann Moore, Angie Aponte, Lesa Gilbert, and Bill Rogers
Alexandria Office of Housing	Eric Keeler and Cindy Metcalf
Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority	Emily Stowers
Alexandria Office on Women, Domestic Violence Program	Claire Dunn and Debra Evans
AHNSI – Arlandria Health Center	Kristen Langlykke and Federico Gutierrez
ALIVE House	Susanne Arnold and Dimitri Warren
Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless	Sam Kelly and Michael O'Rourke
Carpenter's Shelter	Fran Becker, Mary Martin, Mary-Parker Lamm, Cherylle Pratt, and Larry Roberts
Catholic Charities/Diocese of Arlington	Steve Luteran
Christ Church/Lazarus Ministry	Michele Smith
Christ House/Diocese of Arlington	Tom Bransfield
Community Lodgings	Bonnie Baxley and Mark Sossa

<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>NAME</b>
Friends of Guest House	Kari Galloway
Housing Action	Jim Hoben
INOVA Alexandria Hospital	Marjorie Quint-Bouzid
JobLink	Lenwood Roberts
K.I. Services	Yvonne Williams
Legislative Liaison	Sue Capers
Northern VA Family Services	Cheryl Tillman
Offender Aid and Restoration	Erica Bishop
Residential Youth Services	David McLaurin
Salvation Army	Kenneth Argot
United Way	Allen Lomax
Veterans Administration	Teresa Pittman
Virginia Probation and Parole	Jennifer Male

Good afternoon Mayor Uyle and city council

2  
4-13-09

Hello, my name is Lacey Parker. I am a CSP participant (Community Service Project). I want to explain to you today the importance of The CSP through the Northern Virginia Urban League and the need for additional funding not a \$71,736.00 budget cut.

I, like other youth in Alexandria, made some wrong decisions. I chose to do what was wrong, not what was right. For this I was mandated by the court to the CSP. Once I completed my hours I was told I could go, but instead I found that I wanted to come on site to the N. VA Urban League the staff was welcoming and realized it was a good place for me to be. Ms. Tia and the other staff were always available and constantly talking to me and the other youth on-site about positive behaviors and helping to deter our negative behavior, like Profanity, dress etiquette and vocabulary. Ms. Tia took the time to understand me and the other participants and then helped us to think about changing the way we thought and begin to think more positive and speak more positive. Thanks to the Urban League, I am more available to opening my mind to all aspects, and less interested in remaining on a negative path. I really appreciate the service that Ms. Tia and The N. VA Urban League's Community Service Project for Youth Offenders has done for me and other youth in Alexandria. I am glad they were able to help rescue me from a very bad path of life. I hope that you will not make any cuts to this necessary program.

Thank-you



2  
4-13-09

Northern Virginia Urban League/Alexandria Resource Mothers Program

Kadijatu Turay

My name is Kadija Turay; I am 18 years old and a senior at TC Williams High School.

I am also a teen parent and a participant in the Northern Virginia Urban League's Alexandria Resource Mothers Program. I am concerned about the 14.5% proposed cut to the Human Services budget. The Alexandria Resource Mothers program helped me in many different ways.

During my pregnancy my case manager transported me to my prenatal appointments. She also did home visits with me to insure that I understood the instructions from my doctor so that I could have a healthy pregnancy and a healthy baby. The Resource Mothers program also assisted me in applying for Medicaid and Child Care so that I could return to school as soon as my six weeks were up. My Case Manager helped to put homebound instruction in place so that I would not be behind in my classes when I did return to school.

After my daughter was born my case manager continued to give us rides to doctor's appointments. She insured that my daughter was up to date on her immunizations and that I was on some type of birth control. When she could not transport us, the program provided bus tokens for us. The Resource Mothers Program not only helps the teen and the baby it helps our families when there is a crisis. When we don't have money to buy pampers and formula the Resource Mothers Program provides those things also. This program has benefited me and other parenting and pregnant teens in Alexandria. It has allowed us to continue our education and become better parents. I will be graduating in

June and going on to college. I know that I and others would not have been able to do this without the help of the Alexandria Resource Mothers program. I will be closed out of the program soon because my daughter just had her 1<sup>st</sup> birthday, but I can't say enough about the Resource Mothers program. I gained a lot of valuable information from being a participant in this program and I have a bond with my case manager for life. So as you can see a 14.5% budget cut will significantly decrease the availability of their services.

City of Alexandria, VA  
Public Hearing on the FY 2010 Operating Budget  
April 13, 2009  
Statement by J. Glenn Eugster  
4022 Ellicott Street, Alexandria, VA 22304

A number of years ago the City expanded the Fort Ward Park maintenance and nursery area placing equipment, vehicles, structures and various materials on top of the graves of African-Americans who lived within and are buried in Fort Ward Park. The area was expanded adjacent to the Oakland Baptist Church Cemetery. This action has desecrated the graves within and in front of the maintenance and nursery area. It has also created a water runoff problem that is damaging graves within the Cemetery. This thoughtless and dishonorable situation must be remedied as soon as possible.

I am here today to ask the Mayor and City Council, working with the City Manager, to add \$150,000 in City funds in the 2010 budget to remove all evidence of the Fort Ward Park maintenance and nursery area, and begin archeological and historical research and surveys in 2010 to locate African American graves and structures.

The ground within this area should be graded and seeded, or covered with sod, and regularly maintained until the City's Office of Archeology can complete their surveys and studies and develop a stewardship plan for their conservation, protection and interpretation.

For many of us these graves are a record of the rich overlooked history of African-Americans who contributed, in no small part, their hard labor and land to develop Alexandria into the vibrant city it is today. For others the graves are places where our residents remember those they knew and loved--neighbors, spouses, parents and grandparents.

I hope that restoring these graves, and interpreting this part of the park's rich history, is not the lowest priority in Alexandria. I urge you to do the right thing and add \$150,000 to the 2010 budget for this purpose.

Thank you.

For the Record-  
Proceedings of  
the National  
Academy of  
Sciences:  
"Childhood poverty,  
chronic stress &  
adult working  
memory"

Monday 13 April 2009

Good afternoon, Mayor and members of the City Council. Thank you for this opportunity to address you. My name is Jane Downing Knops. I am the mother of two young boys, one of whom is with me here today. I am an active member of the Women's Giving Circle and appear before you today as a long-time advocate for Healthy Families Alexandria – an intensive home visiting program for expectant and new first-time parents. With me as well is Mary Agee, CEO of Northern Virginia Family Service, the agency that manages HFA.

I am here to support the call against funding reductions for critical social services at this time. I am also here to provide you with two compelling reasons to **NOT** reduce funding to early childhood programs in particular.

First, I would like to refer you to a report from the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* – just published – that I would like to submit for the record. Researchers have been studying why children of the poor often remain poor into adulthood. One reason appears **not to be poverty per se**, but rather **stress**; stress which has been shown to alter a young brain's ability to retain working

memory. A person's capability to retain information is critical for gainful, meaningful employment into adulthood. Children under stress find it more difficult to learn at school and so they often remain poor as adults, continuing this cycle for generations.

Healthy Families Alexandria and other early childhood programs are potent tools to help break that cycle. HFA's Family Support Workers are able to teach and model specific methods to new parents for loving, nurturing and interacting with children, and for disciplining them in a positive manner. Our clients tend to be the most disadvantaged and stressed in the City, so they and their children are the exact people we need to reach.

Second, as you may be aware, our state legislature – despite the economic downturn – **has been able to maintain at level funding all 38 Healthy Families sites in Virginia.** As a matter of fact, Healthy Families is a program that receives very broad bi-partisan support. Indeed, Healthy Families Alexandria was chosen last year as only one of two sites to receive additional funding as a pilot project to ultimately cover all eligible families when state funds become available as budgets recover. It is no secret that Alexandria's approval for expansion was based in no small part on local community support. I believe that cutting funds for early

childhood efforts now would send the wrong message to state legislators about our City's commitment to prevention programs.

Now, I will remove my Healthy Families hat and speak as a taxpayer about the revenue stream. I personally believe that those of us in the community blessed with resources at this time may be relied upon for increases in emergency funding in order to keep our important social services viable for those in need. I am sure this would be a difficult decision for the Council to make, but I also believe residents will be supportive if they understand that these increases will ensure our continued high quality of life.

Thank you for your consideration of Healthy Families Alexandria and other agencies that assist the youngest children in our City. The cost of prevention pales in comparison to the costs we as a society must pay literally and figuratively for such services as foster care, juvenile detention, prison and the like.

# Childhood poverty, chronic stress, and adult working memory

Gary W. Evans<sup>1</sup> and Michelle A. Schamberg

Departments of Design and Environmental Analysis and Human Development, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-4401

Edited by Bruce S. McEwen, The Rockefeller University, New York, NY, and approved February 24, 2009 (received for review November 22, 2008)

**The income–achievement gap is a formidable societal problem, but little is known about either neurocognitive or biological mechanisms that might account for income-related deficits in academic achievement. We show that childhood poverty is inversely related to working memory in young adults. Furthermore, this prospective relationship is mediated by elevated chronic stress during childhood. Chronic stress is measured by allostatic load, a biological marker of cumulative wear and tear on the body that is caused by the mobilization of multiple physiological systems in response to chronic environmental demands.**

A large, robust literature demonstrates a pervasive income–achievement gap. Family income is a strong and consistent predictor of multiple indices of achievement, including standardized test scores, grades in school, and educational attainment. Family income matters to children's cognitive development (1–3), with more enduring economic hardship particularly harmful (4, 5). The income–achievement gap is already present by kindergarten and accelerates over time (6, 7). The longer the duration of childhood exposure to poverty, the worse achievement levels become. Achievement test scores and school performance, however, do not inform us about what neurocognitive processes are influenced by childhood poverty. Furthermore, the voluminous income–achievement gap literature is silent on underlying biological explanations.

Here, we test 2 hypotheses. One is that childhood poverty will interfere with working memory in young adults. Working memory is the temporary storage mechanism that enables us to hold a small amount of information active over a short interval and to manipulate it. Working memory is essential to language comprehension, reading, and problem solving, and it is a critical prerequisite for long-term storage of information. The second hypothesis we test is that the prospective relationship between childhood poverty and adult working memory will be mediated by chronic stress exposure, (i.e., poverty → chronic stress → working memory). Farah and colleagues (8) found significant deficits in working memory between low- and middle-socioeconomic status (SES) kindergarten children and, in a second sample, between low- and middle-SES 11-year-olds (9). In a third study of first-graders, SES was a significant predictor of working memory (10). An important, missing component of this groundbreaking work is the underlying biological mechanisms to account for the SES–neurocognitive link.

Both animal and human studies reveal that working memory resides in the prefrontal cortex, although it is clearly influenced by hippocampal, and possibly amygdala, interactions with the prefrontal cortex as well (11–14). The human hippocampus and prefrontal cortex are each disrupted by chronic physiological stress (14–17). Chronically elevated physiological stress is a plausible model for how poverty could get into the brain and eventually interfere with achievement.

We measure chronic physiological stress by using allostatic load. Allostatic load is an index of cumulative wear and tear on the body caused by repeated mobilizations of multiple physiological systems over time in response to environmental demands (16, 18–24). Allostatic load is a dynamic and interactive set of multiple physiological systems of bodily equilibrium maintenance.

According to allostasis theory, the body continuously adjusts its normal operating range in response to external requirements. These dynamic adjustments reflect downward regulation to maintain the organism's internal stability, but at levels more congruent with environmental conditions. The active, ongoing maintenance of internal equilibrium increases allostatic load, which reflects chronic wear and tear caused by the mobilization of resources to meet changing environmental exigencies. Overexposure to a combination of multiple, activated bodily response systems (e.g., neuronal, endocrine, cardiovascular) alters the ability of the body to respond efficiently to environmental demands. Longer, more frequent exposure to environmental stressors accelerates bodily wear and tear. Chronic and more intensive environmental stressors cause the body to mobilize multiple physiological systems to meet those demands, but at higher levels of activity. Conversely, when environmental demands are low, individuals who have had a higher allostatic load burden will be less efficient in turning off the multiple physiological resources marshaled to deal with chronic demands.

Interest in allostasis has risen primarily for 2 reasons. First, whereas singular physiological markers of adaptation to environmental demands (e.g., blood pressure) are modestly linked to various disease endpoints (e.g., coronary heart disease), the combined effect of singular physiological changes across multiple biological systems captured by allostatic load is substantially more predictive of disease outcomes (18–24). Second, in addition to contributing to physical morbidity, chronically elevated allostatic load also influences neurological processes, particularly in the hippocampus and prefrontal cortex, that are capable of disrupting cognitive functioning. These neurological processes include altered neurotransmitter activity (e.g., dopamine, norepinephrine, glutamate), suppression of neurogenesis as well as elevated neurotoxicity, alterations in receptor binding sites (e.g., mineral corticoid, glucocorticoid), and morphological changes, such as dendritic remodeling and smaller hippocampal and prefrontal cortex volumes (14–17). Thus, chronically elevated allostatic load could lead to disturbances in working memory in human beings. To date, however, this has not been tested.

Thus, in this paper we bring together 2 separate research literatures, neurocognition and physiological stress, to address a major societal problem, namely, the income–achievement gap. Numerous investigators employing a wide array of study designs have uncovered consistent evidence of an income–achievement gap. Missing in this voluminous literature is evidence of underlying neurocognitive and biological mechanisms. We hypothesize that a plausible contributor to the income–achievement gap

Author contributions: G.W.E. designed research; M.A.S. performed research; G.W.E. and M.A.S. analyzed data; and G.W.E. and M.A.S. wrote the paper.

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

This article is a PNAS Direct Submission.

Freely available online through the PNAS open access option.

<sup>1</sup>To whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: gwe1@cornell.edu.



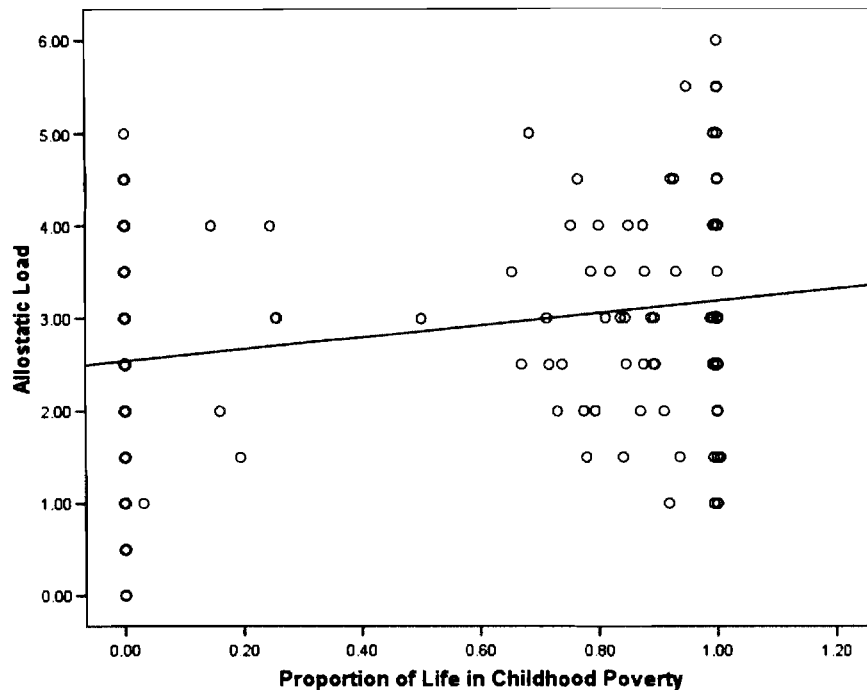


Fig. 1. Duration of childhood poverty and children's levels of chronic stress.

is working memory impairments in lower-income adults caused by stress-related damage to the brain during childhood.

## Results

Fig. 1 depicts the relationship between the proportion of childhood from birth through age 13 years spent in poverty and chronic stress as measured by allostatic load over the same developmental period. Allostatic load is a marker of cumulative wear and tear on the body. As described in *Materials and Methods*, each singular indicator of physiological mobilization is dichotomized (0 = no risk and 1 = risk), with risk defined as the upper half of the values for the specific risk factor. Allostatic load is the simple sum of the 6 risk factors (resting blood pressure, overnight cortisol and catecholamines, and body mass index). As can be seen in Fig. 1, the greater the proportion of a child's life growing up in poverty, the higher the degree of cumulative wear and tear on the body during his or her early lifetime [ $b = 0.49$  (SE = 0.18),  $P < 0.01$ ].

The average levels of allostatic load (0–6) at ages 9 and 13 years were 2.59 and 3.08, respectively, for children who had never lived in poverty compared with those who had. This information and the data shown in Table 1 are for descriptive purposes only. All of the inferential analyses here maintained the continuous nature of the proportion of childhood growing up in poverty from birth through age 13 years.

As shown in Fig. 2, the proportion of early childhood spent in poverty is also significantly related to working memory in young adulthood [ $b = -1.01$  (SE = 0.44);  $P < 0.02$ ]. The greater the proportion of life growing up in poverty from birth to age 13 years, the shorter the span of sequential information 17-year-old adults can accurately hold in their working memory. On average, adults raised in middle-income families could hold in working memory a sequence of 9.44 items, whereas adults who grew up in poverty had a working memory capacity of 8.50 items.

We then tested whether the significant relationship between childhood poverty and adult working memory could be explained, at least in part, by elevated chronic stress accompanying childhood poverty. The previously significant relationship be-

tween childhood poverty and adult working memory ( $b = -1.01$ ) became nonsignificant [ $b = -0.77$  (SE = 0.45)] when childhood allostatic load was added to the regression equation for adult working memory. This reduction in the poverty  $b$  weight is highly significant [ $t$  (193) = 2.57;  $P < 0.01$ ]. Childhood poverty no longer predicts young adults' working memory capacity once chronic stress exposure is partialled from the covariance between childhood poverty and adult working memory. As expected, allostatic load during childhood significantly predicts working memory in young adulthood [ $b = -0.47$  (SE = 0.16);  $P < 0.01$ ].

Table 1. Descriptive data on components of allostatic load

	Not poor	Poor
Wave 1, age 9 years		
Resting diastolic blood pressure, mmHg	58.64	60.14
Resting systolic blood pressure, mmHg	100.97	103.77
Overnight cortisol, $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ creatinine	0.02	0.03
Overnight epinephrine, ng/mg creatinine	3.62	5.19
Overnight norepinephrine, ng/mg creatinine	31.17	33.29
Body mass index, $\text{kg}/\text{m}^2$	17.90	18.86
Allostatic load, 0–6	2.63	3.21
Wave 2, age 13 years		
Resting diastolic blood pressure, mmHg	63.90	63.94
Resting systolic blood pressure, mmHg	109.65	112.26
Overnight cortisol, $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ creatinine	0.12	0.11
Overnight epinephrine, ng/mg creatinine	5.00	4.91
Overnight norepinephrine, ng/mg creatinine	21.45	20.78
Body mass index, $\text{kg}/\text{m}^2$	21.41	23.57
Allostatic load, 0–6	2.62	2.93

Allostatic load was calculated with 0 = no risk and 1 = risk, wherein risk is defined as scoring in the upper 50th percentile for each of the following 6 components: Mean of 6 resting systolic BP readings after discarding the initial reading, Mean of 6 resting diastolic BP readings after discarding the initial reading, 12 hour overnight urinary cortisol/creatinine, 12 hour overnight urinary epinephrine/creatinine, 12 hour overnight urinary norepinephrine/creatinine, and BMI.

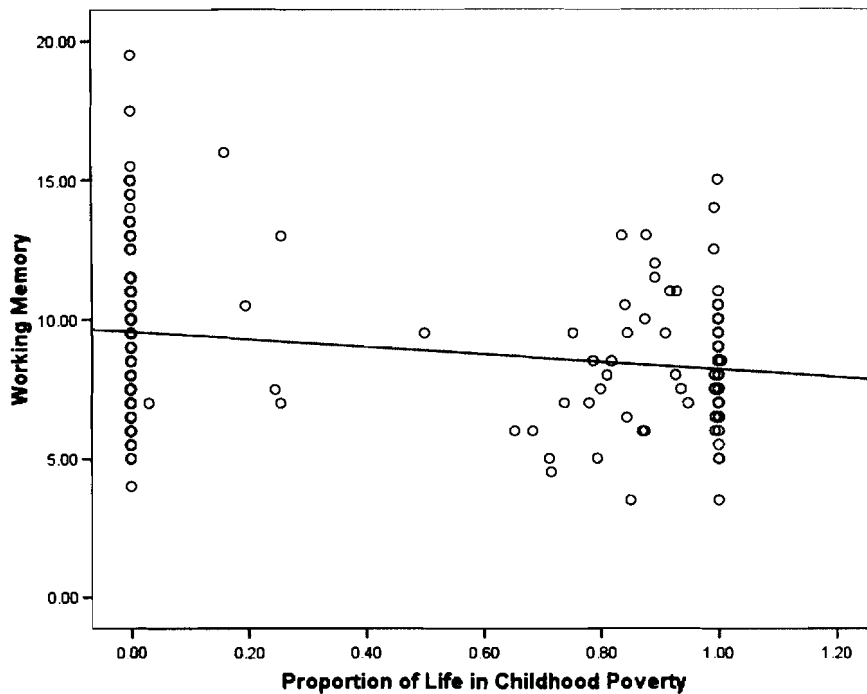


Fig. 2. Duration of childhood poverty and working memory in young adults.

### Discussion

The vast literature on the income–achievement gap (1–7) raises important theoretical and practical questions. Grades and standardized test scores are distal indicators of underlying neurocognitive processes but offer no insight into the underlying biological mechanisms that may account for the income–achievement gap. We integrated research from 2 research areas, neurocognition and physiological stress, to demonstrate that the greater the duration of childhood poverty from birth to age 13 years, the worse one’s working memory as a young adult. This finding is consistent with work by the Farah laboratory showing that concurrent SES among elementary school children (8, 10) and middle school children (9) is inversely related to working memory. We build on this work in 2 respects. One, we demonstrate that the duration of childhood poverty is related prospectively to working memory performance later in life among young adults. Two, we show that allostatic load, an index of chronic stress (16, 18–24), conveys a significant proportion of the covariation between childhood deprivation and an adult’s working memory performance. The longer the period of childhood poverty, the higher the levels of allostatic load during childhood, and the greater the reductions in young adults’ subsequent working memory (Figs. 1 and 2). Furthermore, elevated childhood allostatic load predicts working memory in young adults and, in turn, largely explains the prospective relationship between childhood poverty and these working memory deficits.

The finding that the longer the duration of childhood poverty, the greater the elevation in allostatic load (Fig. 1), is congruent with previous research on SES and physical health. SES is inversely associated with cardiovascular and neuroendocrine markers of physiological stress in children (25–27). Among adults, SES is consistently negatively associated with health across a wide range of diseases (28, 29). Furthermore, of particular interest given the present results, emerging data suggest that the duration of childhood spent in poverty accumulates over time to adversely affect morbidity and mortality in later adulthood (30–32).

Because the data in the present study are not from an experiment, it is important to consider alternative explanations for the pattern of results uncovered. One possibility is reverse causation, wherein memory loss mediates the poverty–allostatic load link (i.e., poverty → working memory → allostatic load) rather than allostatic load mediating the poverty → working memory relationship, as hypothesized in the current study. This alternative is unlikely. The relationship between duration of childhood poverty and working memory performance in young adulthood was significantly mediated by allostatic load, whereas the relationship between duration of childhood poverty and allostatic load was not attenuated when working memory was partialled from the equation. Subject selection effects are another alternative explanation worthy of consideration. Perhaps some omitted personal characteristic influences both working memory and economic circumstances. We evaluated the plausibility of selection effects by progressively adding into the initial poverty–working memory regression equation (Fig. 2) invariant personal characteristics, including sex, birth weight, and maternal age at childbirth, as well as maternal education and marital status at study onset. If selection bias was operating, then the magnitude of change in the *b* weight for poverty and working memory performance would be large as each respective invariant personal characteristic was added to the original regression model. However, we found negligible shifts in the *b* for poverty duration with the addition of each personal variable into the model.

Another strategy to strengthen causal inference with the present research design would be to include a measure of working memory earlier in childhood as an additional variable in the regression model. This type of research design would enable us to examine residual changes in memory performance at age 17 years as a function of childhood poverty. Because we assessed working memory in the third wave only (i.e., age 17 years) of this longitudinal study (Table 2), we cannot conduct a longitudinal, prospective regression analysis, which would strengthen the causal evidence for the model we propose. Such a design could also inform us whether the adverse effects of early childhood

**Table 2. Study design**

Factors	Age			
	Birth	9 years	13 years	17 years
Duration of poverty	X	X	X	X
Allostatic load (0–6)	—	X	X	—
Working memory	—	—	—	X

Duration of poverty was measured every 6 months. For details regarding the calculation of allostatic load, see Table 1. Working memory was calculated using the mean of 2 trials on the Simon game. X, age at which data was collected; —, no data collection.

poverty on working memory were already in place in early childhood and simply persisted throughout early adulthood, or whether the deficits continued to worsen into adulthood as the duration of poverty exposure increased over time. Farah and colleagues' work would suggest that poverty-related deficits were already in place during early childhood in the data here, because they uncovered significant associations as early as kindergarten (8–10). Some indirect evidence is available in our data suggesting that the duration of early childhood poverty exposure is important for working memory deficits later on in life. Poverty status at either the first (age 9 years) or second (age 13 years) wave of data collection did not significantly predict working memory deficits at age 17 years. Only the duration of poverty during early childhood predicted subsequent working memory in young adulthood.

A third possibility is that some other underlying mechanism(s) in addition to allostatic load might account for the linkages uncovered between childhood poverty and young adult working memory. We were able to test 2 theoretically plausible alternatives, and neither proved tenable. First, we examined whether the significant relationship between duration of poverty and working memory could be accounted for by 2 different measures of parenting. Neither maternal sensitivity (i.e., responsiveness to child's emotional and instrumental needs) nor a standard classification of parenting styles (i.e., authoritarian, indulgent, indifferent, authoritative) mediated the poverty–working memory link. Second, we examined whether maternal stress might explain the poverty–working memory association. It did not. Nevertheless, other pathways in addition to chronic stress might also account for the working memory sequelae of childhood poverty uncovered in the present study.

In addition to testing for alternative mechanisms that might help explain the link between childhood poverty and adult working memory, an important extension of the present study would be to examine in more detail how early disadvantage gets into the brain to disrupt neurological mechanisms (33–35). Animal models and human brain imaging work in organisms exposed to chronic stress show altered neurotransmitter activity and suppression of neurogenesis, as well as dendritic remodeling and volume reduction in the hippocampus and prefrontal cortex (14–17). Given the functional and morphological interactions between the hippocampus and prefrontal cortex, it is difficult to parse out the specific role of each of these brain structures in the income-related deficits in working memory uncovered in the current study. An important adjunct to the present study would be an examination of chronic poverty, allostatic load, and long-term, declarative memory, which resides in the hippocampus. Work indicates that allostatic load among elderly individuals predicts declines in general cognitive functioning, although this composite index did not include working memory (21). Additional research is necessary to more precisely model which neurological processes are disrupted by chronic physiological stress and how these disruptions may, in turn, produce specific neurocognitive deficits.

The income–achievement gap is an important societal problem. Childhood poverty is a well-established risk factor for cognitive competency as well as for physical morbidity throughout the life course. We show that these 2 outcomes of childhood poverty are interrelated. The prospective association between the duration of childhood poverty and adult working memory appears to be explained in part by elevated chronic stress during childhood.

## Materials and Methods

Participants were 195 Caucasian young adults [mean (*M*) = 17.29 years, 50% female] with complete data on duration of childhood poverty exposure, allostatic load, and working memory. They were part of a longitudinal study on rural poverty, cumulative risk, and children's development (36). Approximately half of the sample grew up below the poverty line (an income-to-needs ratio  $\leq 1$ , which is the U.S. official poverty line based on an annually adjusted, per-capita index), and the other half grew up at levels  $\approx 2$ –4 times the poverty line, the income level of the majority of American families.

Duration of childhood poverty was defined as the proportion of months from birth through age 13 years the participant had grown up at or below the poverty line. Poverty was operationalized in this way because the duration of childhood deprivation, rather than the timing of poverty exposure, appears particularly critical for cognitive achievement (4, 5). Furthermore, rural poverty, unlike urban poverty, tends to be quite stable, thus precluding the assessment of specific critical periods for childhood exposure to material deprivation. Finally, we assessed poverty exposure in this manner because allostasis theory emphasizes the duration of chronic environmental demands as the key precipitating factor in wear and tear on the body.

Allostatic load was calculated to capture physiological activity across a range of physiological response systems and included cardiovascular, hypothalamic pituitary adrenocortical axis, sympathetic adrenal medullary system, and metabolic activity. Resting blood pressure was calculated with automated readings (Dinamap Model Pro 100, Critikon) taken every 2 minutes while the subject sat quietly. The mean of the second through seventh readings was used as the index of basal blood pressure (37). Overnight urine was collected from 8 PM on the evening of the experimental protocol to 8 AM the next morning. Epinephrine and norepinephrine were assayed by HPLC with electrochemical detection (38) and cortisol with a radioimmunoassay (39). Creatinine was included as a statistical control for the neuroendocrine assays. Body mass index was calculated as  $\text{kg/m}^2$ . Allostatic load (0–6) was calculated by summing the number of physiological parameters (resting diastolic and systolic blood pressure, overnight epinephrine, norepinephrine, cortisol, and body mass index) for which the participant scored above the median (0 =  $-1\text{st}$  to 50th percentile; 1 =  $>50\text{th}$  percentile).<sup>\*</sup> Empirical investigation has shown that this simple, additive model of allostatic load across multiple physiological systems predicts morbidity and mortality endpoints better than either singular components of allostatic load (e.g., resting systolic blood pressure) or compared with other ways to measure aggregate activity across multiple physiological systems, such as weighted models or profiles of various combinations of the different components of allostatic load (18–24). Each individual physiological component of allostatic load was measured at age 9 years and again at age 13 years, with allostatic load calculated separately at each age. Chronic childhood allostatic load was then calculated as the mean of allostatic load at ages 9 and 13 years. The mean was used to best capture the accumulative effect of chronic stress during childhood on subsequent working memory in young adulthood.

Working memory was assessed at age 17 years only and was not included in either of the experimental protocols at age 9 years or 13 years. Working memory was measured by the subject's ability to recall a sequence of stimuli presented on a touch pad divided into 4 quadrants. Each sequence began with 1 stimulus signal. In the initial trial, 1 of 4 monochromatic panels on the touch pad was lit with a corresponding unique tone for 500 msec. The subject's task was to recall, in order, each of the stimuli that had been displayed thus far on the touch pad. The subject did this by tapping each panel in the correct sequential order as he or she recalled it. Thus, in trial 1, the subject tapped the panel location of the single signal (light and tone) he or she had just been exposed to immediately after the light and tone were extinguished. For each subsequent trial, 1 additional panel was activated randomly. Thus, in trial 2, the subject had to recall the correct sequential order of

<sup>\*</sup>Typically, allostatic load is the summation of each physiological risk factor defined as 1  $>$  upper 25th percentile of values, and 0 = all other values of the variable. We defined risk here as  $>50\text{th}$  percentile because approximately half of the individuals in our sample are low-income children. If we calculate allostatic load by using the traditional upper quartile cutoff, the same statistically significant patterns of results occur.

2 prior stimuli. The maximum number of stimuli the subject could recall in the correct sequential order was the index of working memory. Before the onset of the test session, subjects completed a practice run to ensure they understood the procedure. Participants then completed 2 different sessions of the working memory task, with a 1-hour interval between the 2 sessions. Working memory was the average performance across these 2 separate sessions. Table 2 summarizes the design and methods of the study.

- Bradley RH, Corwyn R (2002) Socioeconomic status and child development. *Annu Rev Psych* 53:371–399.
- Conger RD, Donnellan MB (2007) An interactionist perspective on the socioeconomic context of human development. *Annu Rev Psych* 58:175–199.
- McLoyd VC (1998) Socioeconomic disadvantage and child development. *Am Psychol* 53:185–204.
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Early Child Care Research Network (2005) Duration and developmental timing of poverty and children's cognitive and social development. *Child Dev* 76:795–810.
- Korenman S, Miller JE, Sjaastad JE (1995) Long-term poverty and child development: Evidence from the NLSY. *Child Youth Serv Rev* 17:127–155.
- Heckman JJ (2006) Skill formation and the economics of investing in disadvantaged children. *Science* 312:1900–1902.
- Pungello EP, Kupersmidt JB, Burchinal MR, Patterson CJ (1996) Environmental risk factors and children's achievement from middle childhood to early adolescence. *Dev Psychol* 32:755–767.
- Noble KG, Norman MF, Farah MJ (2005) Neurocognitive correlates of socioeconomic status in kindergarten children. *Dev Sci* 8:74–87.
- Farah MJ, et al. (2006) Childhood poverty: Specific associations with neurocognitive development. *Brain Res* 110:166–174.
- Noble KG, McCandliss BD, Farah MJ (2007) Socioeconomic gradients predict individual differences in neurocognitive abilities. *Dev Sci* 10:464–480.
- LeDoux J (2003) The emotional brain, fear, and the amygdala. *Cell Mol Neurobiol* 23:727–738.
- Lupien SJ, Gillin C, Hauger RL (1999) Working memory is more sensitive than declarative memory to the acute effects of corticosteroids: A dose-response study. *Behav Neurosci* 113:420–430.
- Smith EE, Jonides J, Marshuetz C, Koeppel RA (1998) Components of verbal memory: Evidence from neuroimaging. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 95:876–882.
- Lupien SJ, Maheu F, Tu M, Fiocco A, Shraek TE (2007) The effect of stress and stress hormones on human cognition: Implications for the field of brain and cognition. *Brain Cogn* 65:209–237.
- Lupien S, et al. (2006) Beyond the stress concept: Allostatic load, a developmental biological and cognitive perspective. *Developmental Psychopathology*, eds Cicchetti D, Cohen D (Wiley, New York).
- McEwen BS (2000) The neurobiology of stress: From serendipity to clinical relevance. *Brain Res* 886:172–189.
- Sapolsky R (2004) Stress and cognition. *The Cognitive Neurosciences*, ed Gazzaniga M (MIT Press, Cambridge, MA), Vol 3.
- McEwen BS (2002) *The End of Stress as We Know It* (John Henry Press, Washington, DC).
- McEwen BS, Seeman TE (1999) Protective and damaging effects of mediators of stress: Elaborating and testing the concepts of allostasis and allostatic load. *Socioeconomic Status and Health in Industrial Nations*, eds Adler NE, Marmot M, McEwen BS, Stewart J. (New York Academy of Sciences, New York).
- McEwen BS (1998) Protective and damaging effects of stress mediators. *N Engl J Med* 338:171–179.
- Karlamañla AS, Singer BH, McEwen BS, Rowe JW, Seeman TE (2002) Allostatic load as a predictor of functional decline: MacArthur studies of successful aging. *J Clin Epidemiol* 29:696–710.
- Seeman TE, Singer BH, Rowe JW, Horwitz R, McEwen BS (1997) Price of adaptation-allostatic load and its health consequences. *Arch Intern Med* 157:2259–2268.
- Seeman TE, McEwen BS, Rowe JW, Singer BH (2001) Allostatic load as a marker of biological risk: MacArthur studies of successful aging. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 98:4770–4775.
- Seeman TE, et al. (2004) Cumulative biological risk and socioeconomic differences in mortality: MacArthur studies of successful aging. *Soc Sci Med* 58:1985–1997.
- Chen E, Matthews KA, Boyce WT (2002) Socioeconomic differences in children's health: How and why do these relationships change with age? *Psychol Bull* 128:295–329.
- Evans GW, English K (2002) The environment of poverty: Multiple stressor exposure, psychophysiological stress and socioemotional adjustment. *Child Dev* 73:1238–1248.
- Lupien SJ, King S, Meaney MJ, McEwen BS (2000) Child's stress hormones correlate with mother's socioeconomic status and depressive state. *Biol Psychiatry* 48:976–980.
- Adler NE, Rehkopf DG (2008) U.S. disparities in health: Descriptions, causes, and mechanisms. *Annu Rev Public Health* 29:235–252.
- Williams DR, Collins C (1995) US socioeconomic and racial differences in health: Patterns and explanations. *Annu Rev Public Health* 21:349–386.
- Power C, Manor O, Matthews S (1999) The duration and timing of exposure: Effects of socioeconomic environment on adult health. *Am J Public Health* 89:1059–1065.
- Lynch JW, Kaplan GA, Shema SJ (1997) Cumulative impact of sustained economic hardship on physical, cognitive, psychological, and social functioning. *N Engl J Med* 337:1889–1895.
- Chen E, Martin D, Matthews KA (2007) Trajectories of socioeconomic status across children's lifetime predict health. *Pediatrics* 120:297–303.
- Knudsen EI, Heckman JJ, Cameron JL, Shonkoff JP (2006) Economic, neurobiological, and behavioral perspectives on building America's future workforce. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 103:10155–10162.
- Shonkoff JP, Phillips DA (2000) *From Neurons to Neighborhoods: The Science of Early Childhood Development*. (National Academy Press, Washington, DC).
- Zuckerman B, Kahn R (2004) Early child health and development: Pathways linking neurodevelopment to social context. *Securing the Future: Investing in Children from Birth to College*, eds Danziger S, Waldfogel J (Russell Sage Foundation, New York).
- Evans GW, Kim P (2007) Childhood poverty and health: Cumulative risk exposure and stress dysregulation. *Psychol Sci* 18:953–957.
- Kamarck T, Jennings R, Debski T (1992) Reliable measures of behaviorally evoked cardiovascular reactivity from a PC-based test battery. *Psychophysiology* 29:17–28.
- Riggan R, Kissinger P (1977) Determination of catecholamines in urine by reverse phase chromatography with electrochemical detection. *Anal Chem* 49:2109–2111.
- Contreras LN, Hane S, Tyrrell JB (1986) Urinary cortisol in the assessment of pituitary adrenal functioning: Utility of 24 hour spot determinations. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab* 62:965–969.

The Economist Debate Series

**Resenting the rich**

Should the rich pay more tax to reduce social inequality?

April 7th - 17th

JOIN THIS LIVE DEBATE

Econo

Economist.com

**SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY****Neuroscience and social deprivation****I am just a poor boy though my story's seldom told**

Apr 2nd 2009

From The Economist print edition

**How poverty passes from generation to generation is now becoming clearer. The answer lies in the effect of stress on two particular parts of the brain**

Panos



THAT the children of the poor underachieve in later life, and thus remain poor themselves, is one of the enduring problems of society. Sociologists have studied and described it. Socialists have tried to abolish it by dictatorship and central planning. Liberals have preferred democracy and opportunity. But nobody has truly understood what causes it. Until, perhaps, now.

The crucial breakthrough was made three years ago, when Martha Farah of the University of Pennsylvania showed that the working memories of children who have been raised in poverty have smaller capacities than those of middle-class children. Working memory is the ability to hold bits of information in the brain for current use—the digits of a phone number, for example. It is crucial for comprehending languages, for reading and for solving problems. Entry into the working memory is also a prerequisite for something to be learnt permanently as part of declarative memory—the stuff a person knows explicitly, like the dates of famous battles, rather than what he knows implicitly, like how to ride a bicycle.

Since Dr Farah's discovery, Gary Evans and Michelle Schamberg of Cornell University have studied the phenomenon in more detail. As they report in this week's *Proceedings of the National Academy*

*of Sciences*, they have found that the reduced capacity of the memories of the poor is almost certainly the result of stress affecting the way that childish brains develop.

Dr Evans's and Dr Schamberg's volunteers were 195 participants in a long-term sociological and medical study that Dr Evans is carrying out in New York state. At the time, the participants were 17 years old. All are white, and the numbers of men and women are about equal.

## **Stress in the city**

To measure the amount of stress an individual had suffered over the course of his life, the two researchers used an index known as allostatic load. This is a combination of the values of six variables: diastolic and systolic blood pressure; the concentrations of three stress-related hormones; and the body-mass index, a measure of obesity. For all six, a higher value indicates a more stressful life; and for all six, the values were higher, on average, in poor children than in those who were middle class. Moreover, because Dr Evans's wider study had followed the participants from birth, the two researchers were able to estimate what proportion of each child's life had been spent in poverty. That more precise figure, too, was correlated with the allostatic load.

The capacity of a 17-year-old's working memory was also correlated with allostatic load. Those who had spent their whole lives in poverty could hold an average of 8.5 items in their memory at any time. Those brought up in a middle-class family could manage 9.4, and those whose economic and social experiences had been mixed were in the middle.

These two correlations do not by themselves prove that chronic stress damages the memory, but Dr Evans and Dr Schamberg then applied a statistical technique called hierarchical regression to the results. They were able to use this to remove the effect of allostatic load on the relationship between poverty and memory discovered originally by Dr Farah. When they did so, that relationship disappeared. In other words, the diminution of memory in the poorer members of their study was entirely explained by stress, rather than by any more general aspect of poverty.

To confirm this result, the researchers also looked at characteristics such as each participant's birthweight, his mother's age when she gave birth, the mother's level of education and her marital status, all of which differ, on average, between the poor and the middle classes. None of these characteristics had any effect. Nor did a mother's own stress levels.

That stress, and stress alone, is responsible for damaging the working memories of poor children thus looks like a strong hypothesis. It is also backed up by work done on both people and laboratory animals, which shows that stress changes the activity of neurotransmitters, the chemicals that carry signals from one nerve cell to another in the brain. Stress also suppresses the generation of new nerve cells in the brain, and causes the "remodelling" of existing ones. Most significantly of all, it shrinks the volume of the prefrontal cortex and the hippocampus. These are the parts of the brain most closely associated with working memory.

Children with stressed lives, then, find it harder to learn. Put pejoratively, they are stupider. It is not surprising that they do less well at school, end up poor as adults and often visit the same circumstances on their own children.

Dr Evans's and Dr Schamberg's study does not examine the nature of the stress that the children of the poor are exposed to, but it is now well established that poor adults live stressful lives, and not just for the obvious reason that poverty brings uncertainty about the future. The main reason poor people are stressed is that they are at the bottom of the social heap as well as the financial one.

Sir Michael Marmot, of University College London, and his intellectual successors have shown repeatedly that people at the bottom of social hierarchies experience much more stress in their daily lives than those at the top—and suffer the consequences in their health. Even quite young children are socially sensitive beings and aware of such things.

So, it may not be necessary to look any further than their place in the pecking order to explain what Dr Evans and Dr Schamberg have discovered in their research into the children of the poor. The Bible says, “the poor you will always have with you.” Dr Evans and Dr Schamberg may have provided an important part of the explanation why.

Copyright © 2009 The Economist Newspaper and The Economist Group. All rights reserved.

# Speech for City Council

2  
4-13-09 4/12/09 5:18 PM

Greetings Mayor Euille and members of City Council. My name is Maggie Chamberlain and I am the SCA president and a 5<sup>th</sup> grader at James K. Polk Elementary School. I am here because I think that it is VERY important that there is money in the City's budget for the renovations at Polk.

The first area at Polk that needs to be renovated is the multipurpose room. The room is used for our physical education classes, after-school Campagna, assemblies, storage, and when the City has elections. When my mom asked me why the gym needs to be renovated, I said, "because it is totally unsafe." Racks and racks of chairs are stored in the room and sometimes people accidentally slide and run into them during p.e. Our awesome p.e. teacher, Ms. Chmura, runs two early morning and one afternoon exercise sessions and the room is too small for all of us to run around. We have between 50-60 kids and we have to play walking tag, which is really boring! Sometime two classes have to go to pe together, which means there is little space for all the kids to exercise. About once a month Ms. Chmura has to come to our classroom for p.e. because the multipurpose room is being used for something else (like elections). And finally her storage closet is way too small.

We also need renovations at Polk because we need an elevator. Anyone who is on crutches or in a wheelchair can't go downstairs to the TAG, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms. Students either have to be carried down the stairs, try to use their crutches or go outside and around the building. That is a disaster waiting to happen!

•  
Finally, I think it's important that you know that a couple of our classrooms have NO windows. For instance, I now only see outside during two specials (library and art), lunch and recess. I would like seeing natural light more often.

Thank you Mr. Wilson, Mr. Krupika, and Ms. Pepper for coming over to see Polk. I invite and encourage the rest of the City Council members to come



over and see our awesome school. I hope you visit our school before you make a final decision on the budget. I'm happy to give you a tour.

Thank you for your time.

Margaret F. Chamberlain 4-13-09

2  
4-13-09

Good afternoon Mr. Mayor and members of City Council. I appreciate the opportunity to speak with you this afternoon. I am speaking as a long time resident of Alexandria, as well as a member of VOICE, Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement. I am here to address the city manager's proposed reduction in the 1 cent of the real estate tax rate that is set aside for affordable housing.

I certainly realize that Alexandria is in a tough financial situation due to the economic downturn. And I know that you all have tough budget decisions to make in this environment. As you weigh your options in this difficult year, I ask you to retain the 1 cent for affordable housing.

The bottom line for your decision about the 1 cent is the question of what type of community Alexandria is today, and what we want to be in the future.

The Alexandria to which I moved as a new college graduate in 1976 was a wonderful city with lots of things to

do. It was an historical city that worked hard to honor its history as it developed. It was a city of communities, where people knew their neighbors and cared what was happening to their next door neighbors, as well as those across town. And it was affordable for me as a young woman just starting out.

The Alexandria where I elected to raise my sons was an incredibly diverse city. Both of my sons graduated from TC Williams, and have moved into successful young adulthood. They are better men for the diversity in which they grew up.

But I worry whether they will be able to continue living in Alexandria, because it is no longer very affordable. I am blessed to have bought my home 15 years ago, but as a federal employee I certainly couldn't afford it now, even at today's somewhat reduced values. My sons have deep roots in our community and want to stay here. How will they afford it?

The 1 cent for affordable housing won't resolve all of Alexandria's affordable housing issues, or even perhaps many of them. However, this tiny investment demonstrates a public commitment to retaining the diversity of our community.

I realize that maintaining the 1 cent, along with other safety net programs, will mean a higher tax rate for me and my fellow citizens. For my part, I want to state clearly that I am more than willing to pay a higher tax rate to maintain the diversity of the city I love.

I urge you all to maintain the 1 cent for affordable housing and demonstrate your commitment to honor the value of affordable housing to support a diverse population in our city.

Thank you for your time.

*Dee Dee Tostanoski*

Good afternoon Mayor, Vice Mayor and Council Members.

2  
4-13-09

My name is Nury Márquez and I'm here representing the Hispanic Committee of Virginia.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today relative to the City's FY10 budget. These are difficult and challenging times and I commend you for the work you have done on the budget. You have undertaken this process with care and compassion.

I'm here to speak on behalf of the almost 600 plus Hispanic clients and their families who receive services at the Hispanic Committee and who reside in the City of Alexandria.

The Hispanic Committee of VA has been delivering services to members of Virginia's Hispanic community for more than 42 years. Our mission is to assist Hispanics to successfully integrate by developing skills and acquiring the capacity to become contributing members of their communities.

Like all community members, Hispanics have been severely impacted by the economic downturn. This hard-working and reliable labor force made great contributions during the growth of the City through its back breaking work in the construction, excavation, installation and repairs and services sectors. Today, many of these hard workers find themselves challenged with providing for their families and meeting even their most basic needs.

Living in one of the most expensive housing markets with limited job opportunities is putting a strain on all family members. According to published reports, Hispanics are overrepresented in the foreclosure crisis. In 2005, 38% of loans made to Hispanics in Virginia were sub prime loans. In the last 15 months, 58 families residing in the City of Alexandria sought foreclosure prevention and loss mitigation counseling from the Committee. This trend has not abated and we fear will continue as unemployment continues to rise.

Hispanics want to contribute and be part of the community, they want to be ready to work and work hard today and when the recovery begins. In the meantime the community needs support services to help it get through these hard times.

The Committee can provide support some of these services. However, to do so, we need the City's support. For every dollar that the City invests, we can leverage additional dollars to provide ancillary services that can help these families meet their basic needs and gain skills for a more economically independent and sustaining future.

We recognize these are truly exceptional and difficult times and that there's a lot of need and you want to provide an adequate level of support to the City's human services. As such, the Committee is willing to share in the pain.

We have requested only 46% of last year's total City funding. This level of funding would allow us to continue providing a minimal level of critical services, especially as the need grows. *We at the Committee will be working hard in these coming weeks + months to raise the balance of the services budget.* Our housing counselors are helping dozens of families avoid foreclosure. Many were victimized and preyed upon by predatory lenders. Our social services workers are helping individuals and families access services they never thought they'd one day need themselves, medical, shelter and food provision services.

I hope that you will grant our funding request. Together, in partnership with the City and other human service providers, we can help these families get through this tough period and emerge stronger and better people.

Thank you again for your support and for the opportunity to speak today.

2  
4-13-09

# FY 2010 Budget Public Hearing

April 13, 2009

# Net Budget Reestimates and Adjustments (\$ in M)

	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2010</u>
Revenue Reestimates (BM #91)	\$ (2.350)	\$ (0.537)
Expenditure Reestimates (BM #90)	NA	\$ 0.315
2009 Expenditure Savings (BM #3)	\$ 2.000	NA
2009 Additional Expenditure Savings	\$ 0.572	NA
Increase Use of Fund Balance	NA	\$ 0.222
<b>Total Adjustments</b>	<b>\$ 0.222</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Additional Revenue Available at Maximum Advertised Real Estate	\$ 3.05	\$ 5.94



2  
4-13-09

**Alexandria Commission on Aging  
Testimony to the Budget Public Hearing of April 13, 2009**

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of City Council:

Thank you for the opportunity to address you this evening. My name is Bob Eiffert, a city resident since 1983. I am here tonight speaking for the Commission on Aging, to which you appointed me last year.

The Commission on Aging is deeply appreciative of the support you have given to older Alexandrians for many, many years. Your support of programs that serve older residents has made countless individuals' lives better and enabled many to give back to the city in myriad ways.

We are acutely aware of the extraordinary time this budget year is and will be. You are forced to make very difficult decisions that will affect the quality of life for many. We are here to ask that you do everything possible to minimize the effect of the budget cuts on the most vulnerable populations the city serves.

We have studied the proposed cuts to aging services and have done so within the context of the entire Department of Human Services budget. We can see where the city staff has worked to be fair in applying the cuts that no one wants. We thank the staff for all their hard work under unpleasant circumstances.

We note that a number of critical positions in the Office of Aging and Adult Services are being held vacant or unfunded. Social workers in Adult Services and Adult Protective Services play a vital role in protecting the health and well-being of adults in the city. We are deeply concerned about the risks inherent in not filling these positions. One vacancy in Adult Protective Services represents a 25% staff reduction. Caseloads are running 25% to 30% above published state standards at a time when individual cases, such as hoarding and guardianship, are becoming increasingly complex and time consuming. Likewise, at a time when service hours in the Companion Aide Program are being cut, necessitating greater social worker time to manage individuals' cases, 33% of adult services worker positions are being held vacant, presenting the same caseload overload as in APS. These vacancies cannot be maintained. We expect that these positions will be filled very soon after the beginning of fiscal year 2010 on July 1, 2009. Continued vacancies in these positions will jeopardize the health and well-being of the most vulnerable adults in our city.

Transportation is another critical component of maintaining independence for older adults. Cuts in the Senior Taxi Program have left the last two months of FY 2009 unfunded. Senior Services of Alexandria, our non-profit partner in Senior Taxi, is trying to fund the difference so that users can continue to use the service for their medical appointments. In addition, one bus driver position is also being held vacant. This creates a strain on the remaining drivers and necessarily limits trips that would otherwise be available. We ask your assurance that the position not be eliminated. By maintaining the position, it could be funded again in a future year.

Again, we thank you for your past support, and we urge you to assure that the safety and security of our older and disabled adults is paramount by filling the social worker positions this summer and maintaining the bus driver position. Thank you.

2  
4-13-09



"cbenagh"  
<cbenagh@comcast.net>  
04/13/2009 02:35 PM

To "Tim Lovain" <timothylovain@aol.com>, "rob krupicka" <rob@krupicka.com>, "Paul Smedberg" <PaulCSmedberg@aol.com>, "Ludwig Gaines" <Jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov>, "Petra Osborne" <plo55@comcast.net>, "abdullah rufus" <rufus8@comcast.net>, "adam osterman" <aswymir@aol.com>, "C Benagh"  
bcc  
Subject Equalization of Metro Area Public Transportation Services Costs for Disabled Citizens

City of Alexandria Virginia

Dear Mr. Mayor, Members of Council,

I will be unable to attend the work session scheduled for this evening. Please accept this statement in lieu of my physical presence, and include it as part of the public record. Thank you.

Chuck Benagh

Dear Mr. Mayor, Members of Council:

Recently membership of the Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities voted unanimously to ask the City of Alexandria to change a policy regarding charges on Dash for the disabled community who display a MetroAccess eligibility card. Changing this policy would bring Alexandria into conformity with other jurisdictions served by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. All other areas in Northern Virginia, Maryland, and District of Columbia, except for Arlington, waive the fare for these customers who display the MetroAccess certification.

Our position is that there are several benefits to the City to joining the rest of the metropolitan area in this policy.

For example, there are direct economic benefits of encouraging MetroAccess and DOT users to use the far less costly Dash Service when possible. Coupled with a training program to acclimate disabled individuals to different transportation options this could save a considerable amount of money for the City, while simultaneously extending quality transportation options to all of its citizenry.

Alexandria has worked hard to establish itself as one of the most accessible cities in the United States. For the third consecutive year, Alexandria was recognized as among the top seven accessible American cities. Recently, the ACPD announced our goal of becoming the Number One Accessible City in the U.S. Beyond its intrinsic value, this worthy goal, when attained, should prove its additional value to the City in terms of valuable national publicity. When this goal was announced to a gathering of Alexandria business representatives it was met with an encouraging response, as they recognized the positive economic value of such a description for our community. This Dash policy, if continued, along with Budget memo #69, would make attainment of this a bit more distant goal.

For Alexandria as a whole, I would suggest that a closer inspection of the economics might be in order:

*"penny-wise; pound-foolish"* normally is not competent public policy.

With respect to the recommendations of Budget Memo #69, or any action on Budget Memo #87, it would have been hoped that the courtesy of a public hearing for the affected stakeholders ( e.g. referral to the ACPD) might have been extended to gauge the impact on affected members of the community prior to any consideration.

Sincerely yours,  
Charles Benagh, Chair  
Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities

2  
4-13-09



"Goodale, Geoffrey M."  
<GGoodale@foley.com>  
04/13/2009 02:33 PM

To <william.euille@alexandriava.gov>,  
<councilmangaines@aol.com>, "Councilman Krupicka"  
<council@krupicka.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>,  
cc <Jim.Hartmann@alexandriava.gov>,  
<morton.sherman@acps.k12.va.us>,  
<yvonne@yvonnefolkerts.com>,  
bcc  
Subject Comments in Support of Funding for a Polk Gym

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of City Council:

The Board of Directors of Brookville—Seminary Valley Civic Association, Inc. (BSVCA) respectfully submits the attached comments relating to proposed Capital Improvement Program ("CIP") funding for Fiscal Year 2010 ("FY 2010"). As discussed in the attached comments, we urge that the City Council allocate CIP funding for a gymnasium at James K. Polk Elementary School in FY 2010, as recommended by the City Manager.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. We respectfully request that this e-mail and the attached document be included in the record relating to this proceeding, and accordingly, we are including the City Clerk as a "cc" recipient on this e-mail. If you have any questions regarding our comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 672-5341 or at (703) 618-6640.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey M. Goodale  
President, Brookville—Seminary Valley Civic Association, Inc.

The preceding email message may be confidential or protected by the attorney-client privilege. It is not intended for transmission to, or receipt by, any unauthorized persons. If you have received this message in error, please (i) do not read it, (ii) reply to the sender that you received the message in error, and (iii) erase or destroy the message. Legal advice contained in the preceding message is solely for the benefit of the Foley & Lardner LLP client(s) represented by the Firm in the particular matter that is the subject of this message, and may not be relied upon by any other party.

Internal Revenue Service regulations require that certain types of written advice include a disclaimer. To the extent the preceding message contains advice relating to a Federal tax issue, unless expressly stated otherwise the advice is not intended or written to be used, and it cannot be used by the recipient or any other taxpayer, for the purpose of avoiding Federal tax penalties, and was not written to support the promotion or marketing of any transaction or matter discussed



herein. Polk Gym Funding Comments.pdf

**BROOKVILLE-SEMINARY VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**P.O. Box 23348**  
**Alexandria, VA 22304**

April 13, 2009

Mayor William D. Euille and Members of City Council  
City Hall  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Re: Comments in Support of FY 2010 CIP Funding for a Polk Gym

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of City Council:

The Board of Directors of Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association, Inc. ("BSVCA") respectfully submits these comments relating to proposed Capital Improvement Program ("CIP") funding. As discussed below, we urge that the City Council ("Council") allocate CIP funding in Fiscal Year 2010 ("FY 2010") for a gymnasium at James K. Polk Elementary School ("Polk Gym").

The BSVCA is a non-profit organization whose members include individuals from several hundred households in the Brookville-Seminary Valley area. Polk School is within the BSVCA's boundaries, and as such, matters pertaining to the School are of great interest to the BSVCA.

As you know, we have been staunch supporters of CIP funding for a Polk Gym for a long time. Currently, Polk School's Physical Education ("PE") teacher is forced to use a very small multi-purpose room for gym classes in addition to non-PE functions (e.g., a voting station, assembly space, after-school care, picture day and many other events). The current multi-purpose room has a stage, a grand piano, racks upon racks of folding chairs, and does not even have permanent basketball hoops. Moreover, a real Gym is needed now more than ever, because of the dramatic growth in students that the school system is experiencing and will continue to experience as the Landmark/Van Dorn area and the Mark Center/Beauregard area are redeveloped. There is no way that the very small multi-purpose room that Polk School currently must use can handle the marked increase in students that is expected. So, CIP funding for the Gym is absolutely necessary now and would benefit the City for many years.

We are grateful that the City Manager has identified the Polk Gym as one of several high priority projects that the Council should consider funding. It is our understanding that the real estate tax rate that the Council has proposed would allow the Council to follow the City Manager's recommendation. We urge that the Council adopt the proposed real estate tax rate and provide specific CIP funding for the Polk Gym in FY 2010, as recommended by the City Manager.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of our request for CIP funding for a Polk Gym in FY 2010. If you have any questions regarding our comments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully submitted,



Geoffrey M. Goodale  
President, Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association, Inc.

2  
-----  
4-13-09

**KhoaDinh Tran/Alex**  
04/13/2009 01:59 PM

To Jackie Henderson/Alex@Alex  
cc William Skrabak/Alex@Alex  
bcc  
Subject Fw: Environmental Policy Commission Letter regarding the 2010 Budget

Ms. Henderson,

For your information and inclusion in this evening's Council Public Hearing on 2010 budget.

Khoa D. Tran  
Office of Environmental Quality  
Department of Transportation and Environmental Services  
City of Alexandria  
301N. King Street, Room 3000  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Phone: (703) 519-3400, ext. 107  
Cellular: (703) 785-7778  
----- Forwarded by KhoaDinh Tran/Alex on 04/13/2009 01:57 PM -----



**Danielle Fidler**  
<dcfidler1@hotmail.com>  
04/09/2009 06:52 PM

To Jim Hartmann <jim.hartmann@alexandriava.gov>, bill skrabak <william.skrabak@alexandriava.gov>, Khoa Tran <khoadinh.tran@alexandriava.gov>, Rich Baier <rich.baier@alexandriava.gov>, Laura Durham <laura.durham@alexandriava.gov>, <councilmangaines@aol.com>, <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <justin.wilson@alexandriava.gov>, <rob@krupicka.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>, <paulcsmedberg@aol.com>, <delpepper@aol.com>, <sbarstow@counseling.org>, <ernie265@hotmail.com>, <jpochatila@yahoo.com>, <dsboxer@gmail.com>, <kmoser@gds.org>, <jhovis@live.com>, <haganpatrick@comcast.net>, <kernow01@att.net>, <nvakeith@yahoo.com>, <jessica@avantincorporation.com>, <laura.medhurst@marymount.edu>  
cc

Subject Environmental Policy Commission Letter regarding the 2010 Budget

Dear Mayor Euille and Council Members,

Attached please find comments from the Environmental Policy Commission regarding the Alexandria City Budget for FY 2010.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Danielle Fidler  
Chair, Environmental Policy Commission

Rediscover Hotmail®: Get e-mail storage that grows with you. [Check it out.](#)



4-9-09 budget letter to council.pdf



*City of Alexandria Virginia*  
*Environmental Policy Commission*  
*P.O. Box 111*  
*Alexandria Virginia 22301*

April 9, 2009

Honorable Mayor William Euille and Members of City Council  
City of Alexandria  
Suite 2300, City hall  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of Council:

**Re: EPC Comments on Proposed Alexandria City Budget for FY2010**

The Environmental Policy Commission (EPC) would like to respectfully submit its comments on the City proposed FY 2010 budget.

The EPC is cognizant of the fact that, in light of current economic difficulties, City Council has the challenging task of funding existing essential needs and at the same time insuring that Alexandria continues to plan and build capacity to meet future needs. The EPC is thankful to the City Manager, who in his proposed FY 2010 budget, has addressed the City Council's and the Community's priorities. Although there were significant budget cuts to the environmental area, several highly effective environmental programs remain funded. This allows the City to continue to provide environmental services that the community wants and to plan and prepare for future environmental challenges.

The EPC fully supports the continued funding of key environmental programs and Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) that provide the infrastructure necessary for the City's long-term environmental progress. Some examples include the funding of channel restoration, stream maintenance and environmental restoration, construction of bike trails, green building design and sustainable development, maintenance of sanitary and storm water infrastructure, water and air quality programs, transit subsidies, energy conservation initiatives, and the purchase of renewable energy credits.

While the EPC is pleased to see continued funding for CIP items, and while the EPC understands the gravity of the City's budget constraints, there are three areas that suffered major budget cuts which greatly concern the EPC.

First, members were extremely disheartened to see the proposed two-thirds reduction in the Open Space Fund over the next five years. As the remaining third is sufficient solely to service debt from purchases already made by the City, the proposed change in the budget essentially limits all open space purchases over the next five years to the \$10 million currently in the Fund. While we understand that the Open Space Fund has to be reapproved



by every City Council, the goal of acquiring 100 acres of open space by 2013, which was an outgrowth of the 1998 Quality of Life Summit, is in many ways the foundation upon which Eco-City Alexandria was built. With only 35 acres left to secure, the City is incredibly close to achieving the fundamental goal of the Open Space Master Plan. While \$10 million may seem like a significant sum of money, parcels of land in Alexandria can cost up to \$4 million per acre. In light of this, major open space priorities and last chance opportunities, such as acquiring property along the Potomac River waterfront, will either wipe out the Fund well before meeting its goal or will be insufficient to purchase key parcels altogether. While it is understood that this year is particularly difficult, the fact that the proposed budget extends this near elimination of the Open Space Fund through 2015 will very likely mean that Alexandria will not meet the goals of the Open Space Master Plan. Given that open space continues to be one of the greatest concerns to Alexandria citizens and one of the main reasons people choose to work, live, and play in Alexandria, we strongly urge Council to either eliminate this change or to limit it to this year's budget only.

Secondly, the significant cuts to tree planting and maintenance will not only prevent the City from reversing the declining tree canopy in Alexandria, but will make maintaining the existing level extremely difficult if not impossible. As Councilman Krupicka affirmed during the recent Eco-City Café, street trees are not just an asset to the beauty of Alexandria, but trees are perhaps the wisest investment, dollar for dollar, in slowing or even reversing global climate change. Due to their immense capacity for carbon dioxide sequestration, trees are nature's most efficient carbon sinks. Not only can a single large tree provide enough oxygen for four people, it also promotes biodiversity, protects habitat, prevents erosion, and reduces energy demand when planted to shade windows getting summer sun. In short, trees are a critically vital piece of the global warming solution. Alexandria has already lost 4% of its tree canopy since 2001. We cannot afford to allow this decline to accelerate.

Finally, the EPC urges that the City Council and Manager fund an Eco-City Sustainability Coordinator to ensure that the City and its residents continue to make progress toward achieving sustainability. The Phase I Action Plan recently adopted by Council comprehensively addresses a broad array of environmental issues. Public education and coordination is a crucial component to reach the goals articulated in every single Action Plan principle area. The City needs a full-time staff member dedicated to following through on the wide range of initiatives required to help make City operations and day-to-day life of all Alexandrians more sustainable. The engagement and education needed to come anywhere close to meeting the goals outlined in the Action Plan will simply not be possible relying on a piecemeal approach carried out by existing, heavily-tasked staff. We believe that progress on the sustainability initiatives will achieve savings for the City, especially as society transitions to a carbon-constrained economy, the establishment of a sustainability coordinator position could easily pay for itself through changes in the city's water use, waste generation, transportation practices, and energy use, among other mechanisms.

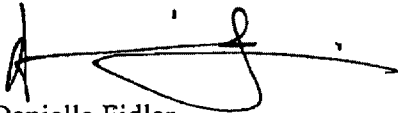
The need to address the gap between public awareness and scientific knowledge is highlighted by two recent news items regarding climate change. At the International Scientific Congress on Climate Change in mid-March, thousands of scientists gathered to discuss recent research findings and prepare recommendations for policymakers. One of the key messages coming out of the meeting is that worst-case projections for greenhouse gas emission trajectories are being realized, that even modest temperature increases will be very

difficult to deal with, and that “there is a significant risk that many of the trends will accelerate, leading to an increasing risk of abrupt or irreversible climatic shifts.” The panel concluded that rapid, sustained, and effective mitigation is needed immediately, and that “delay in initiating effective mitigation actions increases significantly the long-term social and economic costs of both adaptation and mitigation.” At virtually the same time, a Gallup survey found a significant drop in public concern about global warming, and a record-high 41 percent of Americans saying that the seriousness of global warming is exaggerated.

The Eco-City initiative, undertaken by the EPC over the last two years at Council’s request, is a long-term commitment of the City toward environmental sustainability. It is not just an investment by the City to make Alexandria an even better place to work and live for all current and future Alexandrians; sustainable living will be required if we are to *survive*. Without effective coordination and outreach to all Alexandrians on implementing the Eco-City Charter and Environmental Action Plan, the Eco-City initiative runs the risk of becoming just another plan on a shelf. Thus the EPC feels strongly that despite the budget constraints, an Eco-City Coordinator is a necessary expense, and urges Council to fund the position and to consider pursuing federal money to help pay for this position until budget pressures ease.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on the FY 2010 budget and for your consideration of our recommendations.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Danielle Fidler', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Danielle Fidler  
Chair, Environmental Policy Commission

Cc: James Hartmann, City Manager  
Rich Baier, Director, T&ES  
William Skrabak, Director, Office of Environmental Quality, T&ES

2  
4-13-09



Mary Anne Weber  
<maweber@comcast.net>

04/13/2009 10:51 AM

Please respond to  
Mary Anne Weber  
<maweber@comcast.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: budget



Time: [Mon Apr 13, 2009 10:51:40] IP Address: [69.143.201.33]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Mary Anne  
**Last Name:** Weber  
**Street Address:**  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:** 703-519-3682  
**Email Address:** maweber@comcast.net  
**Subject:** budget

Dear Mayor and Council Members;

As you are aware, the FY 2010 Proposed Budget included City reductions of \$1.45 million for the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse (MH/MR/SA). In addition to the \$1.45 million in City reductions, State aid is decreasing by \$300,000, which brings the total reduction amount to \$1.75 million. To meet these reductions, MH/MR/SA recommended the elimination of 18.25 FTEs and a reduction in contractual expenditures. These reductions will adversely affect the citizens of Alexandria.

The Alexandria Community Services Board was pleased to see the City Manager's April 3, 2009 Budget Memorandum that recommended restorations in the amount of \$300,000 for MH/MR/SA. The City Manager recommended the funding be used for substance abuse programs, but did not delineate the specific reductions to be restored. The Alexandria Community Services Board reviewed the FY 2010

reductions and determined the following reductions were the highest priority for restoration. These programs serve consumers who are most symptomatic, have the greatest need for services, and have no other way of receiving the services. Another factor was the development of wait lists in several areas, particularly in SA Youth Outpatient and ID Case Management. The ACSB recommends allocating 2/3 of the proposed funding to substance abuse programs and the balance to mental health and intellectual disability services.

\* \$91,125 for the restoration of a full-time Therapist III in Substance Abuse Youth & Family Outpatient Services.

Implementing this reduction results in the loss of 1,135 direct service hours to approximately 134 youth per year, primarily at the Minnie Howard Campus of TC Williams High School. The incumbent provides services to children with high acuity; 85% of the youth served experience severe emotional disturbances and substance use and/or abuse. The incumbent performs risk to self and threat assessments (risk to others), diagnoses youth with mental health and/or substance abuse problems and provides individual, family and group treatment. The incumbent also provides consultation and training to school personnel on risk assessment and behavior management. The school does not have staff to provide any of these services, and if this position were eliminated, Minnie Howard would have to rely exclusively on CSB emergency services for the assessment of youth who present with a risk to harm others or self. With the Child, Family, and Prevention Division operating at capacity, youth in need of treatment would not receive it.

\* \$100,000 for the restoration of substance abuse residential treatment program funding.

**Comments:**

This program was originally budgeted at \$270,000 and the FY 2010 budget included total

reductions of \$240,000 (\$170,000 was recommended for elimination to meet City funding reductions and an additional \$70,000 was recommended for elimination to meet State funding reductions). During FY 2008, the program provided more than 2,700 days of contracted residential placements to approximately 40 clients. Consumers would continue to receive CSB services, such as case management and detoxification services, but these services do not meet the acuity needs of the clients. A restoration of \$100,000 would allow for the placement of approximately 15 consumers.

\* \$37,911 for the restoration of a 0.75 FTE Therapist I in Intellectual Disability Case Management.

Implementing this reduction results in the loss of 850 direct service hours. The position has been held vacant pending finalization of the FY 2010 budget and a waitlist has begun to accrue. The number of consumers on the waitlist may increase due to the State Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services becoming home to individuals with autism. The unit generates a significant amount of revenues. During FY 2008, \$77,000 in 3rd party payments was generated per direct care FTE. The reduction of \$37,911 assumes no reduction in revenues and if existing staff cannot meet an increase in demand, revenues will be lost.

\* \$70,964 for the restoration of a full-time Therapist I in Adult Mental Health Treatment and Case Management.

Implementing this reduction results in the loss of 1,135 direct service hours. The incumbent oversees approximately 185 cases and supports the MH/MR/SA psychiatrists in getting clients who are in need of more intensive services connected to those services as soon as possible. Mental illness is cyclical in nature and it is expected that clients with SMI will have periods of decompensation even after significant periods of stability. This position ensures that clients who are decompensating do

not fall through the cracks. The incumbent also provides case management services to 10 geriatric consumers on a regular basis (approximately 25 per year). Services to geriatric consumers allow these consumers to live in their own homes for as long as possible. This cut will result in at least 80 mentally ill consumers no longer receiving case management services.

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Weber  
chair, Alexandria Community

Services Board

2  
4-13-09



April 11, 2009

Mayor Bill Euille  
Members of City Council  
City Hall  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of City Council,

We are encouraged to learn that the City Council may restore funds for a selection of vital human services. We urge you to place mental health services, especially the restoration of certain substance abuse and intellectual disability services, at the top of your list. The Community Services Board (CSB) has identified the following needs as priorities,

1) Funds for an outpatient substance abuse therapist for youth

The therapist in this position works with more than 100 students per year, most of them at Minnie Howard. CSB statistics indicate "85% of the youth served experience severe emotional disturbances and substance use and/or abuse." Performing a diverse range of services from psychological diagnosis and treatment to the training of school staff, this therapist fills a need that would otherwise be unmet at the school. If this position is not restored, we are concerned that young Alexandrians who are at risk of harming themselves or others will not receive the treatment they need.

2) Funds for substance abuse residential treatment

These funds provide services for Alexandrians whose substance abuse treatment is best met through residential placements. Our City's mental health administrators state that the CSB's "case management and detoxification services . . . do not meet the acuity needs of (these) clients." They need residential placements to achieve recovery. If funding is not restored, these Alexandrians will not receive the services they require.

3) Funds for a case manager for persons with intellectual disabilities.

There is already a waitlist for the services of a case manager in this position, and the CSB predicts, "The number of consumers may increase due to the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, Substance Abuse Services, becoming home to individuals with autism." How long will these individuals need to wait for services if funding is not restored?

These programs are among those that serve clients who have the most symptoms, have the greatest need for services, and have no other way of receiving services. As you know, many of the CSB clients who are served by these programs have low incomes and/or limited resources. They depend on our CSB for treatment, stability, independence, and the chance to reach their potential.

Restoration of these services is critical not only for these individuals, but also for their families. Many families can face difficult financial and emotional challenges if their loved one is unable to access mental health services. In addition to affecting families, the loss of these programs may have an impact on our City. If treatment and related mental health programs are unavailable, the costs for emergency and other City services may rise. With the restoration of these services, Alexandrians with substance dependency disorders and intellectual disabilities have an opportunity to contribute more fully to their families and to our community.

City and State reductions are occurring at a time when the demand for mental health services is rising in Alexandria. The CSB reports a 20% increase in demand for services compared to this time last fiscal year. We hope you will agree that the restoration of mental health services is of the highest importance and that the reinstallation of the substance abuse and intellectual disabilities services and staff listed above is essential.

Sincerely,

The Board of the Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center

Handwritten signatures of Susan Drachsler and Tiffeny Sanchez in cursive script.

Co-Chairs

Susan Drachsler and Tiffeny Sanchez

Members

Michele T. Cole

Robert Bovey

Margee Eife

Margaret (Peggy) Errington

Brigitte Guttstadt

Sayuri Hardman

Jason Jackson

Elizabeth (Betty) Livingston

Margaret Moore

Dan Sweeney

Homer Walkup

Claudia Waller





2  
4-13-09  
REC'D APR 13 2009  
ALEXANDRIA  
Environmental Policy Commission

*City of Alexandria Virginia*  
*Alexandria Environmental Policy Commission*  
*P. O. Box 178*  
*Alexandria Virginia 22303*

April 9, 2009

Honorable Mayor William Euille and Members of City Council  
City of Alexandria  
Suite 2300, City hall  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of Council:

**Re: EPC Comments on Proposed Alexandria City Budget for FY2010**

The Environmental Policy Commission (EPC) would like to respectfully submit its comments on the City proposed FY 2010 budget.

The EPC is cognizant of the fact that, in light of current economic difficulties, City Council has the challenging task of funding existing essential needs and at the same time insuring that Alexandria continues to plan and build capacity to meet future needs. The EPC is thankful to the City Manager, who in his proposed FY 2010 budget, has addressed the City Council's and the Community's priorities. Although there were significant budget cuts to the environmental area, several highly effective environmental programs remain funded. This allows the City to continue to provide environmental services that the community wants and to plan and prepare for future environmental challenges.

The EPC fully supports the continued funding of key environmental programs and Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) that provide the infrastructure necessary for the City's long-term environmental progress. Some examples include the funding of channel restoration, stream maintenance and environmental restoration, construction of bike trails, green building design and sustainable development, maintenance of sanitary and storm water infrastructure, water and air quality programs, transit subsidies, energy conservation initiatives, and the purchase of renewable energy credits.

While the EPC is pleased to see continued funding for CIP items, and while the EPC understands the gravity of the City's budget constraints, there are three areas that suffered major budget cuts which greatly concern the EPC.

First, members were extremely disheartened to see the proposed two-thirds reduction in the Open Space Fund over the next five years. As the remaining third is sufficient solely to service debt from purchases already made by the City, the proposed change in the budget essentially limits all open space purchases over the next five years to the \$10 million currently in the Fund. While we understand that the Open Space Fund has to be reapproved

by every City Council, the goal of acquiring 100 acres of open space by 2013, which was an outgrowth of the 1998 Quality of Life Summit, is in many ways the foundation upon which Eco-City Alexandria was built. With only 35 acres left to secure, the City is incredibly close to achieving the fundamental goal of the Open Space Master Plan. While \$10 million may seem like a significant sum of money, parcels of land in Alexandria can cost up to \$4 million per acre. In light of this, major open space priorities and last chance opportunities, such as acquiring property along the Potomac River waterfront, will either wipe out the Fund well before meeting its goal or will be insufficient to purchase key parcels altogether. While it is understood that this year is particularly difficult, the fact that the proposed budget extends this near elimination of the Open Space Fund through 2015 will very likely mean that Alexandria will not meet the goals of the Open Space Master Plan. Given that open space continues to be one of the greatest concerns to Alexandria citizens and one of the main reasons people choose to work, live, and play in Alexandria, we strongly urge Council to either eliminate this change or to limit it to this year's budget only.

Secondly, the significant cuts to tree planting and maintenance will not only prevent the City from reversing the declining tree canopy in Alexandria, but will make maintaining the existing level extremely difficult if not impossible. As Councilman Krupicka affirmed during the recent Eco-City Café, street trees are not just an asset to the beauty of Alexandria, but trees are perhaps the wisest investment, dollar for dollar, in slowing or even reversing global climate change. Due to their immense capacity for carbon dioxide sequestration, trees are nature's most efficient carbon sinks. Not only can a single large tree provide enough oxygen for four people, it also promotes biodiversity, protects habitat, prevents erosion, and reduces energy demand when planted to shade windows getting summer sun. In short, trees are a critically vital piece of the global warming solution. Alexandria has already lost 4% of its tree canopy since 2001. We cannot afford to allow this decline to accelerate.

Finally, the EPC urges that the City Council and Manager fund an Eco-City Sustainability Coordinator to ensure that the City and its residents continue to make progress toward achieving sustainability. The Phase I Action Plan recently adopted by Council comprehensively addresses a broad array of environmental issues. Public education and coordination is a crucial component to reach the goals articulated in every single Action Plan principle area. The City needs a full-time staff member dedicated to following through on the wide range of initiatives required to help make City operations and day-to-day life of all Alexandrians more sustainable. The engagement and education needed to come anywhere close to meeting the goals outlined in the Action Plan will simply not be possible relying on a piecemeal approach carried out by existing, heavily-tasked staff. We believe that progress on the sustainability initiatives will achieve savings for the City, especially as society transitions to a carbon-constrained economy, the establishment of a sustainability coordinator position could easily pay for itself through changes in the city's water use, waste generation, transportation practices, and energy use, among other mechanisms.

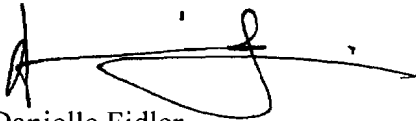
The need to address the gap between public awareness and scientific knowledge is highlighted by two recent news items regarding climate change. At the International Scientific Congress on Climate Change in mid-March, thousands of scientists gathered to discuss recent research findings and prepare recommendations for policymakers. One of the key messages coming out of the meeting is that worst-case projections for greenhouse gas emission trajectories are being realized, that even modest temperature increases will be very

difficult to deal with, and that “there is a significant risk that many of the trends will accelerate, leading to an increasing risk of abrupt or irreversible climatic shifts.” The panel concluded that rapid, sustained, and effective mitigation is needed immediately, and that “delay in initiating effective mitigation actions increases significantly the long-term social and economic costs of both adaptation and mitigation.” At virtually the same time, a Gallup survey found a significant drop in public concern about global warming, and a record-high 41 percent of Americans saying that the seriousness of global warming is exaggerated.

The Eco-City initiative, undertaken by the EPC over the last two years at Council’s request, is a long-term commitment of the City toward environmental sustainability. It is not just an investment by the City to make Alexandria an even better place to work and live for all current and future Alexandrians; sustainable living will be required if we are to *survive*. Without effective coordination and outreach to all Alexandrians on implementing the Eco-City Charter and Environmental Action Plan, the Eco-City initiative runs the risk of becoming just another plan on a shelf. Thus the EPC feels strongly that despite the budget constraints, an Eco-City Coordinator is a necessary expense, and urges Council to fund the position and to consider pursuing federal money to help pay for this position until budget pressures ease.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on the FY 2010 budget and for your consideration of our recommendations.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Danielle Fidler', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Danielle Fidler  
Chair, Environmental Policy Commission

Cc: James Hartmann, City Manager  
Rich Baier, Director, T&ES  
William Skrabak, Director, Office of Environmental Quality, T&ES

2  
4-13-09



Ripley Forbes  
<rforbes@aol.com>

03/16/2009 03:52 PM

Please respond to  
Ripley Forbes <rforbes@aol.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Please Restore Turf Fields to the current CIP  
budget



**Time: [Mon Mar 16, 2009 15:52:47] IP Address: [66.43.154.83]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Ripley  
**Last Name:** Forbes  
**Street Address:** 3504 Halcyon Drive  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22305  
**Phone:** 703-836-3203  
**Email Address:** rforbes@aol.com  
**Subject:** Please Restore Turf Fields to the current CIP budget

As a resident, taxpayer, youth soccer coach and soccer parent I am urging that you include funds in the current 2010 CIP budget to install artificial turf and lights at Brenman Park. The shortage of fields in Alexandria affects both youth and adult programs. Converting the full size field at Brenman Park and making it available for evening play will be a boon for economic development in this area of the city. No less important, converting the Ben Brenman field will significantly increase the playing time available for the various youth and adult field sport programs.

As a member of the Park and Recreation Commission for more than four years I am aware of the importance of recreation resources to public health. A few years ago, a City-sponsored study by an outside consultant concluded that Alexandria only had half the playing fields that it needed to fulfill the demand, and, as a result, the fields in the City were severely overused and in very poor condition. Since then, the demand for playing fields has only

**Comments:**

grown. The youth population in the City is expected to increase over the next several years, while adults are playing field sports in greater numbers. The shortage of fields for adults is especially chronic as they must play afterwork and lighted fields are in limited supply.

Additional synthetic fields are needed now more than ever. Investing in turf fields is an important investment in our city's bright future.

Please maintain the capital funding for synthetic turf fields and include funds to construct a synthetic turf soccer field with lights at Brenman Park in FY 2010.

Sincerely,

Ripley Forbes  
3504 Halcyon

Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22305

2  
4-13-09



Lisa Witzig  
<Lwitzig@gmail.com>

03/16/2009 04:27 PM

Please respond to  
Lisa Witzig  
<Lwitzig@gmail.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Capital Improvement Budget -- Turf Fields

**Time:** [Mon Mar 16, 2009 16:27:52] **IP Address:** [65.222.202.26]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Lisa

**Last Name:** Witzig

4950 Brenman Park Drive

**Street Address:** #305

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22304

**Phone:** 703.772.6050

**Email Address:** Lwitzig@gmail.com

**Subject:** Capital Improvement Budget -- Turf Fields

Dear Council -

I am a taxpaying citizen in the City of Alexandria. I am

writing to urge you to preserve sufficient funds in teh Capital Improvement

Budget to address the City's critical shortage of playing flieds. I also

urge the Council to approve funding of a new synthetic turf field at

Brenman park during fiscal year 2010.

A few years ago, a City-sponsored

study by and outside consultant concluded taht Alexandria only had half the

playing fields it needed to fulfill the demand, and, as such, the fields in

the City were severely overused and in very poor condition. Since then,

the demand for playing fields has only grown. The youth population in the

**Comments:**

City is expected to peak over the next several years, while adults are

playing sports in greater numbers.

While the City has constructed two

synthetic turf fields with lights, the demand for fields is far from bing

fulfilled. Additional synthetic fields are needed now more than ever.  
Please maintain the capital funding for synthetic turf fields, including  
funds to construct a synthetic turf soccer field with lights at Brenman  
Park in FY10.

Sincerely,  
Lisa W. Witzig

2  
4-13-09



**Antonio Alcala**  
<antonio@thestudioa.com>

03/16/2009 04:41 PM

Please respond to  
Antonio Alcala  
<antonio@thestudioa.com>

To: william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject: COA Contact Us: Capital Improvement Budget



Time: [Mon Mar 16, 2009 16:41:18] IP Address: [69.140.82.176]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Antonio  
**Last Name:** Alcala  
**Street Address:** 417 Queen Street  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:** 703 684-7729  
**Email Address:** antonio@thestudioa.com

**Subject:** Capital Improvement Budget

Dear Mayor Euille and members of the Alexandria City Council,

I am a

taxpaying citizen in the City of Alexandria and a parent of a youth soccer  
player. I am writing to urge you to preserve  
sufficient funds in the

Capital Improvement Budget to address the City's critical shortage of  
playing fields.

A few years ago, a City-sponsored study by an outside  
consultant concluded that Alexandria only had half the playing fields

**Comments:**

that it needed to fulfill the demand, and, as a result, the fields in the

City were severely overused and in very poor condition.  
Since then, the

demand for playing fields has only grown. The youth population in the City  
is expected to peak over the next  
several years, while adults are playing

sports in greater numbers. Please include capital funding for building and



maintaining  
greater numbers of soccer fields in Alexandria in the FY '10

budget.

Sincerely,

Antonio Alcalá



**Michael Helgesen**  
<schmichael33@yahoo.com>

03/16/2009 08:12 PM

Please respond to  
Michael Helgesen  
<schmichael33@yahoo.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delperpe@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Turf Fields

2  
4-13-09

**Time: [Mon Mar 16, 2009 20:12:59] IP Address: [173.79.158.167]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Michael  
**Last Name:** Helgesen  
**Street Address:** 2117 S Monroe St.  
**City:** Arlington  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22204  
**Phone:**  
**Email Address:** schmichael33@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Turf Fields  
I know I am not a resident of Alexandria, but I am a volunteer soccer coach  
for the city soccer league. I  
would strongly encourage you to support  
the completion of more turf soccer fields in the city. Team  
sports has  
been an integral part of my life and upbringing and helped teach me skills  
that I needed to  
succeed in today's world. Adding more playing fields  
**Comments:** will help the community by providing a healthy  
activity for Alexandria  
residents for generations to come. I hope you will support that  
cause.  
Regards,  
A non-Alexandria resident who cares - Michael  
Helgesen



**Diana Forbes**  
<dgtabler@aol.com>

03/16/2009 05:36 PM

Please respond to  
Diana Forbes  
<dgtabler@aol.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Capital Improvement Plan - soccer fields

2  
4-13-09

**Time: [Mon Mar 16, 2009 17:36:38] IP Address: [156.33.124.110]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Diana  
**Last Name:** Forbes  
**Street Address:** 3504 Halcyon Drive  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** Virginia  
**Zip:** 22305  
**Phone:** 703-836-3203  
**Email Address:** dgtabler@aol.com  
**Subject:** Capital Improvement Plan - soccer fields

I am a taxpaying citizen in the City of Alexandria and a parent of a youth soccer player. I am writing to urge you to preserve sufficient funds in the Capital Improvement Budget to address the City's critical shortage of playing fields. I also urge the Council to approve funding of a new synthetic turf field at Brenman Park during fiscal year 2010.

I have been informed that a few years ago, a City-sponsored study by an outside consultant concluded that Alexandria only had half the playing fields that it needed to fulfill the demand, and, as a result, the 20 fields in the City were severely overused and in very poor condition. My daughter grew up on those fields, and I can attest to that conclusion. Visiting teams from other jurisdictions frequently observed the poor condition of Alexandria fields. Since that study, the demand for playing fields has only grown. The youth population in the City is expected to

**Comments:** peak over the next several years, and adults are playing sports in greater numbers.

I commend the City for constructing two synthetic turf fields with lights. The synthetic fields allow more play -- their resilience to rain permits play that would be called off on a grass/dirt field which rapidly devolves to slippery and dangerous mud. The demand for fields is far from being fulfilled. Additional synthetic fields are needed now more than ever. Please maintain the capital funding for synthetic turf fields, including funds to construct a synthetic turf soccer field with lights at Brenman Park in FY '10.

Sincerely,

Diana Forbes

2  
4-13-09



**Ron Vassallo**  
<ron\_vassallo@verizon.net>

03/16/2009 05:25 PM

Please respond to  
Ron Vassallo  
<ron\_vassallo@verizon.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delperpe@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Capital Budget - Need for Additional Playing  
Fields

**Time: [Mon Mar 16, 2009 17:25:32] IP Address: [71.191.24.2]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Ron

**Last Name:** Vassallo

**Street Address:** 9 Potomac Court

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22314

**Phone:** 703.549.1404

**Email Address:** ron\_vassallo@verizon.net

**Subject:** Capital Budget - Need for Additional Playing Fields

I am a taxpaying citizen in the City of Alexandria and a parent of a youth soccer player(s). I am writing to urge you to preserve sufficient funds in the Capital Improvement Budget to address the City's critical shortage of playing fields. In particular, I urge the Council to approve funding of a new synthetic turf field at Brenman Park during fiscal year 2010.

A few

years ago, a City-sponsored study by an outside consultant concluded that Alexandria only had half the playing fields that it needed to fulfill the demand, and, as a result, the fields in the City were severely overused and in very poor condition. Since then, the demand for playing fields has only grown. The youth population in the City is expected to peak over the next several years, while adults are playing sports in greater numbers. Indeed, the new Alexandria Masters Over- 35 Co-Ed Soccer program continues to grow in size and popularity. This last point—the Masters Soccer League—resonates with me personally since it represents one of the great

**Comments:**

All Alexandria community engagement activities. Given that context, it does not surprise me that the League has evolved to include over 100 Alexandria families who recognize the value participation plays in promoting a healthy and physically active community. The availability of lighted fields is especially important to our adult players who are working and would not have the opportunity to play until after 6:30 PM.

While the City has constructed two synthetic turf fields with lights, the demand for fields is far from being fulfilled. Additional synthetic fields are needed now more than ever. Please maintain the capital funding for synthetic turf fields, including funds to construct a synthetic turf soccer field with lights at Brenman Park in FY '10.

Sincerely,

Ron

Vassallo  
9 Potomac Court  
Alexandria, VA 22314

2  
4-13-09



**Terry Androus**  
<tkandrous@gmail.com>

03/16/2009 05:24 PM

Please respond to  
Terry Androus  
<tkandrous@gmail.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: sport fields

**Time: [Mon Mar 16, 2009 17:24:46] IP Address: [69.143.39.73]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Terry

**Last Name:** Androus

**Street Address:** 702 Enderby Dr.

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22302

**Phone:**

**Email Address:** tkandrous@gmail.com

**Subject:** sport fields

I am a taxpaying citizen in the City of Alexandria, a Master's League soccer player, and a parent of 3 youth soccer players. I am writing to urge you to preserve sufficient funds in the Capital Improvement Budget to address the City's critical shortage of playing fields. In particular, I urge the Council to approve funding of a new synthetic turf field at Brenman Park during fiscal year 2010.

A few years ago, a City-sponsored study by an outside consultant concluded that Alexandria only had half the playing fields that it needed to fulfill the demand, and, as a result, the fields in the City were severely overused and in very poor condition. Since then, the demand for playing fields has only grown. The youth population in the City is expected to peak over the next several years, while adults are playing sports in greater numbers. Indeed, the new Alexandria Masters Over- 35 Co-Ed Soccer program continues to grow in size and popularity. Over 100 Alexandria families from across the city

**Comments:**

participate in this league and recognize the value participation plays in promoting a healthy and physically active community. The availability of lighted fields is especially important to our adult players who are working and would not have the opportunity to play until after 6:30 PM.

While the City has constructed two synthetic turf fields with lights, the demand for fields is far from being fulfilled. Additional synthetic fields are needed now more than ever. Please maintain the capital funding for synthetic turf fields, including funds to construct a synthetic turf soccer field with lights at Brenman Park in FY '10.

Sincerely,

Terry

Androus



2  
4-13-09



**Steven Doulis**  
<sdoulis@comcast.net>

03/17/2009 03:26 PM

Please respond to  
Steven Doulis  
<sdoulis@comcast.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Comments on Plans for Ft. Ward Park



**Time: [Tue Mar 17, 2009 15:26:28] IP Address: [165.83.235.242]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Steven  
**Last Name:** Doulis  
**Street Address:** 4007 Ellicott Street  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22304  
**Phone:** 703-671-7424  
**Email Address:** sdoulis@comcast.net  
**Subject:** Comments on Plans for Ft. Ward Park  
Please refer to MS-Word attachment (letter), dated 3/17/09.  
**Comments:** Thank you,  
SD  
**Attachment:** d702e7133ff9a6619422ec255bff87ff.docx



d702e7133ff9a6619422ec255bff87ff.docx

Steven C. Doulis, AIA, Architect  
4007 Ellicott Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22304  
703.671.7424  
sdoulis@comcast.net  
steve\_doulis@nps.gov

March 17, 2009

**Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Pepper, Councilmen Gaines, Krupicka, Lovain, Smedberg and Wilson, City Manager, Staff of the Alexandria Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities, and Fellow Alexandrians:**

I appreciate this opportunity to provide public comment concerning the City's plans at Fort Ward Park. I echo many of the sentiments of people like me, and appreciate their research to document and highlight many of the historical aspects of the Park which have long been unrecognized.

Alexandria, rich in her history, is what attracted my wife, Sophia and I to move to Marlboro Estates in 1991, (re)establish roots and raise our children in this great City. Sophia, being a native Alexandrian and former President of the Alexandria Dental Society, has strong ties both personally and professionally to the many people and places that make this City so unique. Our catharsis with Fort Ward Park, its environs and our neighbors are thus equally strong as you might imagine.

I have had the opportunity to work with the National Park Service (NPS) over the past 26 years. The NPS mission to "preserve and protect our natural and cultural resources while providing facilities for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations" has a shared meaning in the context of our City and Regional Parks, particularly where planning remains to be done. Fort Ward is no exception as *the challenge to balance protection of resources and provide facilities is a formidable one*. Due process in my capacity with NPS has necessitated project presentations for park planning and development before the National Capital Planning Commission, the Washington Commission of Fine Arts, the Corps of Engineers, House and Senate subcommittees, as well as state and local agencies and Friends' groups. In that public service work, transparency and accountability throughout the planning and development process have been cornerstones of successful project implementation. It was disheartening to learn that these things were not happening all along for Fort Ward Park.

I am not writing in an official capacity but as a concerned citizen with something to offer in support of a proactive process to preserve and protect the Fort's extant and yet undiscovered features.

March 17, 2009 - Doulis Letter

It is no secret that the Park Service and the City share many common interests. Each body has had a long history of cooperation with citizens and partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource stewardship. Therefore, Ft. Ward Park, a National Register property, is "an opportunity in our own backyard" to demonstrate that type of cooperation through due process, and due diligence. Through development of the October 2008 plan without much-needed public input, cooperation is unfortunately something that has been exposed as lacking until recently. Fort Ward Park, and her sister Fort Circle Parks throughout the District, Virginia and Maryland, deserve *nothing less*.

We are fortunate that the overwhelming majority of the City's residents who have gone public on this issue have embraced the protection and preservation of the Park, with comments expressed in phone calls, emails, memoranda and throughout deliberations at public meetings. It should be clear to all by now that this is more than just about public permits, decibel levels of amplified music, property values, ignored gravesites, tramped archeological sites, trash, alcohol, drugs, and law enforcement. While all of these issues and others remain extremely important to all of us, a Master Plan for short- and long-term use of the Park is what is desperately needed.

Perhaps the process begins with a detailed survey of the Park, its boundaries, topography, salient features and a first-phase archeological study. While budget cuts are a reality, this is not about what the City cannot afford to do, but rather, what we cannot afford to let happen! The toll of unplanned development and uncontrolled "site improvements" would result not only in irreversible damage to the site and heritage resources, but also represent a disconnection with the community at-large.

We have placed our trust in you, our elected officials and park managers to do the right thing, which we trust you will. To that end, I thank you as a fellow public steward, in advance, for working closely with all stakeholders to effect a long-term solution for Ft. Ward Park. Ideally, this entails a solution that protects *and* celebrates the legacy of the Fort's place during the Civil War, of a culturally diverse community, and of affording future generations the opportunity to experience Fort Ward Park unimpaired.

Sincerely,

/s/

Steven C. Doulis, AIA  
Architect / Sr. Project Manager  
National Park Service  
National Capital Region  
Washington, DC

2  
4-13-09



**Julie Okkema**  
<julieokkema@mac.com>

03/17/2009 05:02 PM

Please respond to  
Julie Okkema  
<julieokkema@mac.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Real Estate Tax Rate Vote April 22, 2008



**Time: [Tue Mar 17, 2009 17:02:22] IP Address: [76.21.202.93]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Julie  
**Last Name:** Okkema  
**Street Address:** 1300 Bishop Lane  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22302-3401  
**Phone:** 703 823-9833  
**Email Address:** julieokkema@mac.com  
**Subject:** Real Estate Tax Rate Vote April 22, 2008

Dear Council Members,

I wish to let you know that in no way do I support

Council in any attempt to raise City property taxes over and above the 4.2

cents per \$100 assessed value as proposed February 10, 2009, by City

Manager Hartmann:

"FY 2010 PROPOSED BUDGET OVERVIEW  
This City

Manager's Proposed Budget decreases total General Fund spending by 7.7

percent or \$43.6  
million below what it would cost to maintain current

City and School services. The budget would decrease  
spending by 3.3% or

\$17.8 million below the FY 2009 Approved budget.  
In accordance with City

Council guidance, the operating transferto the Alexandria City Public

Schools  
would decrease by 2.0% or \$3.4 million from last year's approved

budget and funds managed by the City would decrease 3.85%. This is 0.9

million less than requested by the School Board. As directed by Council

in its budget resolution, the average homeowner's real estate tax burden

will not change. Therefore, the budget proposes that Council increase

the real estate tax rate by 4.2 cents to 88.7 cents per \$100 assessed

value. Since residential property values have decreased, the net effect is

that the amount of the average tax would remain unchanged at \$4,226.

This is less than what the average tax bill was in 2006. "

I

understand Council to be publicly suggesting as much as a 6-cent tax rate

increase per \$100 assessed value (from 84.5 to 90.5 cents). This

**Comments:**

staggering tax rate increase would lead to a 6%-to-6.5% increase in my

property taxes, a whopping \$1000.00 or more in addition to our already

substantial City annual real estate tax payment.

In past prosperous

years, as our real estate taxes essentially doubled, fellow Alexandrian Lou

Cordia wisely and consummately advocated City Council for an annual real

estate tax limit of 3%. He spoke clearly and with many fellow Alexandria

citizens support, that such a limit was necessary to limit our chronically

excessive City budget growth, as it was largely borne on the backs of

City homeowners. Along with and Mr. Cordia and others, I visited City

Council to encourage fiscal restraint during economically prosperous

years. Regrettably, Council did not see its way clear to heed this advice

and as a result real estate tax monies were utilized to grow our City

budget beyond that which was wise and appropriate.

These are enormously  
lean times not just for Alexandria, but for all Alexandrians. I implore you  
not to threaten our fiscal  
well being even more by raising real estate  
taxes in a time of falling house values and great financial upheaval. This  
would  
be onerous and unethical in the extreme, especially given our  
City's real estate citizen tax history.

Sincerely yours,

Julie M.

Okkema  
1300 Bishop Lane  
Alexandria, VA 22302

2  
4-13-09



**Kathy Bower**  
<kathybower@mac.com>

03/18/2009 08:39 AM

Please respond to  
Kathy Bower  
<kathybower@mac.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Soccer Fields



Time: [Wed Mar 18, 2009 08:39:16] IP Address: [69.140.70.250]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Kathy

**Last Name:** Bower

**Street Address:** 106 West Monroe Avenue

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22301

**Phone:** 703-549-8526

**Email Address:** kathybower@mac.com

**Subject:** Soccer Fields

I am a taxpaying citizen in the City of Alexandria and a parent of a youth  
soccer player(s). I am writing to urge you to preserve  
sufficient funds

in the Capital Improvement Budget to address the City's critical shortage

of playing fields. I also urge the  
Council to approve funding of a new

synthetic turf field at Brenman Park during fiscal year 2010.

A few

years ago, a City-sponsored study by an outside consultant concluded that

Alexandria only had half the playing fields  
that it needed to fulfill the

demand, and, as a result, the fields in the City were severely overused and

in very poor condition.

Since then, the demand for playing fields has

**Comments:** only grown. The youth population in the City is expected to peak over the

next

several years, while adults are playing sports in greater numbers.

While the City has constructed two synthetic turf fields with lights, the demand for fields is far from being fulfilled. Additional synthetic fields are needed now more than ever. Please maintain the capital funding for synthetic turf fields, including funds to construct a synthetic turf soccer field with lights at Brenman Park in FY '10.

Sincerely,

Kathy Bower



2  
4-13-09



**Ed Donohue**  
<ed.joellen@mindspring.com>

03/17/2009 07:02 PM

Please respond to  
Ed Donohue  
<ed.joellen@mindspring.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Synthetic Turf fields



**Time:** [Tue Mar 17, 2009 19:02:51] **IP Address:** [69.143.45.102]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Ed  
**Last Name:** Donohue  
**Street Address:** 3634 Duke St  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22304  
**Phone:** 703-823-5877  
**Email Address:** ed.joellen@mindspring.com  
**Subject:** Synthetic Turf fields

I am a taxpaying citizen in the City of Alexandria and a parent of a youth soccer player. I am writing to urge you to preserve sufficient funds in the Capital Improvement Budget to address the critical shortage of playing fields. I also urge the Council to approve funding of a new synthetic turf field at Brenman Park during fiscal year 2010.

A few years ago, a City-sponsored study by an outside consultant concluded that Alexandria only had half the playing fields that it needed to fulfill the demand, and, as a result, the fields in the City were severely overused and in very poor condition. Since then, the demand for playing fields has only grown. The

**Comments:** youth population in the City is expected to peak over the next several years, while adults are playing sports in greater numbers.

While the City has constructed two synthetic turf fields with lights, the demand for fields is far from being fulfilled. Additional synthetic fields are needed

now more than ever. Please maintain the capital funding for synthetic turf fields, including funds to construct a synthetic turf soccer field with lights at Brenman Park in FY '10.

Sincerely,

Ed Donohue

2  
4-13-09



Victoria Bires  
<v\_bires@comcast.net>

03/17/2009 05:34 PM

Please respond to  
Victoria Bires  
<v\_bires@comcast.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,  
cc  
bcc  
Subject COA Contact Us: Proposal to Raise City Property Taxes

Time: [Tue Mar 17, 2009 17:34:38] IP Address: [98.204.142.18]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Victoria

**Last Name:** Bires

**Street Address:** 921 Vicar Lane

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22302

**Phone:** 703-823-0084

**Email Address:** v\_bires@comcast.net

**Subject:** Proposal to Raise City Property Taxes

I do not support any attempt to increase ANY Alexandria homeowner's real estate tax burden at this time. Assessments in the Vicar/Bishop Lane area have decreased by less than 1% while the average decrease city wide was more than 4%. This occurred during a time when there were no sales in our neighborhood what so ever and thus no justification for decreasing our values by LESS than the City wide average. To top it all off, you are

**Comments:** talking about INCREASING our tax rate by a NET 3.4 to 5.2 cents per \$100 assessed value. Just how do you think that the economy is going to grow itself out of this recession if the City of Alexandria is taking MORE money out of our pockets and so there is less for us to put into the economy? I applaud the budget cutting measures which are currently being undertaken, however, asking ANY Alexandria homowner (not just the AVERAGE homeowner) to pay MORE in taxes is ridiculous given the current economic environment.

2  
4-13-09



**Margaret Collard**  
<margaret.collard@kattenlaw.com>

03/18/2009 09:59 AM

Please respond to  
Margaret Collard  
<margaret.collard@kattenlaw.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,  
cc  
bcc  
Subject COA Contact Us: Cutting Services



**Time: [Wed Mar 18, 2009 09:59:06] IP Address: [12.54.0.34]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Margaret  
**Last Name:** Collard  
**Street Address:** 707B Massey Lane  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:** 703-683-1364  
**Email Address:** margaret.collard@kattenlaw.com  
**Subject:** Cutting Services  
Please, please don't cut substance abuse and mental health prevention,  
early intervention and treatment services to Alexandria's  
children.  
These services are valuable and must be maintained.  
These  
**Comments:** services save money by preventing higher levels of services for children  
and families in the future. Recent research indicated that every dollar  
invested in substance-abuse prevention yields \$10 in savings  
Sincerely,

Margaret Collard

2  
4-13-09



**Nancy Harrington-Ksander**  
<nancyharrington@verizon.net>

03/18/2009 04:06 PM

Please respond to  
Nancy Harrington-Ksander  
<nancyharrington@verizon.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,  
cc  
bcc  
Subject COA Contact Us: Raising Property taxes

**Time: [Wed Mar 18, 2009 16:06:31] IP Address: [70.108.47.236]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Nancy  
**Last Name:** Harrington-Ksander  
**Street Address:** 520 South Fairfax St  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:** 703-548-2863  
**Email Address:** nancyharrington@verizon.net  
**Subject:** Raising Property taxes  
Obviously none of you are retired, from companies that have raided your pensions.  
From a declining stock market with dwindling dividends.  
Many of us have lost our health insurance as well.  
Many have lost their jobs.  
Wake up.  
Yet you can keep planning more and higher expenditures that are not necessary for the the residents, homeowners, business owners, taxpayers of our city.  
You make them necessary for your own agenda.  
Time to make your cuts now.  
If it was not needed before, it is not needed now.  
If it is not a necessity, we dont need it.

Be a leader

not a follower.

Stop your wasteful spending.

**Comments:**

Stop the bloody parades

, how many of those visitors use our restaurants and shops?

They are a

huge inconvenience to the people who live here and work here..

We are all

paying the city for the constant clean ups before and after all these so

called

events.

If you have a free trolley service up and down King St

to waterfront, why do you stop it for  
a parade- why not run it down

another street and keep the flow going that day?

Put up temporary signs at

designated stops when needed.

This is becoming a mean city

.....

Even better why not charge a \$1.00 each trip ? That is a

deal these days.....

Stop giving everything away .



**Roberta New**  
<rnew105@aol.com>

04/12/2009 04:44 PM

Please respond to  
Roberta New  
<rnew105@aol.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Budget Cuts, the CSB

2  
4-13-09

**Time: [Sun Apr 12, 2009 16:44:19] IP Address: [205.188.116.77]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Roberta  
**Last Name:** New  
**Street Address:** 105 W Masonic View Avenue  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22301  
**Phone:** 703-683-6955  
**Email Address:** rnew105@aol.com  
**Subject:** Budget Cuts, the CSB

Hello,  
I am writing to ask you to consider restoring funding for the CSB positions/programs recommended for cuts by the city manager. I have served on the Board of the CSB for the past three years. I have, also, worked as a School Psychologist for ACPS and as a Clinical Psychologist in private practice in the city. The CSB serves our most vulnerable citizens who have both mental illness and financial woes. Private practioners in the city can not make up for the work of the CSB because the needs of the people served are so great and go well beyond the weekly psychotherapy visit that is the backbone of private practice. The CSB provides critical services in housing and case management that literally saves lives on a regular basis.

**Comments:** I am especially concerned about the cuts that are recommended for the Child, Youth and Prevention division. This division provides services the children from birth to adulthood. Without the support of important school based therapists and the Homebased services, we may face an even

higher school drop-out rate and more youth crime. This type of prevention will save the city a lot of money in the future and will improve the quality of life for all of us.

Thank you for considering restoring funding to the CSB. I love living and working in Alexandria. Some reasons include the responsiveness of the city government and the values of the community.

Roberta New



2  
4-13-09



**Michele Ellmore**  
<ellmore05@aol.com>

03/29/2009 10:37 AM

Please respond to  
Michele Ellmore  
<ellmore05@aol.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Concession Stand at Little Simpson



**Time:** [Sun Mar 29, 2009 10:37:09] **IP Address:** [98.141.194.97]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Michele  
**Last Name:** Ellmore  
**Street Address:** 1607 Woodbine Street  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22302  
**Phone:** 571-228-1662  
**Email Address:** ellmore05@aol.com  
**Subject:** Concession Stand at Little Simpson

Dear Mayor and Council,  
I am very upset to learn that the snack bar at

Little Simpson field will not be operated this Baseball Season. For the past 8 years that I have been involved with Alexandria Little League the stand has been operated by Lynn Montiel. I can't even express in words how dedicated she is to our players/families. She is there 1-2 hours before every game preparing her "famous hotdogs" and stays until the end of our last game, not to mention takes her time and money to make sure it is fully stocked with all of the snacks our players love. On Saturdays this means she is there from about 8am-9:00pm. There is no possible way that Mrs. Montiel is in this for the money, her dedication to the kids should be honored and not frowned upon. My understanding is that the City wants Ms. Montiel to pay them 10% of her intake. What could that possibly be \$10-20 a day?? Are we really going to take this experience away from our children for this amount of money. Come on we are not talking millions of dollars that the city will cash in on. What makes me more upset is that

**Comments:**

the City of Alexandria has never been cooperative about making repairs to the snack bar area (which by the way is in desperate need of repair) and doesn't want to provide the manpower to run it, nor purchase the supplies to run it but wants to be the first to stick their hands out for money. Then when she didn't agree to it they were the first to close down the operation. Maybe this is not important to the City but this is very important to our children. Especially the younger players who wait for their time to play on the big field and have the same experience as all the other players before them. Thank you for your understanding and hopefully this can be resolved in some way so that our children, once again, are not the ones to be impacted.

2  
4-13-09



**Tina Johnson**  
<tmjohnson13@aol.com>

03/29/2009 10:47 AM

Please respond to  
Tina Johnson  
<tmjohnson13@aol.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Little Simpson Snack Bar

**Time: [Sun Mar 29, 2009 10:47:46] IP Address: [98.141.194.97]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Tina

**Last Name:** Johnson

**Street Address:** 1607 Woodbine Street

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22302

**Phone:** 571 276 2314

**Email Address:** tmjohnson13@aol.com

**Subject:** Little Simpson Snack Bar

Dear Mayor and Conucil,

I am writting this e-mail with a great deal of sadness, disbeleif, frustration, and needless to say anger. It's my understanding that the City of Alexandria has recently decided to take the Little Simpson Snack Bar away from Lynn Monteval unless she gives the cuty 10% of her earnings. I have been a huge fan of the Little League for many years and Ms Monteval has been opertating the snack bar for years, mind you she has spent her money and time to make sure that all the players, friends and family members and needless to say vistors from the outside that come here for games have a nice selection of refreshments . She spends countless # hours of her own time to go purchase everything, bring it to the field and unload it in to the smack bar and then to faithfully be there at least 1 hour prior to the first game of the day, to make sure that everything is prepared and awaiting. Now this is just a breif discription to what she

does and provides for our kids. My concern and frustration is that the City of Alexandria wants 10% of her earnings. I would like to ask each and everyone of you , DO YOU HONESTLY THINK THAT AFTER SHE PURCHASES EVERYTHING

**Comments:** AND THE TIME THAT SHE PUTS IN, THAT THERE IS REALLY A BIG PROFIT? As a tax

payer and a resident of the City of Alexandria, I am not only disgusted but embarrassed that the city in which we live in would do something like this, when in fact the City its self does not take part in providing nothing but a little space that gives her the oppurtunity to give our kids some sort of a snack bar, When in fact you go to other competitor locations that have REAL snack bars. And now with our season getting ready to begin, our kids have no snack bar, and that is very upsetting to them, because they so not understand why Ms Lynn is not able to open there snack bar. In closing I ask each and everyone of you to please reconsider the discission that has been made and let Ms Monteal continue doing what she has been doing for years. I know the City is not that hard up that they really think that they can make any money off her Ms Monteal. And if the decession is not over turned the I strongly suggest that the City do there part and provide a snack bar. And I don't think the city wants to do that, Now do they?

Because that would be to much of a hassel.

Thank you for your Imediate

Attention to this matter.

Tina Johnson

2  
4-13-09



**Tesfaye Amberber**  
<tamberber@yahoo.com>

03/29/2009 08:56 PM

Please respond to  
Tesfaye Amberber  
<tamberber@yahoo.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Substance abuse and mental health prevention,  
early intervention and treatment

**Time: [Sun Mar 29, 2009 20:56:07] IP Address: [98.96.136.38]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Tesfaye

**Last Name:** Amberber

**Street Address:** 4324 Raleigh Avenue #404

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22304

**Phone:** 703-823-1123

**Email Address:** tamberber@yahoo.com

Substance abuse and mental health prevention, early intervention and

**Subject:**

treatment

I am writing this comment in regard to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Prevention, Early Intervention and Treatment Services to Alexandria's Children at Patrick Henry Elementary School. I have attended a number of forums and workshops organized by Ms. Jennifer Landis-Santos. My family is one of the beneficiaries of this service. The program helps connect families with resources, families to the school, counseling students, and implementing the Too Good For Drugs curriculum. Ms. Landis-Santos is very helpful and hardworking person. She helps us find information like, Alexandria summer programs. Here in Alexandria we need more services like this one, not less. Please make this program permanent. Please don't eliminate this important service to our community. If you need more information about this matter please, don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

**Comments:**

2  
4-13-09



**Kim Kaplan**  
<kdherter@yahoo.com>

03/25/2009 09:22 PM

Please respond to  
Kim Kaplan  
<kdherter@yahoo.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Consumer Affairs Office



Time: [Wed Mar 25, 2009 21:22:17] IP Address: [71.191.226.210]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Kim  
**Last Name:** Kaplan  
**Street Address:** 303 E. Glendale Ave  
Apt 3  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22301  
**Phone:** 703-535-3189  
**Email Address:** kdherter@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Consumer Affairs Office  
Please see attached letter from the Consumer Affairs Commission re: cuts to  
**Comments:**  
the budget of the Consumer Affairs Office.  
**Attachment:** 68477fa075c4d62062faad10caf719d0.pdf



68477fa075c4d62062faad10caf719d0.pdf

March 25, 2009

Mayor Euille and Member of the Alexandria City Council  
City of Alexandria  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mayor Eullie, Vice Mayor Pepper, Members of the Alexandria City Council:

At this month's Consumer Affairs Commission meeting, the Commission members discussed changes to the City's Office of Citizen Assistance contained in the City Manager's FY 2010 Proposed Operating Budget. The Proposed Budget effectively closes the City's Consumer Affairs Office by eliminating its core function of processing consumer complaints and by eliminating the Office's only clerical position. The Consumer Affairs Office was already operating at reduced capacity with the transfer of Jacqueline Levy's position to the Communications Office as part of the FY 2009 Budget.

The members of the Consumer Affairs Commission are disappointed by the City Manager's proposal and do not believe the proposed changes will best serve the citizens of Alexandria. We understand that all Alexandria consumer complaints will now be referred to the Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs in Richmond. We are apprehensive about this change because we believe local government is best equipped to deal with local issues. In addition, there is no process in place to follow up on local complaints referred to the State. In other words, when the City of Alexandria receives a consumer complaint from one of its citizens and refers that complaint to the State, there is no mechanism in place to assure that the complaint is dealt with and the resolution is communicated to the City. Without a follow up mechanism, some Alexandria residents might be discouraged altogether from making complaints, and their needs will go unmet.

The City of Alexandria provides a vital and necessary service by resolving consumer issues locally. Last year, the Consumer Affairs office received **390** consumer complaints and assisted **14,634** citizens. While accomplishing this, the office recovered **\$65,557** on behalf of Alexandria citizens. We believe these numbers speak for themselves and validate the critical need served by the Consumer Affairs office. We urge you to reconsider the City Manager's proposal. The citizens of Alexandria deserve an engaged, committed government that is focused on resolving citizen complaints, addressing unfair, fraudulent and dangerous business practices and preventing unfair trade practices-

Sincerely,

The Members of the Consumer Affairs Commission

Kim Kaplan, Karyn Kenny, Debra Monahan, Katherine Philipp, Sonya Sacks, Karen Silberman,  
James Sullivan, Stephen Tornone, Karen Woody

cc: James K. Hartmann, City Manager  
Bruce Johnson, Director of Management and Budget  
Rose Boyd, Office of Citizen Assistance



**Early Childhood Commission**  
A cooperative effort  
City of Alexandria and Alexandria City Public Schools

2  
4-13-09

2525 Mt. Vernon Avenue  
Alexandria, Virginia 22301  
(703) 838-0875

March 24, 2009

The Honorable William D. Euille  
Mayor, City of Alexandria  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Dear Mayor Euille:

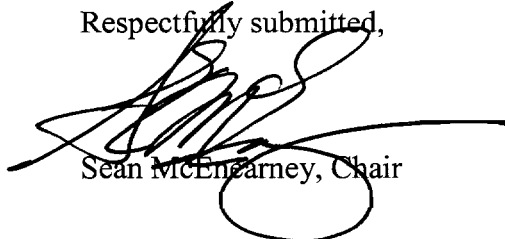
At their monthly meeting on March 16, the Early Childhood Commission approved the following recommendations regarding the city manager's proposed FY 2010 budget:

- That City Council restore funding for the Children's Fund to the FY 2009 level;
- That City Council set-aside the restored funding to help clear the Child Day Care Fee System (Fee System) waiting list if stimulus funds are not available for that purpose; and
- That, if the \$828,240 in stimulus funding that the City has requested is made available to address the waiting list, City Council authorize the use of the restored funding to serve families that have lost eligibility for the Fee System because one or both parents have lost their jobs

The Alexandria Early Childhood Commission would support a tax increase that would make the restoration of these funds possible. One of the biggest challenges for families in this difficult financial climate is the loss of employment and, after 30 days, the loss of their child care. Disruptions in child care placements make it difficult for parents to look for work and have a negative impact on children. Localities have asked the Virginia Department of Social Services to consider extending the time agencies may continue to fund a child's placement when a parent loses their job, from 30 to 60 days, but even sixty days may not be enough time for some families.

In these uncertain times, it is important that City programs be flexible and responsive to the needs of families. We thank you for your willingness to consider our recommendations. If you have any questions, please contact me at 703-635-4407 or by email at [smceneaney@mceneaney.com](mailto:smceneaney@mceneaney.com).

Respectfully submitted,



Sean McEneaney, Chair



cc: Redella S. Pepper, Vice Mayor  
Ludwig P. Gaines, Councilman  
Rob Krupicka, Councilman  
Timothy B. Lovain, Councilmember  
Paul C. Smedberg, Councilman  
Justin M. Wilson, Councilman  
James K. Hartmann, City Manager  
Debra R. Collins, Assistant City Manager for Community and Human Services



**Kimberly Winters**  
<kimberly.winters@verizon.net>  
>

03/24/2009 02:41 PM

Please respond to  
Kimberly Winters  
<kimberly.winters@verizon.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Colasanto Pool

2  
4-13-09

**Time: [Tue Mar 24, 2009 14:41:24] IP Address: [70.17.126.195]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Kimberly  
**Last Name:** Winters  
**Street Address:** 109 A East Raymond Avenue  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22301  
**Phone:** 7038378189  
**Email Address:** kimberly.winters@verizon.net  
**Subject:** Colasanto Pool

Dear Mayor Euille and Council Members:

We live just down the street from

Colasanto Pool and have found it to be an invaluable summer resource for us. I have heard that it is at risk of being shut down and write to you with hopes of influencing you to decide otherwise.

My daughters and I

used the pool many, many days last summer, typically from 4-6 pm. However, if it was open earlier in the day we would have happily been there then as well. We often met friends at the pool and enjoyed it tremendously. It obviously has been a great summer recreation for many of us in the area including kids who have camp at the Rec Center and other programs.

**Comments:**

I

would be more than happy to pay a fee to use the pool if that would enable it to stay open. I think the large majority of us would. I also would recommend that it open earlier - 10 am would be ideal. In addition it

would be an ideal location for swim lessons through the city or a private vendor, as these classes are in high demand and offered less frequently than many of us would like.

Please let me know if I can help with the effort to keep the pool open.

Sincerely,  
Kim Winters

2  
4-13-09



**Donald Scott**  
<dscott601@hotmail.com>

03/24/2009 12:00 PM

Please respond to  
Donald Scott  
<dscott601@hotmail.com>

To [william.euille@alexandriava.gov](mailto:william.euille@alexandriava.gov), [timothylovain@aol.com](mailto:timothylovain@aol.com),  
[councilmangaines@aol.com](mailto:councilmangaines@aol.com), [council@krupicka.com](mailto:council@krupicka.com),  
[dellepper@aol.com](mailto:dellepper@aol.com), [paulcsmedberg@aol.com](mailto:paulcsmedberg@aol.com),  
cc  
bcc  
Subject COA Contact Us: Fire Department Budget



Time: [Tue Mar 24, 2009 12:00:38] IP Address: [71.191.194.245]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Donald  
**Last Name:** Scott  
**Street Address:** 175 N. Paxton St  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22304  
**Phone:** 240-381-8389  
**Email Address:** dscott601@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Fire Department Budget  
Attached letter for your consideration.  
**Comments:** Thanks  
Don Scott  
**Attachment:** 4f3eeaea04c2f7785dcc601497d3a6ca.doc



4f3eeaea04c2f7785dcc601497d3a6ca.doc

March 24, 2009  
Honorable Mayor William D. Euille  
301 King St  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Honorable Mayor William D. Euille and Members of City Council

As the City of Alexandria and the nation face a severe economic crisis, Alexandria's Emergency Medical Services providers understand the challenges that confront city leaders. But we also know firsthand the challenges that face the fire department, and we urge you to continue to fully fund the department and not make cuts that could jeopardize the safety of its employees and Alexandria's visitors and citizens.

Less than two years ago, city officials hired a new fire chief. Chief Thiel has led several long overdue changes to this department, but the effort is far from over. He has increased the administrative staff required to run a well-equipped and highly trained department in the city. Under his direction, the department has a new strategic plan for the future and is beginning to implement it. But much more work is needed. Several expert consultants have said that the fire department is understaffed at almost every level. This year, we plan to open our first new station in more than three decades, but many of the others are in a state of disrepair. Our firefighters and medics who live and work in those stations have performed valiantly for years, providing a high level of service to the city despite often utilizing outdated equipment and being shorthanded. Those employees cannot be expected to do so much with so little forever. Any cuts to the fire department's budget in the next fiscal year would not mean operating at a 2009 level in 2010; this would mean that a decade into the 21st century, Alexandria's firefighters, dispatchers and medics would still be working in a 20th-century department.

As council considers funding for the Alexandria Fire Department, remember that the safety and lives of its employees and the city's residents are at stake. Chief Thiel, his staff, and the entire department have worked hard over the past 18 months to make the department what it needs to be to protect a densely-packed, diverse city that sits next to the nation's capital. Taking money away from these efforts this year and in future years will put the department right back where it was two years ago--with devoted staff providing the best service possible despite a crumbling infrastructure and outdated technology. Don't let this happen again. Please keep the fire department's funding where it needs to be in order to make Alexandria a leader in EMS and fire and rescue services in order to protect the city's property, its visitors, and its residents.

Respectfully,

Donald Scott  
President  
Alexandria Medics Association

cc: City Manager James K. Hartman  
Fire Chief Adam K. Thiel

2

4-13-09



**Hester Lawver**  
<hfmlawver@hotmail.com>

03/20/2009 10:51 AM

Please respond to  
Hester Lawver  
<hfmlawver@hotmail.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: N. Colasanto Pool

**Time: [Fri Mar 20, 2009 10:51:03] IP Address: [151.188.18.46]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Hester

**Last Name:** Lawver

**Street Address:** 200 E Randolph Ave

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22301

**Phone:** 703-549-0561

**Email Address:** hfmlawver@hotmail.com

**Subject:** N. Colasanto Pool

I recently discovered that the N. Colasanto Pool is slated to be closed this summer. I love this pool. I have taken neighbors' children there and have met many people from the neighborhood there. It is a great opportunity to increase the neighborhood feel of our area, something that my husband and I considered when purchasing our home here two years ago.

With the birth of our first child this summer, my husband and I plan on introducing the baby to the water as soon as possible. This pool is in a fantastic location for us and many in our neighborhood.

I have

**Comments:** also seen that the summer program at the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center uses the pool. Closing this pool will limit not only the immediate neighborhood's access, but also the Rec Center's use.

I would like to make an alternative suggestion. Instead of closing a very popular and much

used pool, perhaps you could charge a minimal fee and/or limit the hours (perhaps only open Tues-Thurs, 12-7?) This would still reduce costs and would allow for the families in the area to still use the pool.

Please

reconsider closing this pool. It is an important connection during the summer for many of our neighborhood children.



2  
4-13-09



**Joaquin Perez**  
<joaquin.perez@acps.k12.va.us>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

03/20/2009 01:04 PM

cc

Please respond to  
Joaquin Perez  
<joaquin.perez@acps.k12.va.us>

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Plea to protect prevention funds



**Time: [Fri Mar 20, 2009 13:04:59] IP Address: [206.158.3.10]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Joaquin  
**Last Name:** Perez  
**Street Address:** 4643 Taney Avenue  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22304  
**Phone:** 703 461-4326  
**Email Address:** joaquin.perez@acps.k12.va.us

**Subject:** Plea to protect prevention funds

This is a plea to the elected officials of Alexandria City to please do everything possible to avoid cutting the funding for important prevention positions within our schools. In particular, the prevention work of Ms. Landis-Santos who works in a grant-funded position at Patrick Henry Elementary School has been excellent. She performs vitally important outreach work to some of our most needy and struggling families. Since she speaks Spanish, she has been able to offer our many Spanish-speaking parents many useful and informative workshops on various prevention topics.

**Comments:** Over the long run, every dollar spent in prevention typically saves \$10 or more on the treatment side. Ms. Landis-Santos' s work is vital to keeping our school and community drug-free and safe. I urge you to preserve the funding for her position, or find the funds elsewhere.

Respectfully

submitted,

Joaquin Perez, LCSW  
School Social worker

Patrick Henry

Elementary School

703 461-4326



**Martha Sharpton**  
<martha.sharpton@acps.k12.va.us>

03/20/2009 03:24 PM

Please respond to  
Martha Sharpton  
<martha.sharpton@acps.k12.va.us>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delperpe@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,  
cc  
bcc  
Subject COA Contact Us: Student Assistance Counselor position

2  
4-13-09

Time: [Fri Mar 20, 2009 15:24:03] IP Address: [206.158.3.10]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Martha  
**Last Name:** Sharpton  
**Street Address:** Patrick Henry ES  
Taney Avenue  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** Virginia  
**Zip:** 22304  
**Phone:** 703-461-4170  
**Email Address:** martha.sharpton@acps.k12.va.us  
**Subject:** Student Assistance Counselor position

Good Afternoon,

I am the school counselor at Patrick Henry Elementary School. I am writing to urge you all to please NOT cut funding for substance abuse and mental health prevention/early intervention for our students. More specifically, I am writing to express my gratitude and appreciation for all the hard work done in these areas by our Student Assistance Counselor from the Community Services Board, Ms. Jennifer Landis- Santos. Cutting her position, or any other similar positions, would be a travesty and detrimental to our children!

Ms. Landis-Santos has become an integral, and crucial part, of our Patrick Henry community. In addition to implementing the "Too Good for Drugs" program, she has helped us immensely communicate and foster relationships with Spanish speaking families. She gives them a "voice", empowers them to

**Comments:**

become active participants in their children's education, and helps develop the parent-school partnership that is so crucial to student's success. Ms. Landis-Santos also helps provide individual and group counseling to children, and she coordinates outside services and therapy when needed. She has arranged for many families to get food and clothes when they have none, and mental health services when needed. Her familiarity and knowledge of resources in the area, and her ability to coordinate such services, has helped our families immensely!

Please remember that prevention services save taxpayers money! Recent research indicates that every dollar invested in substance-abuse prevention yields \$10 in savings. If children are not helped now, things will only get worse as they mature. Prevention and early intervention services for students in need is paramount in creating happy, healthy children, who are the future citizens of our city/state/country.

I realize that the issue probably is not the importance of such services, but a matter of funding. I urge you to install parking meters, and charge parking fees at certain lots. This could help the city make more money, thus allowing more funding to programs.

Thank

you for taking the time to read this email!

Sincerely,  
Martha

Sharpton

2  
4-13-09



**Bud Miller**  
<ersalexandria@msn.com>

03/23/2009 07:48 AM

Please respond to  
Bud Miller  
<ersalexandria@msn.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Censorship: The petition you are about to receive



**Time: [Mon Mar 23, 2009 07:48:53] IP Address: [173.101.193.118]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Bud  
**Last Name:** Miller  
**Street Address:** 115-D South Saint Asaph Street  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:** (703) 684-5312  
**Email Address:** ersalexandria@msn.com

**Subject:** Censorship: The petition you are about to receive  
Mr. Mayor, Vice Mayor, Members of City Council,

You will likely receive

the results of an electronic petition regarding the budget and tax levels  
in the near future from a group entitled Taxpayers United for Budget Equity  
in Alexandria.

The link to this petition

is:  
<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/TaxpayersUnitedForBudgetEquity/?e>

Please be informed of three points:

1. This group is not related to  
Alexandria Taxpayers United in any way whatsoever.
2. The petition

**Comments:** originally allowed respondents to post comments expressing their points of  
view. A number of low tax advocates, my wife and myself included, signed

the petition with the intent of expressing a low tax opinion in the comments section. Our comments were removed, but our names were retained on the petition creating a substantial misrepresentation of our views.

3. Were our statements so powerful and effective that this new group had to resort to censorship? Don't they respect Freedom of Speech?

Please keep this information in mind when and if you receive the petition.

Thank you for your consideration.

2  
4-13-09



**Michelle Andreoli**  
<michelle.andreoli@acps.k12.va.us>

03/19/2009 04:25 PM

Please respond to  
Michelle Andreoli  
<michelle.andreoli@acps.k12.va.us>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Services for Alexandria's Children



**Time: [Thu Mar 19, 2009 16:25:14] IP Address: [206.158.3.10]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Michelle  
**Last Name:** Andreoli  
**Street Address:** Patrick Henry Elementary School  
4643 Taney Avenue  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22304  
**Phone:** 703-461-4170  
**Email Address:** michelle.andreoli@acps.k12.va.us  
**Subject:** Services for Alexandria's Children

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, and City Council Members,  
I am a special education

teacher at Patrick Henry Elementary School. I am writing to urge you not to cut substance abuse, mental health prevention, early intervention and treatment services to Alexandria's children. This year I have had the extreme pleasure to work with Ms. Jennifer Landis-Santos at Patrick Henry. She has been a valuable member of our team. Ms. Landis-Santos has not only provided valuable substance abuse prevention to my students, but served as a viable parent resource. She has serviced all of our families by providing inservices to parents on effective parenting skills, employment opportunities, as well as special education rights. She has provided many of my student's families with clothing, food, and acted as a parent

**Comments:** advocate during conferences and/or meetings. Her approach with the families not only gets their personal needs met, but also allows for the families to become independent and proactive members of our community. The elimination

of her position would adversely affect the families at Patrick Henry and the Alexandria community. Prevention services save money. Recent research indicated that every dollar invested in substance-abuse prevention yields ten dollars in savings. I suggest that instead of eliminatinating prevention services that the city eliminate free parking between North Fairfax to North Asaph Streets as well as Montgomery to Pendleton Streets. The city could install multi-space meters and start charging parking fees in the interest of saving money.  
Thank you,  
Michelle Andreoli





"Drudi, Dino - BLS"  
<Drudi.Dino@bls.gov>  
04/07/2009 02:00 PM

To <jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov>  
cc <contactus@alexandriava.gov>  
bcc

Subject Request to Speak at 13 April City Council Budget Hearing

2  
-----  
4-13-09

Text of statement [to be included in the record if I am absent]:

The Mayor and City Council need to understand that the coming fiscal year's budget crisis comes within the context of an impending economic depression. Although authorities have thus far been loathe to use that term, it is and will be recognized retrospectively as such. Leading economist Robert Samuelson conceded in a recent Washington Post op-ed that this economic downturn's characteristics resemble the Great Depression's. One key example: unlike a normal recession, where consumers just keep spending and put it on their credit cards, consumers and businesses instead are retrenching; as they retrench, demand falls and causes businesses to lay off employees, further cutting consumption, further lessening demand, leading to more layoffs in an unstoppable self-feeding downward spiral.

Were ever there a circumstance to empty the rainy day fund, this is it. Except for the very elderly who lived through the Great Depression, this is the most dire contraction our lifetimes will see. During such a contraction, needs for some services will increase, so the city needs to be prepared to fund those increases from the rainy day fund, which should be drawn down to zero over the next three fiscal years. For example, the city should fund the proposed \$250,000 DASH cut from rainy day funds. To further save money, DASH should take over the Alexandria portion of the 10A/10B Metrobus routes. Other examples are library and recreation center funding because cash strapped families and individuals will need to rely more heavily on these services.

Budget cuts are a double-edged sword when city staff layoffs contribute to unemployment and retrenchments contribute to reduced city spending on goods and services. They must be judiciously carried out in concert with rainy day fund drawdowns. Except where stimulus funds can cover capital costs, these should be postponed except for critical infrastructure in danger of failing if not replaced. The city cannot cut repairs and maintenance and, where relatively inexpensive repairs can obviate replacement for a few years, the city might more heavily even rely on repairs. For example, the city would replace hazardously heaved sidewalks and prune out dangerous street tree branches, but might discontinue planting new trees until the budget climate improves.

The city also has to be fiscally realistic. Just as the stimulus bill contained yet another federal tax cut, the city should hesitate to increase any tax rate, including shell-game increases such as increasing the property tax rate to offset declining housing values: the city does not, after all, decrease the tax rate when property values escalate. Tax increases, moreover, may push some marginal mortgage holders into foreclosure. The city also should target for reduction, to the extent legally allowed, services disproportionately used by those illegally in our country. The jobs they vacate, if forced by economic circumstance to return to their homelands, are jobs hard-pressed Americans will need in hard times and the services they consume are ones hard-pressed Alexandrians can ill afford to underwrite.

Failing to empty the rainy day fund now reduces it to merely a fraud. What purpose has the rainy day fund if not used for the rainiest day most of us have or ever will see? Are we holding onto it in case Alexandria is hit by a meteor?

Respectfully submitted,  
Dino Drudi  
315 N West Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

2  
4-13-09



**Kathleen Pepper**  
<jcleoblack@gmail.com>

04/07/2009 04:22 PM

Please respond to  
Kathleen Pepper  
<jcleoblack@gmail.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Archaeological Commission Recommendations  
on 2010 budget



Time: [Tue Apr 07, 2009 16:22:51] IP Address: [206.113.148.2]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Kathleen  
**Last Name:** Pepper  
**Street Address:** 5320 thayer Ave  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22304  
**Phone:** 703.305-0385  
**Email Address:** jcleoblack@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Archaeological Commission Recommendations on 2010 budget  
April 7, 2009

Dear Mayor Euille and City Council Members:

After

reviewing the proposed City budget for FY2010, the Alexandria  
Archaeological Commission (AAC) recommends keeping the Research Historian  
position in the Office of Historic Alexandria and not reducing the staff  
and hours of use for the Alexandria Library's Local History Special  
Collections.

The AAC recognizes that Alexandria, along with the rest  
of the nation, faces reduced revenues and difficult financial choices.  
However, the AAC believes that preserving the position of Research  
Historian and ensuring that City residents, researchers, scholars and  
interested persons have reasonable access to the Alexandria's Special  
Collections are important and benefit the City and those who rely upon its

expertise in historical research, preservation and tourism/education. These staff positions and public hours are the mainstay and foundation of the City's history—used by many departments of thousands of people who travel from across the country and the world. [Yes, one professor comes from Australia to study Alexandria's excellently preserved voting records leading to a landmark scholarly study and grant application for public web access.]

Michael Miller is a pre-eminent scholar and as Research Historian his legacy and significant body of work, both in quantity and quality, will enrich and guide future researchers, preservationists and residents in search of greater knowledge. Without his work, the City would be significantly poorer in knowledge about Alexandria's political history, its mayors and city managers, and how the government has worked over time. Many streets and areas, such as King Street and the Waterfront, would have little to no history compiled and available. If Alexandria had not had a Research Historian, the Freedmen's Cemetery and its approximate 1800 burials would remain forgotten, unknown, and unconnected to the City to which its inhabitants sought freedom. The position of Research Historian is important to a City that prides itself on its past and the retirement of Michael Miller should not result in the elimination of this position that he so ably filled.

There is much still remaining to learn about Alexandria earliest days, African American life, maritime activities, etc. And, there is much research to do so that every Small Area Plan has accurate history for preservation planning purposes. It falls to the Research Historian to answer the questions asked by City Council and the City Manager, to provide information for exhibits—such as the current, and ground-breaking "Securing the Blessing of Liberty" exhibit at the Black History Museum—and to find connections and relationships between disparate events. There is much 20th century history that needs to be researched, compiled, and disseminated while at the same time ensuring that myths about the past are not perpetuated due to the absence of historical research. In

addition, much of the history conducted to date is not available online and without a Research Historian, has not chance of being scanned for online use or copied for placement and use in the City's libraries. Moreover, the City's Small Area Plans, through which most planning operates, includes little history to assist in planning or re-structuring of the Plans, and the absence of a Research Historian will ensure that history of many areas in the City remains excluded or minimized in planning. The duties of the Research Historian cannot be fulfilled through scattering of the responsibilities to other persons or entities. Rather, the duties are best suited to one person who can serve as a resource for City Council, the City Manager's Office, City departments, the Office of Historic Alexandria, as well as for residents and other interested citizens and groups. Who will lead the study needed to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War (2011-1015) that should bring in thousands of tourists to the City?

**Comments:**

In

addition, the proposed cuts in the City budget for use of the Alexandria Library's Local History Special Collections significantly impact the public's ability to use those collections for research. A reduction of staff to only two people who will open the collections for use three days a week with only a single weekend day each month adversely affects people's opportunities to conduct research, particularly if they work a traditional Monday to Friday job or attend school during the week. Alexandria's Special Collections are an important repository of information about the City's history which has taken years to consolidate into one accessible location. Very little of the collections are available online so there is no viable alternative to personal use of the Special Collections. Unlike other branches of the library, the materials in Special Collections are not available elsewhere in the City.

Both proposed reductions hit doubly

hard for City departments who will no longer be able to ask the Research Historian for information and must, instead, conduct research themselves or

inform the public that they cannot answer questions. For example, Alexandria Archaeology and the staff of the Board of Architectural Review not only utilize the resources of the Research Historian, they also use the Special Collections to research answers to questions posed by the public, as well as to conduct historical research and find old photographs relevant to their missions. With no Research Historian and significantly reduced hours for use of the Special Collections, City staff will have greater difficulty in fulfilling their duties. Likewise, the research volunteers at Alexandria Archaeology and other Office of Historic Alexandria departments will have difficulty utilizing the collections, especially if they are open only one Saturday each month. This will adversely impact important African American studies, such as dealing with freedmen associated with the Freedmen Cemetery Memorial and those associated with the Fort Ward Park freedmen's community. In addition, any Waterfront Planning must include an understanding of waterfront history, but that research is made much more difficult by the absence of a Research Historian and the limited hours for use of the Special Collections.

The practical effects of the proposed reductions do not appear to have been considered. The reduction in hours means that the many people who use the collections will be condensed resulting in larger numbers of people using the collections in fewer hours per week. If the collections are open for use for only 24 hours each week, how will the number of people who use the collections be accommodated in terms of seating, photocopying on the one photocopy machine, and librarian assistance? What will people do who travel to Alexandria for access, yet they have to spend twice the time or more. The City's Special Collections need to be reasonably and readily accessible to those who need to use the collections and the proposed reduction in staff and hours fails to make the collection reasonably and readily accessible.

For the above reasons, the Alexandria Archaeological Commission urges that the position of Research Historian be retained in the

FY2010 budget and that the staffing and hours for use of the Alexandria Library's Local History Special Collections be maintained at its current 2009 level.

Sincerely,

S. Kathleen Pepper,

Chair  
Alexandria Archaeological Commission

2  
4-13-09



**Katy Cannady**  
<Katy\_Cannady20@comcast.net>  
>

04/07/2009 10:27 AM

Please respond to  
Katy Cannady  
<Katy\_Cannady20@comcast.net>

To william.cuille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Budget - what to cut and what to save



**Time: [Tue Apr 07, 2009 10:27:46] IP Address: [98.218.172.210]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Katy  
**Last Name:** Cannady  
**Street Address:** 20 East Oak Street  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22301  
**Phone:** 703 549-9386  
**Email Address:** Katy\_Cannady20@comcast.net

**Subject:** Budget - what to cut and what to save  
I have just seen an e-mail that is circulating about severe cuts in city bus service. I'm going to assume the information is accurate, although I'd be happy to learn that it isn't.  
I haven't ridden a DASH bus in several years, but I would urge you not to make severe cuts in this service. Poor people, especially the working poor, desperately need this service. So do disabled people and elderly people who can't drive. If routes must be cut or the number of trips reduced, then the city must at a minimum post signs at the bus stops in English and Spanish well ahead of the cuts or trip reductions to tell riders at what point they'll need to make other arrangements.  
To replace money saved by not doing severe cuts in bus service, I suggest no bonuses or cost of living raises of any kind for city employees. In fact I think every city employee earning over \$100,000

**Comments:** should receive a five per cent pay cut. I was a Federal civil servant for



my entire working life. I'm certainly in sympathy with the idea that public service at any level should be well paid. But these are special times and the first aim of the budget should be to reduce actual suffering and hardship.

The cost of living is decreasing for anyone with a secure stable source of income. To say that our top level employees would leave if they didn't get pay increases repeats the argument made on behalf of the Wall Street millionaires. Our city employees are all better people than that, but other government and private organizations that normally hire people with the skill sets of our upper level city employees aren't hiring very many people right now. Alexandria could keep pay the same or even reduce it slightly without suffering many losses. Again, your first aim in times like these should be to reduce actual suffering.



"Brenda D'Sylva"  
<Chaiforme@Verizon.net>

03/30/2009 03:52 PM

Please respond to  
"Brenda D'Sylva"  
<Chaiforme@Verizon.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Watson Wyatt Summary Report

2  
4-13-09

**Time:** [Mon Mar 30, 2009 15:52:50] **IP Address:** [206.113.148.2]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Brenda  
**Last Name:** D'Sylva  
**Street Address:** 181 E. Reed Avenue #111  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** Virginia  
**Zip:** 22305  
**Phone:** 703-329-6761  
**Email Address:** Chaiforme@Verizon.net  
**Subject:** Watson Wyatt Summary Report

On Feb 18 you were given a brief summary report of the draft Watson-Wyatt benefits study. The primary finding in that report is that, in terms of fringe benefits packages, general employees are ranked 1st and public safety employees ranked 4th among comparator jurisdictions. Our concern, which we expressed to Human Resources Director Cheryl Orr on the afternoon prior to the Council meeting, was that the study should not be forwarded to Council without a review by City staff and the consultants. Our fear was that Council members would take the findings and begin to develop conclusions and policies prematurely. It is only nature for anyone to see the findings in print and make judgements based on those findings. I believe that the preliminary report does not accurately represent the employees or the employer.

In early March, we were provided with copies of the Watson Wyatt draft benefits reports, which we have carefully read and analyzed. On March 26, we met with Watson Wyatt consultants, and

collectively, we affirmed our analyses regarding the Watson Wyatt draft report on fringe benefits. The Watson Wyatt consultants acknowledged to some degree and affirmed our analysis and confirmed the following statements:

1. The "value" rankings in the study do not represent value at all. They reflect the relative costs of each plan design to each comparison jurisdiction, assuming that their benefit plans were applied to the Alexandria employee population (which is an admittedly imprecise application in certain respects).

2. The draft report ranks Alexandria general employees 1st for retirement benefits. This merely means that Alexandria concentrates its city contributions for fringe benefits more heavily in the pension area than in health insurance, or life insurance, or other areas. It is not a measure of the value or quality of City employee retirement benefits.

3. The rankings do not indicate that Alexandria spends more or less than other localities on retirement benefits, and it does not mean that Alexandria employees have the best, or better, retirement benefits than other jurisdictions.

**Comments:**

The pension plans are different. Arlington provides a greater contribution to the 401a plan than they charge employees for the base pension, plus Arlington gives an additional 457 match. Alexandria charges its employees zero for their base pension, and contributes zero to the 457 plan. Because Alexandria spends relatively more on the base pension plan than Arlington does, Alexandria is ranked #1 by the consultants. Because Alexandria spends nothing on its employees' defined benefit (457/401) plans, Alexandria is ranked #4.

No two plans in the comparator groups are the same. In addition, for any locality that offers a 401 or 457 option, the value of the pension benefit depends on investment market factors, whether the governments contribute, how much the employee saves, and other factors

that, we submit, would be very difficult to rank in terms of which is better.

We also learned that Montgomery County's defined benefit pension was excluded from the analysis, and that major differences between health insurance plans are not reflected in the Watson Wyatt draft report.

We urged the consultants to remove "value" from their characterization of the rankings, and to clearly present the rankings as relative cost distributions, rather than create a misleading impression of quality and/or value to employees or employers.


The committee for close to 18 months has worked in good faith with the Watson Wyatt consultants. I very much appreciate Council's support and encouragement for this study. I feel that we have been misrepresented in this report.

I would like to meet with you to discuss this and other ideas or concerns you may have in the current budget environment.  
Thank you.

2  
4-13-09



Marlene Jones/Alex  
03/31/2009 03:41 PM

To City Clerk City Council Staff  
cc Sandy Modell/Alex@Alex,  
ADorman@meetingsandeventsof distinction.com,  
Bdixon@arlingtonva.us, curlycoat1@verizon.net, Catherine  
bcc  
Subject ATC Board Action on Proposed FY 2010 Transit Subsidy  
Reduction  




Alexandria Transit Company  
116 South Quaker Lane  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
  
703-370-3274 (DASH)  
703-370-3404 (fax)  
www.dashbus.com

**March 31, 2009**

**MEMORANDUM for The Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council**

The ATC Board of Directors took the following action at its meeting on March 26, 2009:

The Board tentatively approved the General Manager's recommendations for meeting the City Manager's proposed FY 2010 transit subsidy reductions through \$274,250 in cost saving budget reductions and \$262,211 in service reductions and restructurings.

1. Proposed budget reductions include the following cost savings:

- \$220,000 by reducing the projected cost of fuel from \$2.60 a gallon to \$2.00 a gallon.
- \$42,000 by freezing merit step increases. However, operator and mechanic pay scales will still be adjusted to maintain competitive wages with respect to the other local bus systems.
- \$12,250 by deferring replacement of 1999 non-revenue relief car with 71,000 miles.

2. Proposed service reductions and restructuring plan include:

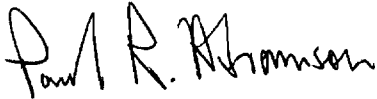
- Elimination of weekday midday, Saturday and Sunday service on the AT3-4 Loop between the Braddock Road Metro Station and City Hall and Hunting Towers.
- Elimination of weekday midday and Saturday service on the AT4 route
  - Service to the Lee Center would be eliminated during these periods with no service on South Royal, Gibbon and Franklin Streets, South Payne, Jefferson and South Fayette Streets.
  - Service between Slaters Lane and the Braddock Road Metro Station will be provided by an extension of the AT2 during off-peak periods.

Elimination of weekday midday, Saturday and Sunday service on the AT2 route along King Street between the King Street Metro Station and the Braddock Road Metro Station.

Service between Bashford Lane and the Braddock Road Metro Station will be provided by an extension of the AT2 route during off-peak periods.

A public hearing on the proposed service changes will be held on Thursday, April 23, 2009, at 5:30 p.m., in the Sister Cities Conference Center, Room 1101, of City Hall.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul R. Abramson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and "A".

Paul R. Abramson  
Chairman



**Jennifer Barrons-Avila**  
<jenniferbarrons@comcast.net>

03/30/2009 12:59 PM

Please respond to  
Jennifer Barrons-Avila  
<jenniferbarrons@comcast.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Cora Kelly Rec Center Summer Program

2  
4-13-09

**Time: [Mon Mar 30, 2009 12:59:54] IP Address: [216.109.69.20]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Jennifer  
**Last Name:** Barrons-Avila  
**Street Address:** 315A Laverne Avenue  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22305  
**Phone:** 703-582-0321  
**Email Address:** jenniferbarrons@comcast.net  
**Subject:** Cora Kelly Rec Center Summer Program  
Dear Mayor Euille and Respected Council Members:

I am a parent of two

children that attend Cora Kelly Math, Science and Technology Magnet School in Alexandria City. Our home is located within the school's boundaries and my children are NOT lottery-ed in.

It has been reported to me that

the Cora Kelly Rec Center's Summer Program will only operate from 9am-5pm daily. As a participant in last year's program, I am stunned that this center is not allowed to operate from 8:00am as it did in 2008. In 2008 parents could pay additional costs to have this time schedule and there were many takers who needed to for work reasons.

I am a working, single

parent and my job starts at 9:00am and is located in Dulles, Virginia, so having the Rec Center open at 8:00am is critical for my employment. Last year there were at least 20 other children that needed to be offered this

**Comments:**

time due to parent's work schedules and they paid an additional amount to cover the cost of an additional Rec Center staff member.

With the

economy being the way it is, I cannot go to my employer to request fewer hours, nor can I afford private summer care for two children who are 8 and 5 years old.

Can it be arranged for the Cora Kelly Rec Center to open at 8:00am during Summer Camp and have parents pay an additional fee for this earlier drop off?

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Barrons-Avila  
315A Laverne Avenue,

Alexandria, Virginia 22305  
703-582-0321



2  
4-13-09



**Clator Butler**  
<[cbutler@phase2technology.com](mailto:cbutler@phase2technology.com)>

04/02/2009 10:23 AM

Please respond to  
Clator Butler  
<[cbutler@phase2technology.com](mailto:cbutler@phase2technology.com)>

To [william.euille@alexandriava.gov](mailto:william.euille@alexandriava.gov),  
[timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov](mailto:timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov), [councilmangaines@aol.com](mailto:councilmangaines@aol.com),  
[council@krupicka.com](mailto:council@krupicka.com), [delperpe@aol.com](mailto:delperpe@aol.com),  
cc  
bcc  
Subject COA Contact Us: AT2 Service Cuts

**Time:** [Thu Apr 02, 2009 10:23:04] **IP Address:** [173.8.21.97]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Clator  
**Last Name:** Butler  
**Street Address:** 1033 N. Fairfax St.  
Suite 400  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:**

**Email Address:** [cbutler@phase2technology.com](mailto:cbutler@phase2technology.com)

**Subject:** AT2 Service Cuts

To Whom It May Concern:

Dr. Gridlock's article on

[http://voices.washingtonpost.com/getthere/2009/04/alexandria\\_considering\\_da](http://voices.washingtonpost.com/getthere/2009/04/alexandria_considering_da)

sh\_bu.html says cuts are being considered to the AT2 line. This would be a

mistake. Not only does this line service businesses during the week, but

also services the waterfront area of Old Town, which sees tourist traffic

both on the weekend as well as during weekdays. Cutting service would

exacerbate Alexandria's economic woes, not improve them. The busses along

this corridor already do not run too frequently, but they do circulate at a

fair pace. Cutting service would be a major disruption to servicing

businesses on Fairfax St and along the waterfront.

On a more personal

note, I rely on the AT2 primarily for my own commute (linking me from the

VRE to my employer's office in the Transpotomac Center). Cutting service

mid-day will prevent me from reaching the Metro or the VRE when I need to

**Comments:** either take transit in to DC or Arlington for client meetings or if I need to head home early on the mid-day train for whatever reason. I often leave the office as early as 3:20 as I work virtually online during the entire commute. This helps me to be part of the solution to traffic congestion. To cut service will put more people like me back on the road in individual automobiles, which only adds to traffic congestion and overall frustration with the lack of vision of metropolitan planning.

Thank you,  
--Clator

Butler  
Director, Client Relations  
Phase2

Technology  
cbutler@phase2technology.com  
703-548-6050 x.118

Cc:

Alexandria City Council  
Dr. Gridlock

2  
4-13-09



**Eliza Koch**  
<elizakb@yahoo.com>

04/03/2009 02:01 PM

Please respond to  
Eliza Koch  
<elizakb@yahoo.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,  
cc  
bcc  
Subject COA Contact Us: Services for Alexandria's children - don't cut



**Time: [Fri Apr 03, 2009 14:01:38] IP Address: [169.253.4.21]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Eliza  
**Last Name:** Koch  
**Street Address:** 5014 Waple Lane  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22304  
**Phone:** 703-461-3981  
**Email Address:** elizakb@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Services for Alexandria's children - don't cut  
Don't cut substance abuse and mental health prevention, early intervention  
and treatment services to Alexandria's children.  
  
These services are  
  
valuable and must be maintained. It is important for the children in our  
community to have services that will nurture their development and learning  
abilities and become responsible, safe citizens of Alexandria in the future  
that one day will give back to the community.  
  
I strongly support the  
  
**Comments:** Preschool Prevention program that uses a Preschool Prevention Program  
therapist for toddlers not yet in kindergarten. My two-year old son uses  
these services and I have noticed a remarkable difference in his ability to  
interact in a safe, teaching environment - one that is not directed by  
me.  
  
The Preschool Program will help save Alexandria money in the long  
run. Don't skimp on cutting this program -- think about the long-term

benefits of how we can keep Alexandria a top-notch place to live.

2  
4-13-09



**Coral Castro**  
<mcoral\_c@yahoo.com>

04/05/2009 04:27 PM

Please respond to  
Coral Castro  
<mcoral\_c@yahoo.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Student Assistance Counselor



Time: [Sun Apr 05, 2009 16:27:56] IP Address: [69.140.74.150]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Coral  
**Last Name:** Castro  
**Street Address:** 410 N Gordon ST  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22304  
**Phone:** 703 898 2891  
**Email Address:** mcoral\_c@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Student Assistance Counselor

It has come to my attention that you want to cut substance abuse, mental health prevention, early intervention and treatment services to Alexandria's school children. These services help children get a healthy start in life. It aids in their greater development now, for their future families, and a better future. It is a way of nurturing their mental and physical health.

I support raising taxes in order to preserve these important services, which I know will benefit my community and future generations. We should find other ways to raise revenue, instead of cutting back on services, which will allow our children to learn in a safe environment and enable them to concentrate on

**Comments:**

their education. Early development is very important to a community; it

helps children who can later pose a danger to other children. We should

find ways of charging for the free parking in the area between North

Fairfax to North St. Asaph Streets and Montgomery to Pendleton Streets.

Start charging parking fees and allow for more parking meters.

I ask

you that you consider other options before cutting these great services

for Alexandria's children. Substance abuse is always a problem in our

communities and the best way to provide children with a defense against

this is to provide them with the help and knowledge that will allow them

to excel in life.

One way or the other, taxpayers end up paying for the

effects of substance abuse in society. Wouldn't it be better to fix the

problem when at the start, rather than to wait and pay more for it when

becomes a larger problem? Better to invest more money now to prevent

the problem than to pay for rehabilitation or crime prevention when

they become adults?

2  
4-13-09

Erika L. Byrd, Esq.

703-760-1689

elbyrd@venable.com

REC'D MAR 30 2009

March 25, 2009

**Via First Class Mail**

Mayor William D. Euille  
Alexandria City Council Member  
301 King St., Room 2300  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Re: Alexandria Housing Trust Fund (the "AHTF")

Dear Mayor Euille,

The AHTF has been very supportive of Friends of Guest House ("FOGH"). On behalf of the Board of Directors of Guest House and the Executive Director of Guest House, I am writing to register my concern and objections regarding the proposed budget action that would result in the termination of the AHTF. This action would be, I think, a serious disservice to the City of Alexandria for many reasons.

I have served on the Board of Directors of Friends of FOGH since its reopening in the summer of 2003, when a new Board was formed. Prior to that time, FOGH was closed, in physical disrepair, was deeply in debt, and had a mortgage of \$100,000. Our first application to attempt to reopen was to AHTF and resulted in a 99-year, no-payment, no-interest loan of \$100,000 and a \$41,000 grant. The mortgage was paid and with the seed money we were able to arrange a \$300,000 pro bono complete renovation of the house. Habitat for Humanity and many other firms, including architects and interior decorators, contributed to the renovation and furnishing of the house. When it was complete, we had an open house event that raised \$25,000 towards operations. FOGH reopened in June 2004 with a beautifully furnished and equipped facility. Since then, our budget and program have consistently expanded. Even now, FOGH cannot begin to accommodate the demand we are presented with. FOGH has been restored to physical and financial health, with an inherited debt of about \$200,000 completely paid. The success of our program has been widely recognized with more than a half-dozen awards (including being Featured in the 2007-08 Catalogue for Philanthropy as "One of the best small charities in the Greater Washington Region") and could not have been achieved without the initial major boost from AHTF.

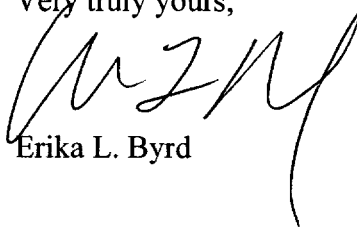
At this time, the most severe problem facing FOGH graduates is finding affordable housing. Frequently, we are forced to keep residents at FOGH after they should begin independent living because affordable housing cannot be found. This results in 1) a reduction in the number of women we can serve; and 2) may force residents into unhealthy housing arrangements where rehabilitation is jeopardized.

Mayor William D. Euille  
March 27, 2009  
Page 2

I hope that the City Council will find a way to preserve AHTF. FOGH is aware that in this tough economy not all programs can be funded as they have been in the past. FOGH understands that the AHTF might not receive the same funding as in years past, but to eliminate the fund altogether and divert monies to other, unrelated City expenses seems particularly egregious. Particularly during these trying economic times, the elimination of the AHTF would have the most severe impact on the neediest segment of our population.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Very truly yours,



Erika L. Byrd

ELB/jah

cc: Vice Mayor Redella "Del" Pepper, City Council Member  
Ludwig P. Gaines, City Council Member  
Rob Krupicka, City Council Member  
Timothy B. Lovain, City Council Member  
Paul C. Smedberg, City Council Member  
Justin M. Wilson, City Council Member  
James K. Hartmann, City Manager



2  
4-13-09



"The Lantzy's"  
<dllantzy@comcast.net>  
04/07/2009 09:03 PM

To "Justin M Wilson" <justin.wilson@alexandriava.gov>, <ludgaines@aol.com>, "Redella S. Pepper" <delperpe@aol.com>, "Rob Krupicka" <rob@krupicka.com>, <jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov>

bcc

Subject Comments for council hearing on the budget

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of Council,

I am writing to you to state my concerns and opposition to (1) public funding for charitable organizations, (2) a tax rate increase, and (3) 1% tax designated for affordable housing. I am a member of the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee. I am writing as a private citizen.

(1) While I am sure no one wants to see reductions in police and emergency services, there is a glut of health and welfare assistance in this budget. In my Affordable Housing Advisory Committee meetings, I frequently hear that the City provides an abundance of health, housing, and social services. In addition, there are numerous charitable and other non-profit organizations that also provide services, many of them receiving City funding assistance. Is it reasonable to ask taxpayers to support funding for charities, and funding for services within the City too?

Even in difficult times, working people do their best to make charitable contributions. Using tax money to support charities eliminates their ability to give to the charities of their choice. What right does the City have to decide what organizations are deserving of support, which are not, and how much money they should get? The City's choice of charities cannot be shown to represent the people's choice. I submit to you the excerpt below from "The Life of Colonel David Crockett", titled "Davy Crockett's 'Sockdologer'."

(2) Increasing the tax rate simply reduces the amount of money people have to spend on things they need -- well, for example, their mortgages! The economic health of the community depends on the spending power of its residents. Taking more money from taxpayers eliminates their ability to spend it on things they really need. Businesses close, working people lose their jobs, then lose their homes, and then their families. I come from Cleveland, and I ask, does Alexandria really want to look like Cleveland?

(3) In this economy, we do not need to pay extra taxes to fund "affordable housing." While the Office of Housing is doing a lot to help working people stay in their homes, or find new homes, the proposed dedicated 1% will not be used for this work. Further, the Office of Housing has said, "In 2008, 15% of the assessed units in the City were assessed below \$250,000 which is considered affordable to the households at 80% of median income or less." So, 15% of the housing in Alexandria is already affordable! In this economy, taxpayers should not be burdened with an extra dedicated 1% tax.

Respectfully,  
Laura Lantzy

## Davy Crockett's "Sockdologer"

Ellis, Edward S., *The Life of Colonel David Crockett*, published 1884.

I was one day in the lobby of the House of Representatives when a bill was taken up appropriating money for the benefit of a widow of a distinguished naval officer. Several beautiful speeches had been made in its support, rather, as I thought, because it afforded the speakers a fine opportunity for display than from the necessity of convincing anybody, for it seemed to me that everybody favored it. The Speaker was just about to put the question, when Crockett arose. Everybody expected, of course, that he was going to make one of his characteristic speeches in support of the bill. He commenced:

"Mr. Speaker,

"I have as much respect for the memory of the deceased, and as much sympathy for the sufferings of the living, if suffering there be, as any man in this House, but we must not permit our respect for the dead or our sympathy for a part of the living to lead us into an act of injustice to the balance of the living.

"I will not go into an argument to prove that Congress has no power to appropriate this money as an act of charity. Every member upon this floor knows it. We have the right, as individuals, to give away as much of our own money as we please in charity; but as members of Congress we have no right so to appropriate a dollar of the public money.

"Some eloquent appeals have been made to us upon the ground that it is a debt due the deceased. Mr. Speaker, the deceased lived long after the close of the war; he was in office to the day of his death, and I have never heard that the Government was in arrears to him. This Government can owe no debts but for services rendered, and at a stipulated price. If it is a debt, how much is it? Has it been audited, and the amount due ascertained? If it is a debt, this is not the place to present it for payment, or to have its merits examined. If it is a debt, we owe more than we can ever hope to pay, for we owe the widow of every soldier who fought in the war of 1812 precisely the same amount.

"There is a woman in my neighborhood, the widow of as gallant a man as ever shouldered a musket. He fell in battle. She is as good in every respect as this lady, and is as poor. She is earning her daily bread by her daily labor, and if I were to introduce a bill to appropriate five or ten thousand dollars for her benefit, I should be laughed at, and my bill would not get five votes in this House. There are thousands of widows in the country just such as the one I have spoken of; but we never hear of any of these large debts to them.

"Sir, this is no debt. The Government did not owe it to the deceased when he was alive; it could not contract it after he died. I do not wish to be rude, but I must be plain. Every man in this House knows it is not a debt. We cannot, without the grossest corruption, appropriate this money as the payment of a debt. We have not the semblance of authority to appropriate it as a charity. Mr. Speaker, I have said we have the right to give as much money of our own as we please. I am the poorest man on this floor. I cannot vote for this bill, but I will give one week's pay to the object, and if every member of Congress will do the same, it will amount to more than the bill asks."

He took his seat. Nobody replied. The bill was put upon its passage, and, instead of passing

unanimously, as was generally supposed, and as, no doubt, it would, but for that speech, it received but few votes, and, of course, was lost.

Like many other young men, and old ones, too, for that matter, who had not thought upon the subject, I desired the passage of the bill, and felt outraged at its defeat. I determined that I would persuade my friend Crockett to move a reconsideration the next day.

Previous engagements prevented me from seeing Crockett that night, I went early to his room the next morning, and found him engaged in addressing and franking letters, a large pile of which lay upon his table.

I broke in upon him rather abruptly, by asking him what devil had possessed him to make that speech and defeat that bill yesterday. Without turning his head or looking up from his work, he replied:

"You see that I am very busy now; take a seat and cool yourself. I will be through in a few minutes, and then I will tell you all about it."

He continued his employment for about 10 minutes, and when he had finished it turned to me and said:

"Now, sir, I will answer your question. But thereby hangs a tale, and one of considerable length, to which you will have to listen."

I listened, and this is the tale which I heard:

"Several years ago, I was one evening standing on the steps of the Capitol with some other members of Congress, when our attention was attracted by a great light over in Georgetown. It was evidently a large fire. We jumped into a hack and drove over as fast as we could.

"When we got there I went to work, and I never worked as hard in my life as I did there for several hours. But, in spite of all that could be done, many houses were burned and many families made houseless, and, besides, some of them had lost all but the clothes they had on. The weather was very cold, and when I saw so many women and children suffering, I felt that something ought to be done for them, and everybody else seemed to feel the same way.

"The next morning a bill was introduced appropriating \$20,000 for their relief. We put aside all other business and rushed it through as soon as it could be done. I said everybody felt as I did. That was not quite so; for, though they perhaps sympathized as deeply with the sufferers as I did, there were a few of the members who did not think we had the right to indulge our sympathy or excite our charity at the expense of anybody but ourselves.

"They opposed the bill, and upon its passage demanded the yeas and nays. There were not enough of them to sustain the call, but many of us wanted our names to appear in favor of what we considered a Praiseworthy measure, and we voted with them to sustain it. So the yeas and nays were recorded, and my name appeared on the journals in favor of the bill.

"The next summer, when it began to be time to think about the election, I concluded I would take a

scout around among the boys of my district. I had no opposition there, but, as the election was some time off, I did not know what might turn up, and I thought it was best to let the boys know that I had not forgot them, and that going to Congress had not made me too proud to go to see them.

“So I put a couple of shirts and a few twists of tobacco into my saddle-bags, and put out. I had been out about a week, and had found things going very smoothly, when, riding one day in a part of my district in which I was more of a stranger than any other, I saw a man in a field plowing and coming toward the road. I gauged my gait so that we should meet as he came to the fence.

“As he came up I spoke to the man. He replied politely, but, as I thought, rather coldly, and was about turning his horse for another furrow, when I asked him if he could give me a chew of tobacco.

“Yes,’ said he, ‘such as we make and use in this part of the country; but it may not suit your taste, as you are probably in the habit of using better.’

““With that he pulled out of his pocket part of a twist in its natural state, and handed it to me. I took a chew, and handed it back to him. He turned to his plow, and was about to start off. I said to him: ‘Don’t be in such a hurry, my friend; I want to have a little talk with you, and get better acquainted.’

““He replied, ‘I am very busy, and have but little time to talk, but if it does not take too long, I will listen to what you have to say.’ ”I began: ‘Well, friend, I am one of those unfortunate beings called candidates, and---’

““Yes, I know you; you are Colonel Crockett. I have seen you once before, and voted for you the last time you were elected. I suppose you are out electioneering now, but you had better not waste your time or mine. I shall not vote for you again.’

“This was a sockdologer. I had been making up my mind that he was one of those churlish fellows who care for nobody but themselves, and take bluntness for independence. I had seen enough of them to know there is a way to reach them, and was satisfied that if I could get him to talk to me I would soon have him straight.

“But this was entirely a different bundle of sticks. He knew me, had voted for me before, and did not intend to do it again. Something must be the matter; I could not imagine what it was. I had heard of no complaints against me, except that some of the dandies about the village ridiculed some of the wild and foolish things that I too often say and do, and said that I was not enough of a gentleman to go to Congress. I begged him to tell me what was the matter.

““Well, Colonel, it is hardly worth while to waste time or words upon it. I do not see how it can be mended, but you gave a vote last winter which shows that either you have not capacity to understand the Constitution, or that you are wanting in the honesty and firmness to be guided by it. In either case you are not the man to represent me. But I beg your pardon for expressing it in that way. I did not intend to avail myself of the privilege of the constituent to speak plainly to a candidate for the purpose of insulting or wounding you. I intend by it only to say that your understanding of the Constitution is very different from mine; and I will say to you what, but for my rudeness, I should not have said, that I believe you to be honest.’

“Thank you for that, but you find fault with only one vote. You know the story of Henry Clay, the old huntsman and the rifle; you wouldn't break your gun for one snap.’

“No, nor for a dozen. As the story goes, that tack served Mr. Clay's purpose admirably, though it really had nothing to do with the case. I would not break the gun, nor would I discard an honest representative for a mistake in judgment as a mere matter of policy. But an understanding of the Constitution different from mine I cannot overlook, because the Constitution, to be worth anything, must be held sacred, and rigidly observed in all its provisions. The man who wields power and misinterprets it is the more dangerous the more honest he is.’

“I admit the truth of all you say, but there must be some mistake about it, for I do not remember that I gave any vote last winter upon any constitutional question.’

“No, Colonel, there's no mistake. Though I live here in the backwoods and seldom go from home, I take the papers from Washington and read very carefully all the proceedings of Congress. My papers say that last winter you voted for a bill to appropriate \$20,000 to some sufferers by a fire in Georgetown. Is that true!’

“Certainly it is, and I thought that was the last vote for which anybody in the world would have found fault with.’

“Well, Colonel, where do you find in the Constitution any authority to give away the public money in charity?’

“Here was another sockdologer; for, when I began to think about it, I could not remember a thing in the Constitution that authorized it. I found I must take another tack, so I said:

“Well, my friend; I may as well own up. You have got me there. But certainly nobody will complain that a great and rich country like ours should give the insignificant sum of \$20,000 to relieve its suffering women and children, particularly with a full and overflowing Treasury, and I am sure, if you had been there, you would have done just as I did.’

“It is not the amount, Colonel, that I complain of; it is the principle. In the first place, the Government ought to have in the Treasury no more than enough for its legitimate purposes. But that has nothing to do with the question. The power of collecting and disbursing money at pleasure is the most dangerous power that can be entrusted to man, particularly under our system of collecting revenue by a tariff, which reaches every man in the country, no matter how poor he may be, and the poorer he is the more he pays in proportion to his means. What is worse, it presses upon him without his knowledge where the weight centers, for there is not a man in the United States who can ever guess how much he pays to the Government.’

“So you see that, while you are contributing to relieve one, you are drawing it from thousands who are even worse off than he. If you had the right to give anything, the amount was simply a matter of discretion with you, and you had as much right to give \$20,000,000 as \$20,000. If you have the right: to give to one, you have the right to give to all; and, as the Constitution neither defines charity nor stipulates the amount, you are at liberty to give to any and everything which you may believe, or profess to believe, is a charity, and to any amount you may think proper.’

“You will very easily perceive what a wide door this would open for fraud and corruption and favoritism, on the one hand, and for robbing the people on the other. No, Colonel, Congress has no right to give charity. Individual members may give as much of their own money as they please, but they have no right to touch a dollar of the public money for that purpose.’

“If twice as many houses had been burned in this county as in Georgetown, neither you nor any other member of Congress would have thought of appropriating a dollar for our relief.’

“There are about two hundred and forty members of Congress. If they had shown their sympathy for the sufferers by contributing each one week's pay, it would have made over \$13,000. There are plenty of wealthy men in and around Washington who could have given \$20,000 without depriving themselves of even a luxury of life. The Congressmen chose to keep their own money, which, if reports be true, some of them spend not very creditably; and the people about Washington, no doubt, applauded you for relieving them from the necessity of giving by giving what was not yours to give.’

“The people have delegated to Congress, by the Constitution, the power to do certain things. To do these, it is authorized to collect and pay moneys, and for nothing else. Everything beyond this is usurpation, and a violation of the Constitution.’

“I have given you,” continued Crockett, “an imperfect account of what he said. Long before he was through, I was convinced that I had done wrong. He wound up by saying: ‘So you see, Colonel, you have violated the Constitution in what I consider a vital point. It is a precedent fraught with danger to the country, for when Congress once begins to stretch its power beyond the limits of the Constitution, there is no limit to it, and no security for the people. I have no doubt you acted honestly, but that does not make it any better, except as far as you are personally concerned, and you see that I cannot vote for you.’

“I tell you, I felt streaked. I saw if I should have opposition, and this man should go to talking, he would set others to talking, and in that district I was a gone fawn-skin. I could not answer him, and the fact is I was so fully convinced that he was right, I did not want to. But I must satisfy him, and I said to him:

“Well, my friend, you hit the nail upon the head when you said I had not sense enough to understand the Constitution. I intended to be guided by it, and thought I had studied it fully. I have heard many speeches in Congress about the powers of Congress, but what you have said here at your plow has got more hard, sound sense in it than all the fine speeches I ever heard.

“If I had ever taken the view of it that you have, I would have put my head into the fire before I would have given that vote, and if you will forgive me and vote for me again, if I ever vote for another unconstitutional law I wish I may be shot.”

“He laughingly replied: ‘Yes, Colonel, you have sworn to that once before, but I will trust you again upon one condition. You say that you are convinced that your vote was wrong. Your acknowledgment of it will do more good than beating you for it. If, as you go round the district, you will tell the people about this vote, and that you are satisfied it was wrong, I will not only vote for you, but will do what I can to keep down opposition, and, perhaps, I may exert some little influence

in that way.'

"If I don't," said I, "I wish I may be shot; and to convince you that I am in earnest in what I say I will come back this way in a week or ten days, and if you will get up a gathering of the people, I will make a speech to them. Get up a barbecue, and I will pay for it."

"No, Colonel, we are not rich people in this section, but we have plenty of provisions to contribute for a barbecue, and some to spare for those who have none. The push of crops will be over in a few days, and we can then afford a day for a barbecue. This is Thursday; I will see to getting it up on Saturday week. Come to my house on Friday, and we will go together, and I promise you a very respectable crowd to see and hear you."

"Well, I will be here. But one thing more before I say good-by. I must know your name."

"My name is Bunce."

"Not Horatio Bunce?"

"Yes."

"Well, Mr. Bunce, I never saw you before, though you say you have seen me, but I know you very well. I am glad that I have met you, and very proud that I may hope to have you for my friend. You must let me shake your hand before I go."

"We shook hands and parted. It was one of the luckiest hits of my life that I met him. He mingled but little with the public, but was widely known for his remarkable intelligence and incorruptible integrity, and for a heart brimful and running over with kindness and benevolence, which showed themselves not only in words but in acts. He was the oracle of the whole country around him, and his fame had extended far beyond the circle of his immediate acquaintance. Though I had never met him before, I had heard much of him, and but for this meeting it is very likely I should have had opposition, and been beaten. One thing is very certain, no man could now stand up in that district under such a vote."

"At the appointed time I was at his house, having told our conversation to every crowd I had met, and to every man I stayed all night with, and I found that it gave the people an interest and a confidence in me stronger than I had ever seen manifested before."

"Though I was considerably fatigued when I reached his house, and, under ordinary circumstances, should have gone early to bed, I kept him up until midnight, talking about the principles and affairs of government, and got more real, true knowledge of them than I had got all my life before."

"It is not exactly pertinent to my story, but I must tell you more about him. When I saw him with his family around him, I was not surprised that he loved to stay at home. I have never in any other family seen a manifestation of so much confidence, familiarity and freedom of manner of children toward their parents mingled with such unbounded love and respect."

"He was not at the house when I arrived, but his wife received and welcomed me with all the ease and cordiality of an old friend. She told me that her husband was engaged in some out-door

business, but would be in shortly. She is a woman of fine person; her face is not what the world would at first sight esteem beautiful. In a state of rest there was too much strength and character in it for that, but when she engaged in conversation, and especially when she smiled, it softened into an expression of mingled kindness, goodness, and strength that was beautiful beyond anything I have ever seen.

“Pretty soon her husband came in, and she left us and went about her household affairs. Toward night the children — he had about seven of them — began to drop in; some from work, some from school, and the little ones from play. They were introduced to me, and met me with the same ease and grace that marked the manner of their mother.

“Supper came on, and then was exhibited the loveliness of the family circle in all its glow. The father turned the conversation to the matters in which the children had been interested during the day, and all, from the oldest to the youngest, took part in it. They spoke to their parents with as much familiarity and confidence as if they had been friends of their own age, yet every word and every look manifested as much respect as the humblest courtier could manifest for a king; aye, more, for it was all sincere, and strengthened by love. Verily it was the Happy Family.

“I have told you Mr. Bunce converted me politically. He came nearer converting me religiously than I had ever been before. When supper was over, one of the children brought him a Bible and hymnbook. He turned to me and said:

“Colonel, I have for many years been in the habit of family worship night and morning. I adopt this time for it that all may be present. If I postpone it some of us get engaged in one thing and some in another, and the little ones drop off to sleep, so that it is often difficult to get all together.’

“He then opened the Bible, and read the Twenty-third Psalm, commencing: ‘The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.’ It is a beautiful composition, and his manner of reading it gave it new beauties. We then sang a hymn, and we all knelt down. He commenced his prayer ‘Our Father, who art in Heaven.’ No one who has not heard him pronounce those words can conceive how they thrilled through me, for I do not believe that they were ever pronounced by human lips as by him.

“I had heard them a thousand times from the lips of preachers of every grade and denomination, and by all sorts of professing Christians, until they had become words of course with me, but his enunciation of them gave them an import and a power of which I had never conceived. There was a grandeur of reverence, a depth of humility, a fullness of confidence and an overflowing of love, which told that his spirit was communing face to face with its God. An overwhelming feeling of awe came over me, for I felt that I was in the invisible presence of Jehovah.

“The whole prayer was grand — grand in its simplicity, in the purity of the spirit it breathed, in its faith, its truth, and its love. I have told you he came nearer converting me religiously than I had ever been before. He did not make a very good Christian of me, as you know; but he has wrought upon my mind a conviction of the truth of Christianity, and upon my feelings a reverence for its purifying and elevating power such as I had never felt before.

“I have known and seen much of him since, for I respect him -- no, that is not the word — I reverence and love him more than any living man, and I go to see him two or three times every year; and I will tell you, sir, if every one who professes to be a Christian lived and acted and enjoyed it as



he does, the religion of Christ would take the world by storm.

“But to return to my story. The next morning we went to the barbecue, and, to my surprise, found about a thousand men there. I met a good many whom I had not known before, and they and my friend introduced me around until I had got pretty well acquainted--at least, they all knew me. In due time notice was given that I would speak to them. They gathered up around a stand that had been erected. I opened my speech by saying:

“Fellow-citizens -- I present myself before you today feeling like a new man. My eyes have lately been opened to truths, which ignorance or prejudice, or both, had heretofore hidden from my view. I feel that I can to-day offer you the ability to render you more valuable service than I have ever been able to render before. I am here today more for the purpose of acknowledging my error than to seek your votes. That I should make this acknowledgment is due to myself as well as to you. Whether you will vote for me is a matter for your consideration only.’

“I went on to tell them about the fire and my vote for the appropriation as I have told it to you, and then told them why I was satisfied it was wrong. I closed by saying:

“And now, fellow-citizens, it remains only for me to tell you that the most of the speech you have listened to with so much interest was simply a repetition of the arguments by which your neighbor, Mr. Bunce, convinced me of my error.

“It is the best speech I ever made in my life, but he is entitled to the credit of it. And now I hope he is satisfied with his convert and that he will get up here and tell you so.

“He came upon the stand and said:

“Fellow-citizens — It affords me great pleasure to comply with the request of Colonel Crockett. I have always considered him a thoroughly honest man, and I am satisfied that he will faithfully perform all that he has promised you today.’

“He went down, and there went up from that crowd such a shout for Davy Crockett as his name never called forth before.

“I am not much given to tears, but I was taken with a choking then and felt some big drops rolling down my cheeks. And I tell you now that the remembrance of those few words spoken by such a man, and the honest, hearty shout they produced, is worth more to me than all the honors I have received and all the reputation I have ever made, or ever shall make, as a member of Congress.

“Now, sir,” concluded Crockett, “you know why I made that speech yesterday. I have had several thousand copies of it printed, and was directing them to my constituents when you came in.

“There is one thing now to which I will call your attention. You remember that I proposed to give a week's pay. There are in that House many very wealthy men — men who think nothing of spending a week's pay, or a dozen of them, for a dinner or a wine party when they have something to accomplish by it. Some of those same men made beautiful speeches upon the great debt of gratitude which the country owed the deceased — a debt that could not be paid by money — and the insignificance and worthlessness of money, particularly so insignificant a sum as \$10,000, when weighed against the honor of the nation.

“Yet not one of them responded to my proposition. Money with them is nothing but trash when it is to come out of the people. But it is the one great thing for which most of them are striving, and many of them sacrifice honor, integrity, and justice to obtain it.”

The hour for the meeting of the House had by this time arrived. We walked up to the Capitol together, but I said not a word to him about moving a reconsideration. I would as soon have asked a sincere Christian to abjure his religion.

I had listened to his story with an interest which was greatly increased by his manner of telling it, for, no matter what we may say of the merits of a story, a speech, or a sermon, it is a very rare production which does not derive its interest more from the manner than the matter, as some of my readers have doubtless, like the writer, proved to their cost.

To Jackie Henderson**Drudi, Dino - BLS**

**From:** Drudi, Dino - BLS  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 07, 2009 2:00 PM  
**To:** 'jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov'  
**Cc:** 'contactus@alexandriava.gov'  
**Subject:** Request to Speak at 13 April City Council Budget Hearing

2  
 4-13-09

Text of statement [to be included in the record if I am absent]:

The Mayor and City Council need to understand that the coming fiscal year's budget crisis comes within the context of an impending economic depression. Although authorities have thus far been loathe to use that term, it is and will be recognized retrospectively as such. Leading economist Robert Samuelson conceded in a recent Washington Post op-ed that this economic downturn's characteristics resemble the Great Depression's. One key example: unlike a normal recession, where consumers just keep spending and put it on their credit cards, consumers and businesses instead are retrenching; as they retrench, demand falls which thereby causes businesses to lay off employees, further cutting consumption, further lessening demand, leading to more layoffs in an unstoppable self-feeding downward spiral.

Were ever there a circumstance to empty the rainy day fund, this is it. Except for the very elderly who lived through the Great Depression, this is the most dire contraction our lifetimes will see. During such a contraction, needs for some services will increase, so the city needs to be prepared to fund those increases from the rainy day fund, which should be drawn down to zero over the next three fiscal years. For example, the city should fund the proposed \$250,000 DASH cut from rainy day funds. To further save money, DASH should take over the Alexandria portion of the 10A/10B Metrobus routes. Other examples are library and recreation center funding because cash strapped families and individuals will need to rely more heavily on these services.

Budget cuts are a double-edged sword when city staff layoffs contribute to unemployment and retrenchments contribute to reduced city spending on goods and services. They must be judiciously carried out in concert with rainy day fund drawdowns. Except where stimulus funds can cover capital costs, these should be postponed except for critical infrastructure in danger of failing if not replaced. The city cannot cut repairs and maintenance and, where relatively inexpensive repairs can obviate replacement for a few years, the city might more heavily even rely on repairs. For example, the city would replace hazardously heaved sidewalks and prune out dangerous street tree branches, but might discontinue planting new trees until the budget climate improves.

The city also has to be fiscally realistic. Just as the stimulus bill contained yet another federal tax cut, the city should hesitate to increase any tax rate, including shell-game increases such as increasing the property tax rate to offset declining housing values: the city does not, after all, decrease the tax rate when property values escalate. Tax increases, moreover, may push some marginal mortgage holders into foreclosure. The city also should target for reduction, to the extent legally allowed, services disproportionately used by those illegally in our country. If forced by economic circumstance to return to their homelands, the jobs they vacate hard-pressed Americans will need in hard times and the services they consume hard-pressed Alexandrians can ill afford to underwrite.

Failing to empty the rainy day fund now reduces it to merely a fraud. What purpose has the rainy day fund if not used for the rainiest day most of us have or ever will see? Are we holding onto it in case Alexandria is hit by a meteor?

Respectfully submitted,  
 Dino Drudi  
 315 N West Street  
 Alexandria, VA 22314

2  
4-13-09

City of Alexandria, VA  
Public Hearing on the FY 2010 Operating Budget  
April 13, 2009  
Statement by J. Glenn Eugster  
4022 Ellicott Street, Alexandria, VA 22304

A number of years ago the City expanded the Fort Ward Park maintenance and nursery area placing equipment, vehicles, structures and various materials on top of the graves of African-Americans who lived within and are buried in Fort Ward Park. The area was expanded adjacent to the Oakland Baptist Church Cemetery. This action has desecrated the graves within and in front of the maintenance and nursery area. It has also created a water runoff problem that is damaging graves within the Cemetery. This thoughtless and dishonorable situation must be remedied as soon as possible.

I am here today to ask the Mayor and City Council, working with the City Manager, to add \$150,000 in City funds in the 2010 budget to remove all evidence of the Fort Ward Park maintenance and nursery area, and begin archeological and historical research and surveys in 2010 to locate African American graves and structures.

The ground within this area should be graded and seeded, or covered with sod, and regularly maintained until the City's Office of Archeology can complete their surveys and studies and develop a stewardship plan for their conservation, protection and interpretation.

For many of us these graves are a record of the rich overlooked history of African-Americans who contributed, in no small part, their hard labor and land to develop Alexandria into the vibrant city it is today. For others the graves are places where our residents remember those they knew and loved--neighbors, spouses, parents and grandparents.

I hope that restoring these graves, and interpreting this part of the park's rich history, is not the lowest priority in Alexandria. I urge you to do the right thing and add \$150,000 to the 2010 budget for this purpose.

Thank you.

2  
4-13-09

**Statement for Public Hearing on the FY2010 Budget**  
**Lisa Jacobs, President, George Mason PTA**  
**April 13, 2009**

Mr. Mayor and Members of the City Council,

Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to come today to express our interests and concerns regarding the 2010 budget. I am representing the George Mason Elementary School Parents and Teachers Association.

First, I would like to thank you for your strong support of our schools in the past. We have many fine schools here in Alexandria; as you know, six of our elementary schools were recently recognized by the Governor for excellence, including George Mason, and many of our other schools offer great educational opportunities as well. ACPS has dedicated teachers and staff who work tirelessly to challenge our students; we have many wonderful facilities for our kids including the new TC Williams building and the new George Mason playground; and we have families who move to Alexandria because of the quality of our schools. All of these accomplishments are a direct result of our City's past investments in our children and we commend you for these accomplishments.

We also ask you to reaffirm your strong commitment to our public schools in this year's budget. As you consider the ACPS allocation in the FY2010 budget, please keep in mind the following three points. 1) A school system is only as strong as its teachers. Here in Alexandria, we are lucky to have dynamic, highly skilled and dedicated professionals in our classrooms. We need the resources to continue to offer competitive wages and benefits for these high quality professionals. 2) Although we have many terrific educational facilities, we also have some pressing needs right now. Examples include identified capital improvements at Ramsay and Polk Elementary Schools. ACPS needs to be able to maintain but also in some cases to improve our facilities when necessary. 3) We are growing very quickly. This year, our school system experienced the largest percentage increase in enrollment in Virginia – ACPS is being asked to educate 700 more children than last year. Increases are expected again next year. This will affect class size, school enrollment totals, demands on special services, etc, and it may lead to a need for trailers or new schools or both. Anecdotally, I can tell you that all of my old neighbors had children who were in their 40s and they sold their houses to my new neighbors who have children who are 4 ½. If ACPS is to maintain its small class sizes – one of the very best things about our school system – then we need strong financial support for our schools right now as well as long range planning and long term support.

This year, our new superintendent worked with our principals, ACPS senior staff, the PTAs and the School Board to devise a budget which tries to raise achievement for all students and at the same time to cut costs. Our PTA understands that we are in tight fiscal times and as taxpayers, we applaud your efforts to control spending. However, we believe that educating and providing for our city's children is the best investment that our city can make for today and for the future. We ask you to continue to support our schools and to do your best to provide sufficient funding to ACPS so that our children can be given the excellent education which they deserve. Thank you.



# Deaf and Hard of Hearing Population Northern Virginia Metropolitan Area Planning District 8

**Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons**  
 3951 Pender Drive, Suite 130 • Fairfax, VA 22030  
 703-352-9055 (V) • 703-352-9056 (TTY) • 703-352-9058 (FAX)  
[www.nvrc.org](http://www.nvrc.org) • [info@nvrc.org](mailto:info@nvrc.org)

---

No one knows exactly how many deaf and hard of hearing people there are in Northern Virginia. The figures below are based on population estimates provided by the localities, demographics figures, the 2005 Census, and extrapolations from estimates provided by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). The NCHS and other authorities estimate that between 8.8% and 10% of the population is deaf or hard of hearing.

We think that for the Northern Virginia Metro Area it's probably closer to 10% because of the number of military personnel, the high levels of everyday exposure to noise, and the aging of the population.

---

CITY/ COUNTY	ESTIMATED TOTAL	
	DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING	
	<u>10%</u>	<u>8.8%</u>
Alexandria City	13,800	12,144
Arlington County	19,780	17,407
Fairfax City	2,306	2,029
Fairfax County	103,658	91,219
Falls Church City	1,065	937
Loudoun County	25,724	22,637
Manassas City	3,742	3,293
Manassas Park City	1,256	1,105
Prince William County	<u>35,404</u>	<u>31,155</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>206,735</b>	<b>181,926</b>



## **NVRC'S KEY PROGRAMS**

### **Information & Referral**

We built our reputation on its high quality; a lawyer in New York who has a deaf child told NVRC's Executive Director "you are the most plugged-in person I know." All of our staff have personal knowledge of hearing loss and many years of experience tracking down information and resources. NVRC's education programs consistently get high marks from attendees, and our daily email news service is prized by subscribers in the City of Alexandria and elsewhere.

### **Outreach**

Our extremely popular programs at various sites in the community-- such as those on coping skills, wise hearing aid buying, and miscommunication -- get people engaged and really change lives. One of our best tools is a CD that demonstrates how speech sounds at different levels of high frequency hearing loss.

### **Technology Program**

Our demonstration center dazzles many who come to visit with new and exciting technology as well as older standards, enabling people to experience new possibilities for improved communication. It also allows them to test the equipment's effectiveness in meeting their needs. In addition, we provide technical assistance and troubleshooting when they have problems with their equipment.

### **Community Center**

Our free meeting space and staff assistance support the volunteer work of 12 organizations serving deaf, hard of hearing, late-deafened and deaf-blind individuals. Our center has a ground level entrance, large restrooms, lots of free parking, and staff who know many different ways to communicate. Our meeting room and the programs we hold there also serve as a model of how meetings can be made fully accessible.

### **Advocacy**

We became a leader in emergency preparedness and emergency communication access in 2004 with the release of a national report that our director researched and wrote over the course of three years. We're heavily involved in educating about the importance of captioning to access television and radio programs and video content on the Web. We've helped provide input to President Obama's transition team. Our director was recently reappointed to a second term on the FCC Consumer Advisory Committee, where she co-chairs the Disability Working Group.

## **RECENT TRENDS**

1. The cost of gas, lack of transportation, tight economic times and ever-increasing traffic congestion are making it increasingly difficult for people to come to meetings, workshops, trainings, equipment demonstrations and other programs at our office. This change is requiring our staff to spend more time going where people live or work to provide programs and services.
2. There are crucial unmet needs such as programs to serve more individuals who are in care facilities and hospice programs, and those for whom English is a second language.

## **OUR “PERFECT STORM”**

- NVRC has left three positions vacant during the last two years, and we have not filled another position for a parent support specialist. Demands for our services are now well beyond our capacity. Like other area nonprofits, we are seeing an increasing number of requests from individuals and families that need help.
- No end to the need for our services is in sight. Hearing loss remains one of the top disabilities identified at birth. We’re also beginning to see a growing incidence of hearing loss in the baby boom generation as it hits retirement age.

## **NVRC’S FUNDING**

80% comes from government contracts; all of these funding sources may cut funding for FY2010 or eliminate it.

- Fairfax County is our largest contract – the \$252,968 this year is nearly half our funding; recent increases have funded only pay raises for staff but not our many other expenses.
- Our contract with the Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing helps us leverage county funds, but its funding has been flat or decreasing in recent years. In FY 2010 it will be reduced another 5% to \$56,100 to serve all of Planning District 8.
- The City of Alexandria reduced our funding by 20% from \$18,000 to \$14,400 for FY2008/2009 and the Community Partnership Fund itself has been reduced for FY2010.
- We are competing with thousands of other area nonprofits for grant funding, and we are uncertain whether donors can continue to be generous given the economy.



Join Us at the Premier Event for Northern  
Virginia's Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community



# Celebrate Communication 2009



## FREE ADMISSION!

**Saturday, May 2, 2009; 10 am – 3 pm**  
**George Mason University**  
**Center for the Arts**  
**4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030**

### Fun for everyone!

- Explore more than 50 exhibits
- See demonstrations of the newest communication technologies
- Get the latest fact sheets and learn about exciting events
- Enjoy storytelling with the kids
- Try cell phones and PDAs for clarity and hearing aid compatibility
- Learn about hundreds of available programs and services that can help
- Meet 2008 kids' favorite "Yellow Dog"
- Try your luck at winning prizes
- See the work of local artists & crafters who are deaf or hard of hearing
- Network with others in the community
- Visit with some cool hearing dogs and some pups
- Get lots of free stuff!



Brought to you by: the Northern Virginia  
Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
Persons (NVRC) and the Helen A. Kellar  
Institute for Human Disabilities (KIHD)

Posters and flyers courtesy  
of Blue Ribbon Sponsor:





## MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership is for one year  
from receipt of payment \

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

TTY \_\_\_\_\_ Voice \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Deaf  Hard of Hearing  Hearing

### General Membership

Individual \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

Family \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Senior Citizen \$11 \_\_\_\_\_

Student \$ 8 \_\_\_\_\_

### Donation

Send me the NVRC Email News—it's FREE!

Friend of NVRC Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make my donation anonymous.

Donation in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Donation in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

**Donations of \$50 and  
higher include  
1 year membership**

## STAFF

**Cheryl A. Heppner**

Executive Director

**Melody Hotek**

Director of Operations

**Deborah L. Jones**

Resource/Technology Specialist

**Bonnie O'Leary**

Outreach Manager

## PROGRAM CONTRACTORS

**Joan Cassidy**

Loudoun County Outreach

**Linda Miller**

Mid Penn/Northern Neck Outreach

## HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 9 am to 5 pm  
(closed for lunch 12 noon to 1 pm)  
Friday: 9 am to 1 pm

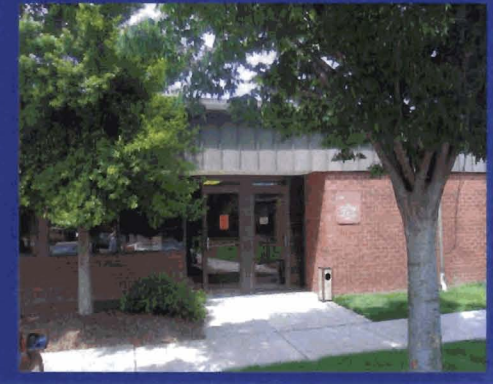
*A financial statement is available upon  
written request from the State Office  
of Consumer Affairs*

*Improving Communication,  
Changing Lives*



Northern Virginia  
Resource Center  
for Deaf and Hard  
of Hearing Persons

NVRC



*Empowering deaf and hard of hearing  
individuals and their families  
through education, advocacy  
and community involvement*

3951 Pender Drive, Suite 130  
Fairfax, VA 22030  
703-352-9055 (Voice)  
703-352-9056 (TTY)  
703-352-9058 (FAX)  
info@nvrc.org  
www.nvrc.org

The Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons (NVRC) is a rarity among community service agencies for persons with hearing loss. It represents a dynamic collaboration between deaf, hard of hearing and hearing individuals.

## MISSION STATEMENT

To empower deaf and hard of hearing individuals and their families through education, advocacy and community involvement.



*Celebrate Communication*

## MAJOR EVENTS

### **Celebrate Communication - May**

Our premier community event.

### **Awards Gala (Biennial) - Fall**

Our extravaganza honoring exceptional service to the deaf and hard of hearing community.

### **Annual Meeting - December**

Our recognition of major donors and the year's highlights.

## SERVICE AREA

NVRC serves the counties of Fairfax, Arlington, and Loudoun, as well as the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park. Limited services are provided to Prince William County. More than 202,000 deaf and hard of hearing people live in this area.



## PROGRAMS and SERVICES

- Education, Classes, Workshops
- Outreach, Exhibits, Presentations, Trainings
- Specialized Information, Resources, Fact Sheets
- Advocacy on Local, State and National Levels
- Equipment Demonstration Room
- Equipment Loan Program
- Website
- Community Center
- Services for Families
- Daily E-Mail News, Newsletter

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NVRC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization governed by a 15-member Board of Directors comprised primarily of deaf, late-deafened and hard of hearing individuals.

## DONATIONS

NVRC depends on all types of financial support to ensure growth and expansion of its programs and services.

- Contributions
- United Way/Community Funds
- Volunteer services
- Supplies, door prizes, gift cards
- Planned Giving

United Way  
#8312

Combined Federal Campaign  
#86423

Donors are recognized in a "Showcase of Stars" program, in publications and at the NVRC Annual Meeting.

## MEMBERSHIP

Your membership indicates support of NVRC and its mission.

Membership funds help provide programs to the growing number of deaf and hard of hearing people in your community.

**Contributions are tax-deductible.  
Please make checks  
payable to NVRC.**

2  
4-13-09



**Lois Ember**  
<lois.ember@gmail.com>

04/15/2009 09:48 PM

Please respond to  
Lois Ember  
<lois.ember@gmail.com>

To: william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,  
cc  
bcc  
Subject: COA Contact Us: real estate taxes



Time: [Wed Apr 15, 2009 21:48:57] IP Address: [72.83.188.81]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Lois  
**Last Name:** Ember  
**Street Address:** 904 Green St.  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:** 703-548-0832  
**Email Address:** lois.ember@gmail.com  
**Subject:** real estate taxes

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

As a retiree on a fixed income and a long-time city resident, I am writing to protest vociferously the proposed 4.2 cents/\$100 assessed value increase in the property tax rate. The economy is in deep recession and my savings have been greatly diminished.

Home sales in my section of Alexandria have been nearly nonexistent since late summer of last year and, yet, instead of receiving a reduction in my real estate assessment, I received a nearly \$13,000 increase. There is no justification for this increase and I have asked that it be reviewed.

**Comments:** My real estate taxes have increased every year for the 20 plus years I have lived at my current address. Over these years, if the assessed value of my home was reduced, the real estate tax rate was increased, or vice versa, so I ended up paying more in taxes each year. This year I am being

hit with a double whammy: An assessment increase of \$13,000 and a proposed tax rate of 0.887 cents/\$100, up from 0.845 cents/\$100.

I am sick and

tired of the mayor and the city council balancing the city's budget on the backs of its residents. I can promise you that if the council votes for the proposed tax rate increase, I will express my disapproval in the voting booth: I will vote against every current elected official in the upcoming election. And, I do vote--as do many of my friends in the city. So, when it comes time to vote on the proposed increase I encourage you to remember the upcoming election.





naksmith@aol.com  
04/15/2009 03:28 PM

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject Follow up on GW/Rec Playing fields

2  
4-13-09

As I mentioned, my summary of the PTA Meeting April 14, 2009

Our PTA meeting included citizens from the neighborhood , principal, parents and some school board members. A clear majority of parents were opposed, often strongly. Parents and principal cited the constant use of present rec fields by physical education classes during the day and youth and adult football and little league during the evenings and weekends .

Problems highlighted were the proposed landbay's poor condition , shape, noise, buried power lines, traffic and location. How would neighboring Leslie Avenue homeowners feel about PE classes all day and lighted football in the evening? Other school fields to the rear of GW are also used by TC soccer and as well as PE classes. Apparently these rear fields will soon be close to the future "Main Street" extending from Potomac Yard to halfway down the school fields . Oddly there will be a traffic turn around just behind the current school parking lot meant to be sort of a subway kiss and ride (personally I think having a road dead end in the middle of nowhere makes no sense). One other suggestion by zoning was to get parking lot put underground and have a field put on top . This would be extremely costly and impossible to supervise that students or other people didn't go in and mess around . Even if it were done, the acreage that the parking lot occupies is not nearly as large as that in the rec fields . Plus where do school buses load and unload? Where does head start pick up and drop off occur? When GW reaches full capacity of 1440 students in the next few years, GW will have an average of 180 students out at PE each class period. Good, safe playing fields will be a necessity.

Another strong concern was how the building and school could work in such proximity . Expensive residences won't want students or commuters short cutting across their property , so are likely to fence it off. What about trash storage/dumpsters aggravating rodent issues? What about our principal having to take complaining calls from future businesses that students are noisy and annoying? Traffic entering and exiting property will create a pedestrian hazard and make congestion worse.

Neighborhood sentiment was mixed. Del Ray residents were interested in the possibility of having a park near to their houses, possibly including sports fields and community garden .

Rosemont citizens were worried about safety and congestion .

Whether or not they have become familiar with the situation , 950 students, their families and many sports players will lose in this deal. I can see why the developers would like this swap. Although I am told (by Justin Wilson) that the developers aren't that favorable to it. So, if he is correct, the developers will be offering little in exchange for the land swap . Many participants did not want money/time spent on planning for this land swap that is clearly not good for GW , especially in tight budget times.

Personal suggestion, take the time, cost and energy=20 saved by not creating this study and

use it to buy actual land. Near GW or elsewhere. GW is struggling to improve student education and doesn't need the stress.

Sincerely,  
Pam Smith GWPTA President

Get the scoop on the live music scene in your area and hit a show tonight. [Check out TourTracker.com!](#)

2  
4-13-09



**Matthew Huston**  
<matthewhuston@verizon.net>

04/15/2009 01:31 PM

Please respond to  
Matthew Huston  
<matthewhuston@verizon.net>

To: william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,  
cc:  
bcc:  
Subject: COA Contact Us: Proposed transit service cuts



Time: [Wed Apr 15, 2009 13:31:25] IP Address: [72.83.172.28]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Matthew  
**Last Name:** Huston  
**Street Address:** 2902 Landover Street  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** Virginia  
**Zip:** 22305  
**Phone:** 703-548-1642  
**Email Address:** matthewhuston@verizon.net

**Subject:** Proposed transit service cuts  
Dear Mayor Euille and City Councilmembers:

I encourage you not to  
proceed with the proposed cuts to DASH and Metrobus service in Alexandria.  
Both DASH and Metrobus provide needed transportation to communities with  
few travel options. In addition, maintaining high quality, frequent

**Comments:** service, even during off-peak times, encourages people who do have a choice  
to choose the more environmentally beneficial transit service over driving.  
I am particularly concerned about reductions to the AT3-4 and Metrobus 10A  
services which I often use to get to Old Town, Braddock Metro, and Pentagon  
City. Thank you for your consideration.  
  
-Matthew Huston





Fay Slotnick  
<fslotnick@verizon.net>  
04/15/2009 10:00 AM

To HENDERSON Jackie <jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov>  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Petition to increase tax rate

2  
-----  
4-13-09

Resent to you, Jackie. I sent this to Council and Mayor separately.  
Please see below.

Fay Slotnick  
311 Second Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703-739-0233  
703-409-6872 (cell)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** PLTI of ALEXANDRIA <info@plti-alex.org>  
**Date:** April 15, 2009 9:58:37 AM EDT  
**To:** Gaines Ludwig <ludgaines@aol.com>, william.euille@alexandriava.gov, Krupicka Rob <Rob@krupicka.com>, Smedberg Paul <smedbergpc@aol.com>, Lovain Tim <timlovain@timlovain.com>, Pepper Del <delpepper@aol.com>, Wilson Justin <justin@justin.net>  
**Subject:** Petition to increase tax rate

Dear Mayor and Members of Council, and Clerk of the City Council,

I am submitting a petition which requests that taxes be increased so that the average residential tax bill will increase by \$3 per week. I understand that the published rate is lower than that, but I hope that this petition will encourage you to seek the maximum allowable rate to keep Alexandria strong.

You may view the public petition at  
<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/TaxpayersUnitedForBudgetEquity>.

I have also attached the data from the petition which includes comments and email addresses. As some signers wished to remain anonymous for posting purposes, I ask that this information be retained by you and not distributed. You will need to expand the selections because I was not able to save the document with the columns expanded.

I also want you to know that members of the PLTI class and alumni were not solicited for this petition with the exception of Cassandra Ford who expressed an interest, apart from her relationship to the program, in signing.

Thank you for your consideration.



signatures 4-15.csv

Fay

Fay D. Slotnick, Executive Director  
Parent Leadership Training Institute of Alexandria  
c/o Hopkins House  
1224 Princess Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703-739-0233  
703-409-6872 (cell)  
[info@PLTI-ALEX.org](mailto:info@PLTI-ALEX.org)  
[www.PLTI-ALEX.org](http://www.PLTI-ALEX.org)

ID	NAME	EMAIL	COMMENT	PUBLIC
1	Fay Slotnic	fslotnick@verizon.net		1
2	Jack A. Slot	jackslotnick@verizon.net		1
3	Christa R. Watt	watt@sedg@aol.com		1
4	Phyllis Slot	pslotnick@verizon.net		1
5	Kate Watter	katekasp@yahoo.com		1
6	Marian Var	vadelmvl@aol.com		1
7	Mel Bergh	melandonna@comcast		1
8	Audrey Fle	audreyann@comcast	I cannot im	1
9	Donna Ber	melandonna@comcast		1
10	Susan Kelli	SusanBK@comcast	You get wh	1
11	Matt Harris	matsharris@hotmail.com		1
12	Peggy March	peggymarch@earthlink		1
13	Claudia W	claudiac@earthlink	Alexandria	1
14	Mary S. Ly	mslyman@verizon.net		1
15	No Way	nodups@aol.com	No Way! 1	0
16	Sheryl Gorsuch	sheryl-gorsuch@comcast		1
17	Judy Heffner	judc3@comcast.net		1
18	Sally Grady	sallygrady@earthlink.net		1
19	Bud Miller	ersalexand@comcast	Our proper	1
20	Hazel Rigby	hrigby@aol.com		1
21	Sandy Northrop	sandynorthrop@mac.com		1
22	Marcia Miller	ears35@earthlink.net	Look, it's	1
23	Paul Friedman	paulfriedman@comcast		1
24	Patrick Anderson	panderson@comcast	the tax rate	1
25	Patsieann	lpmisiti@earthlink.net		1
26	Laura Beach	lbeach@hopkinshouse		1
27	Antonio Al	antonio@thestudioa.com		1
28	Scott Barst	scottbarst@comcast	It is vitally i	1
29	Julie Jakob	julie@creative.com	These inve	1
30	Mary Straw	sprawn@hotmail.com		1
31	Herb Cooper	herbcl@earthlink.net		1
32	Marilee Cu	modonnell05@comcast		1
33	Shirley Che	shircher@cs.com		1
34	Judith Lowe	judylowe36@comcast	We are reti	0
35	Margaret T	margethiel@verizon.net		0
36	Judy Felt	jajufelt@aol.com	I totally agr	0
37	Michael M	mikemackey09@gmail.com		1
38	Michael M	mikemackey09@gmail.com		0
39	Gwendolyn	gblewis425@comcast		1
40	Nick Part	nickdeuva@comcast	I support th	1
41	Courtney F	criggie@anhsi.org		1
42	Barack Ob	Pres@wh.gov		1
43	Cassandra	fordc@gwr.com	Its time to l	1
44	Leonard R	lsrubenstein@verizon		1
45	Brett Rini	brini@vt.edu		1
46	Tom Ray	thracycroft@msn.com		1
47	Showthe C	nospam2@aol.com		1



**Kevin Brockway**  
<kevin.brockway@hilton.com>

04/14/2009 05:26 PM

Please respond to  
Kevin Brockway  
<kevin.brockway@hilton.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: The Trolley

2  
4-13-09

**Time:** [Tue Apr 14, 2009 17:26:40] **IP Address:** [192.251.125.85]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Kevin

**Last Name:** Brockway

**Street Address:** Hilton Alexandria  
1767 King Street

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** Va

**Zip:** 22314

**Phone:** 703-647-2001

**Email Address:** kevin.brockway@hilton.com

**Subject:** The Trolley

My understanding is the City Council is hearing a lot of negative feedback on the trolley. If there is one thing that the trolley does it eliminates a lot of additional auto traffic that normal daily workers and residents would be utilizing if not for the trolley. It has also added a much needed charm factor to a standard bus in this scenic town.

If the

residents take issue with the cost that would seem to be a non issue. The trolley was to be a \$1 million dollar cost expense, the increased hotel tax has increased year on year tax revenues by \$1.7 million through 7 months. It would seem the hotels can support this cost. I don't know how the residents cannot support the trolley, many of them ride it everyday!

**Comments:** In

the end the Trolley enhances Old Town's charm, it makes a green statement from a commute stand point for the local community and it assist in driving revenues in all of the restaurants, retail and tourist opportunities in old

Town. I just wanted to pledge some real support for what I feel is a tremendous addition to old Town that was put together by the support of City council and the ACVA. It is a great marketing vehicle and one that should survive the economic downturn.

Sincerely,

Kevin

Brockway  
General Manager  
ACVA Governor  
AHA Treasurer

2  
4-13-09



**Teresa Shifflett**  
<terri.shifflett@us.army.mil>

04/14/2009 04:50 PM

Please respond to  
Teresa Shifflett  
<terri.shifflett@us.army.mil>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: School Budget Cuts

**Time: [Tue Apr 14, 2009 16:50:46] IP Address: [141.116.168.33]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Teresa

**Last Name:** Shifflett

**Street Address:** 5502 Dorset Drive

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22311

**Phone:**

**Email Address:** terri.shifflett@us.army.mil

**Subject:** School Budget Cuts

The subject of budget cuts was brought up at the William Ramsey PTA Meeting

held last night. I am very concerned about any potential budget cuts. I

have a 13 year old son with special needs who attends Oak Valley Center

because he is unable to cope in a mainstream situation, as well as a 6 year

old son who attends William Ramsey and is doing very well. It was mentioned

that a 1.5% budget cut is currently proposed. Education and Student

Services are vital to our community and its children. Without the proper

education and services, our children will be lost. Our schools are

currently facing overcrowding, language barriers due to the influx of

immigrants into the community, and the teachers are weary from the

increased demands. In order to ensure our children receive the best

possible education, it is imperative that budget cuts be kept at a minimum.

Please do not cut anymore from the budget, as it will affect valuable

resources, services, and teachers. Our students and teachers deserve to be

**Comments:** rewarded for their hard work, not penalized due to a struggling economy.

The economy will improve, but once we make cuts in our education needs and student services, the the long-term effects will last forever. A budget cut in student services and education means we all suffer in the long run as the failure rates and drop-out rates for our city will continue to rise. Our teachers and children need all the support, services, and encouragement we can render in order to succeed. In fact, we need more services not less; we need more recreation centers, more after-school programs, more affordable pre-school alternatives for those of us who make too much to enroll our children in Head Start, but don't make enough to pay for pre-school. We also, need more music and arts programs to stimulate our children's creative minds. Ultimately, we need a budget that will allow us to sustain and enrich the education of our most precious gift, our children. Please don't fail the children.



**Debra Monahan**  
<debra@shoplamuse.net>

04/14/2009 04:47 PM

Please respond to  
Debra Monahan  
<debra@shoplamuse.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: King Street Trolley

2  
4-13-09

**Time: [Tue Apr 14, 2009 16:47:53] IP Address: [70.21.58.120]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Debra  
**Last Name:** Monahan  
**Street Address:** La Muse  
108 N Patrick St.  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:** 703.683.1696  
**Email Address:** debra@shoplamuse.net  
**Subject:** King Street Trolley  
I just received an email from Cindy at Diva Boutique asking all Retailers  
Off King Street members to send our thoughts regarding the trolley. It  
seems there were unfavorable reviews during a public hearing.  
The  
trolley is an asset to Old Town. It helps visitors and residents alike to  
move up and down King St. with ease. I am sure that my customers,  
especially the out of town visitors that come to my store, use the  
trolley.  
The investment that the City has made regarding the trolley is  
appreciated and I would like to see it continue.  
That being said, I am  
also a volunteer for Meals On Wheels and various other charitable  
organizations. City services that help the elderly, sick, disabled and  
disadvantage are vital. If it should come down to cutting City services  
**Comments:** for this group of people or putting the trolley on hiatus - my conscience



would say to put a halt on trolley services for the time being.

On

another note - I know that Council is doing all it can to help the small businesses of Alexandria. La Muse has entered a contest to win a \$25,000 business grant from Quickbooks. If I am able to secure this grant (or one of the other \$10k grants) it would be helpful in securing La Muse's future. If you have a moment please go to the Quickbooks website and vote the story I've written as "inspiring." You can reach the link via the home page of [www.ShopLaMuse.net](http://www.ShopLaMuse.net)

Many thanks -debra

2  
4-13-09



**Helen Epley**  
<helenepley@hotmail.com>

04/16/2009 12:15 PM

Please respond to  
Helen Epley  
<helenepley@hotmail.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: soccer

**Time: [Thu Apr 16, 2009 12:15:06] IP Address: [68.34.7.15]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Helen  
**Last Name:** Epley  
**Street Address:** 108 Prince Street  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** va  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:**  
**Email Address:** helenepley@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** soccer  
Please make this thing at Ben Brenman Park work for our kids! The fields  
around here are mostly deplorable and it's one more thing that makes Fx Co.  
**Comments:** so desireable for families - their dedication to sports and rec for their  
kids. Just make the assignment of funds and get the work started! Thanks.

2  
4-13-09



**Lyle Beckwith**  
<lbeckwith@nacsonline.com>

04/16/2009 12:18 PM

Please respond to  
Lyle Beckwith  
<lbeckwith@nacsonline.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,  
cc  
bcc  
Subject COA Contact Us: Youth Soccer Fields



**Time: [Thu Apr 16, 2009 12:18:34] IP Address: [66.208.52.2]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Lyle

**Last Name:** Beckwith

**Street Address:** 101 E. Monroe Ave.

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22301

**Phone:** 703-508-9007

**Email Address:** lbeckwith@nacsonline.com

**Subject:** Youth Soccer Fields

We cannot expect our children to engage in healthy activities if we do not provide them the space and facilities to do so. Considering the vast interest in youth Soccer, I urge you to use the Brenman Complex at Cameron Station as a location for upgraded soccer facilities that would benefit

**Comments:** Alexandrian's of all ages.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lyle

Beckwith

2  
4-13-09



**Deserie Hirsch**  
<deserie1@comcast.net>

04/16/2009 12:37 PM

Please respond to  
Deserie Hirsch  
<deserie1@comcast.net>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Soccer Fields

**Time: [Thu Apr 16, 2009 12:37:59] IP Address: [70.91.86.77]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Deserie  
**Last Name:** Hirsch  
**Street Address:** 510 South Columbus Street  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:** 703-838-8740  
**Email Address:** deserie1@comcast.net  
**Subject:** Soccer Fields  
We fully support the development and upkeep of soccer fields in the City of  
**Comments:** Alexandria.



**Michael Griffith**  
<michaelsgriff@yahoo.com>

04/16/2009 12:51 PM

Please respond to  
Michael Griffith  
<michaelsgriff@yahoo.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Playing Fields

2  
-----  
4-13-09

**Time: [Thu Apr 16, 2009 12:51:42] IP Address: [68.236.7.227]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Michael  
**Last Name:** Griffith  
**Street Address:** 11 W. Spring St.  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22301  
**Phone:** 703-732-4422  
**Email Address:** michaelsgriff@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Playing Fields  
Dear City Council - With the lack of playing fields in the City when the weather is poor, I'm requesting the City install a turf soccer field at Brenman (located at Cameron Station). I appreciate your  
**Comments:** consideration.  
Thank you.  
Michael Griffith

2  
4-13-09



**Edgar Bruce Fergusson**  
<abfergusson@verizon.net>

04/16/2009 12:55 PM

Please respond to  
Edgar Bruce Fergusson  
<abfergusson@verizon.net>

To: william.cuille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject: COA Contact Us: Turf field at Brenman Park

**Time: [Thu Apr 16, 2009 12:55:28] IP Address: [161.80.10.20]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Edgar Bruce  
**Last Name:** Fergusson  
**Street Address:** 812 Chalfonte Drive  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** Virginia  
**Zip:** 22305  
**Phone:** 703-489-3751  
**Email Address:** abfergusson@verizon.net  
**Subject:** Turf field at Brenman Park

Dear Sirs/Madams:

I am writing you in support of funding for a turf soccer field with lights at Brenman Park. The current soccer field there is in poor shape and needs to either be refurbished or replaced with an artificial turf field with lights. As you are aware based on the experience with turf fields at Minnie Howard and Ft. Ward, while initially expensive to install, lighted turf fields offer big advantages over natural grass fields:

- lower maintenance costs
- increased play because of

- lights and all-weather capability
- superior playing surface

There are

**Comments:** almost 2,000 Alexandria kids playing soccer. It is the largest youth sport in Alexandria, providing year round fun and exercise for our children We are grateful for the investment that Alexandria has made in installing

lighted turf fields at Minnie Howard and Ft. Ward. But with the uncertain status of the Potomac Yards field complex and the increasing number of kids playing field sports like soccer and lacrosse, the kids (and the adults) in Alexandria need additional lighted turf fields. I therefore urge you to make a further investment in our children by installing a lighted turf soccer field at Ben Brenman Park.

Respectfully submitted,

Edgar Bruce

Fergusson  
812 Chalfonte Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22305

2  
4-13-09



guillermo teran  
<gsandroteran@yahoo.com>

04/16/2009 12:58 PM

Please respond to  
guillermo teran  
<gsandroteran@yahoo.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,  
cc  
bcc  
Subject COA Contact Us: soccer fields

Time: [Thu Apr 16, 2009 12:58:11] IP Address: [141.156.20.220]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** guillermo  
**Last Name:** teran  
**Street Address:** 3342 s. 28th st. #201  
**City:** Alexandria,  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22302  
**Phone:** 703-9982974  
**Email Address:** gsandroteran@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** soccer fields  
**Comments:** I have three children who loves to play soccer, like them there are thousand Alexandrian kids who loves as well, in consequence all my family members are worry about the soccer fields situation. We need your help as soon as possible. Thank you.





**Robert Clark**  
<robert@clarkmail.com>

04/16/2009 01:30 PM

Please respond to  
Robert Clark  
<robert@clarkmail.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Soccer Playing Fields

2

4-13-09

**Time:** [Thu Apr 16, 2009 13:30:37] **IP Address:** [75.148.15.201]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Robert

**Last Name:** Clark

**Street Address:** 602 Virginia Avenue

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22302

**Phone:**

**Email Address:** robert@clarkmail.com

**Subject:** Soccer Playing Fields

I write to express my hope that you will find budget to resolve the lack of soccer fields in the city of alexandria. We were on such a great path toward solving this problem created by the loss of so many fields due to construction projects. But now we are left worse than when it all started.

**Comments:**

If the developers are not going to deliver on Potomac Yards, then let's put turf fields into Brenman!

2  
4-13-09



**Christine Merdon**  
<merdoninc@yahoo.com>

04/16/2009 01:48 PM

Please respond to  
Christine Merdon  
<merdoninc@yahoo.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Soccer Fields at Brenman Park



**Time:** [Thu Apr 16, 2009 13:48:45] **IP Address:** [66.251.108.130]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Christine  
**Last Name:** Merdon  
**Street Address:** 116 Waterford Place  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:** 703-836-3359  
**Email Address:** merdoninc@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Soccer Fields at Brenman Park

There is a need for a new soccer field to be used by the children of the City of Alexandria. Current fields are in poor condition.

It is my

understanding that there is an opportunity to use an open space near an existing field. that is under control of the citizens of Alexandria, which could quickly be converted into a decent turf complex. This is the Brenman complex located in Cameron Station. Those of you who have been to Brenman know a full-sized soccer field is there and an open area exists (beyond the outfield of Brenman softball) that could accommodate a similar field. If

**Comments:**

lights were installed at a turfied Brenman soccer field we would acquire almost another half field. The City currently has money in the upcoming budget, and also is the recipient of ARRA funding, which could be used to fund this project. To turn Brenman into a first class playing field complex will require the City to find or allocate more funds for this purpose.

As a parent and citizen of the City of Alexandria, I respectfully request the Council to consider this great opportunity to fund a desperately needed soccer field.



**Kay Marshall**  
<millier@ehsva.org>

04/16/2009 02:05 PM

Please respond to  
Kay Marshall <millier@ehsva.org>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: soccer turf field -- Brenman

2  
4-13-09

**Time:** [Thu Apr 16, 2009 14:05:32] **IP Address:** [98.141.247.50]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Kay  
**Last Name:** Marshall  
**Street Address:** 1200 N Quaker Lane  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22302  
**Phone:** 703-379-6180  
**Email Address:** millier@ehsva.org  
**Subject:** soccer turf field -- Brenman

I am a regular Alexandria voter, and a soccer parent. Thousands of Alexandria children play soccer, and our kids need a soccer turf field badly! We have been unable to use the regular playing fields for weeks (due to rain). There is an open area at the Brenman complex located in Cameron Station (beyond the outfield of Brenman softball) where an additional turf field could be built. If lights were installed at a turf field Brenman soccer field, the city's kids would have almost another half field.

**Comments:** You are currently finalizing next fiscal year's budget, and there is money in the upcoming budget that could be used for part of this project. PLEASE somehow find and allocate the additional needed funds for this purpose.

I appreciate your support for the health of our kids.

Kay

Marshall

2  
4-13-09



**Beth Yancey**  
<bethyancey@hotmail.com>

04/16/2009 02:18 PM

Please respond to  
Beth Yancey  
<bethyancey@hotmail.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Additional Soccer Fields at Brenman Park

**Time:** [Thu Apr 16, 2009 14:18:47] **IP Address:** [204.194.77.3]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Beth  
**Last Name:** Yancey  
**Street Address:** 2418 Davis Ave.  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22302  
**Phone:** 703-683-4063  
**Email Address:** bethyancey@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Additional Soccer Fields at Brenman Park  
Hello - My child is a student at ACPS and is currently playing soccer for the Alexandria Soccer Association. There is a great need for additional quality fields in Alexandria and these fields are needed for many youth programs in the city. I understand that a few of the new field projects have been put on hold due to the economy and also that there is money in the City budget for fields at Brenman.  
In this era of rising physical inactivity and obesity in children, I believe it is of utmost importance to provide and maintain quality places where kids can participate in sports and other physical activities.  
**Comments:** Please consider providing full funding for additional fields at Brenman (and existing field maintenance) so that the city children may utilize and enjoy.  
Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Beth Yancey

2  
4-13-09



Norm Lent  
<normlent@yahoo.com>

04/16/2009 02:22 PM

Please respond to  
Norm Lent  
<normlent@yahoo.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Soccer Fields & Traffic

Time: [Thu Apr 16, 2009 14:22:24] IP Address: [65.246.125.13]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Norm  
**Last Name:** Lent  
**Street Address:** 3529 Malvern Ct  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22304-1852  
**Phone:** 703-751-5878  
**Email Address:** normlent@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Soccer Fields & Traffic  
Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Pepper, and Council Members Gaines, Krupicka, Lovain, Smedberg and Wilson,  
  
Thanks again for your efforts to bring new all-weather fields to Alexandria. My children play a variety of sports and appreciate the new fields at Minnie Howard and behind St Stephens St Agnes Middle School.  
  
I write to ask your support for an all-weather soccer field at Ben Brenman. As you know, we've had a rainy spring with many rain-outs, and the proposed Potomac Yards soccer field is on a slow track given the recession.  
  
On another note, I appreciate the City's various pedestrian/bike enhancement/traffic calming efforts in the East Braddock, Janneys Lane, Commonwealth and Russell Road areas, and hope that the City will look at similar efforts west of Quaker for N Howard and perhaps Braddock and Seminary and even Van Dorn between Braddock and King--some or

all of which could be three-laned w/bike lanes in a fairly low-cost manner without seriously impeding traffic flow.

Lightly traveled N Howard, for

example, has a 25 MPH speed limit which is easily ignored because it's a four-lane road.

Busy Quaker Lane divides the western and eastern portions of my Trinity Drive neighborhood ala the Berlin Wall.

**Comments:**

Unfortunately, I don't think Quaker could be three-laned without serious traffic disruptions and more neighborhood cut-through traffic. However, a speed-activated traffic light at Quaker and Trinity would slow Quaker traffic and unify the neighborhood, though one would want to consider right-on-red, rush hour, and other restrictions on it so as not to encourage more cut-through traffic. The same would be true at Bishop and Quaker. Arlington County has a speed-activated light on four-lane Wilson Boulevard near Lexington Street that works well. That stretch of Wilson Blvd, which is much improved, could be a model for Quaker. I would assume the City could find a way to justify traffic lights on pedestrian safety grounds even if it couldn't on conventional traffic-volume grounds.

Delray Beach, Florida is looking at some of the same traffic issues as Alexandria. Delray's approach is to use inexpensive, temporary barriers as an experiment and see if they work without causing serious congestion. See

[http://www.delraycra.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=48&Itemid=64](http://www.delraycra.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=48&Itemid=64)

Thanks for your service to our city.

Norm  
Norm

Lent III  
3529 Malvern Ct  
Alexandria VA 22304-1852  
normlent@yahoo.com





**Nancy Lacey**  
<nancy\_lacey@yahoo.com>

04/16/2009 02:38 PM

Please respond to  
Nancy Lacey  
<nancy\_lacey@yahoo.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Funds needed for new soccer playing fields

2  
4-13-09

**Time: [Thu Apr 16, 2009 14:38:47] IP Address: [69.140.81.99]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Nancy  
**Last Name:** Lacey  
**Street Address:** 108 W. Alexandria Ave.  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22301  
**Phone:** 703-549-4888  
**Email Address:** nancy\_lacey@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Funds needed for new soccer playing fields  
Dear City Council:

Our youth soccer fields are in very poor shape. I

ask that you allocate more funding towards converting the Brenman complex (Cameron Station) into a decent turf complex that our children can use, even in and after inclement weather. As you know, Brenman has a full-sized soccer field is there and an open area exists (beyond the outfield of Brenman softball) that could accommodate a similar field. If lights were installed at a turfed Brenman soccer field we would acquire almost another half field.

**Comments:**

I understand that The City currently has money in the upcoming budget which could be used for part of this project but not all of it. To turn Brenman into a decent playing field complex will require the City to find or allocate more funds for this purpose. Please consider allocating more funds as you go through the steps of finalizing next fiscal year's budget.

Thank you.  
Nancy Lacey

2  
4-13-09



Nicholas Nebolsine  
<nebolsine@gmail.com>

04/16/2009 03:26 PM

Please respond to  
Nicholas Nebolsine  
<nebolsine@gmail.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: City Budget - Allocation for Lighted All Weather  
Playing Fields

Time: [Thu Apr 16, 2009 15:26:46] IP Address: [155.201.35.52]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Nicholas

**Last Name:** Nebolsine

**Street Address:** 6 West Howell Avenue

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22301

**Phone:** 703 739 7682

**Email Address:** nebolsine@gmail.com

**Subject:** City Budget - Allocation for Lighted All Weather Playing Fields  
In the City's next budget cycle, please allocated sufficient funding to  
allow for the construction of as many lighted all weather playing fields as  
possible. This investment will pay dividends to the City's residents,

**Comments:** especially children, for many years to come.

Thank you,  
Nicholas

Nebolsine

2  
4-13-09



**Ben Bates** <batesiii@aol.com>

04/16/2009 06:00 PM

Please respond to  
Ben Bates <batesiii@aol.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Playing Fields in Alexandria

**Time:** [Thu Apr 16, 2009 18:00:46] **IP Address:** [68.83.220.230]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Ben  
**Last Name:** Bates  
**Street Address:** 508 Lloyds Lane  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22302  
**Phone:** 7036830204  
**Email Address:** batesiii@aol.com  
**Subject:** Playing Fields in Alexandria  
Please support as a top priority improvement to playing fields in Alexandria. As a volunteer coach for Alexandria Soccer Association for many years and a parent of 3 young soccer players (lacrosse as well), I have observed first hand the already poor and still deteriorating quality of field conditions in our city. We are way behind our neighboring communities in providing quality playing conditions for our kids. For my team of 8 year old soccer players this spring, we have canceled 3 of 5 possible practices and 2 of 2 possible games. This is highly disappointing to the kids and very disruptive to busy parents. It also slows the sports development of our children, putting them at a disadvantage to those that get to practice and play regularly.  
Please  
**Comments:** support and fully fund the improvements to the Brenman Complex at Cameron station, including turf fields and lights.  
In addition, please care

for the fields we do have, especially those at Potomac Yard. It appears we will use those fields longer than originally planned. With proper maintenance, there is no reason those PY fields can't be among the best in the area. As it stands now, they are rotting away.

Help us give our

Alexandria children the playing conditions they deserve to thrive and grow.

Thank you.

Ben Bates



**Jaber Jami**  
<jaberjami@yahoo.com>

04/17/2009 06:33 AM

Please respond to  
Jaber Jami  
<jaberjami@yahoo.com>

To [william.euille@alexandriava.gov](mailto:william.euille@alexandriava.gov),  
[timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov](mailto:timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov), [councilmangaines@aol.com](mailto:councilmangaines@aol.com),  
[council@krupicka.com](mailto:council@krupicka.com), [delpepper@aol.com](mailto:delpepper@aol.com),

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Brenman into a first class playing field complex

2  
4-13-09

**Time: [Fri Apr 17, 2009 06:33:10] IP Address: [63.167.255.151]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Jaber  
**Last Name:** Jami  
**Street Address:** 103 Somerville Street  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22304  
**Phone:** 703 212-9272  
**Email Address:** [jaberjami@yahoo.com](mailto:jaberjami@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Brenman into a first class playing field complex  
Since the Brenman Park currently accomodates many soccer players around the city of Alexandria residents, It would be nice to see the city council  
**Comments:** allocating more funds for the upgrade and improvements for the existing soccer field.

2  
4-13-09



**Mariana Ippolito**  
<marianaippolito@yahoo.com>

04/17/2009 10:18 AM

Please respond to  
Mariana Ippolito  
<marianaippolito@yahoo.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Soccer Fields

**Time: [Fri Apr 17, 2009 10:18:29] IP Address: [98.218.84.102]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Mariana  
**Last Name:** Ippolito  
**Street Address:** 5239 Brawner PI  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22304  
**Phone:** 703-461 0148  
**Email Address:** marianaippolito@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Soccer Fields  
Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor and Council Members:

**Comments:**  
This message it to ask  
you to support our youth in practicing soccer. We are in great need of  
fields and there is one place that could be converted into a decent turf  
complex. This is the Brenman complex located in Cameron Station. What is  
needed is funding. At Brenman there is a full-sized soccer field and an  
open area exists (beyond the outfield of Brenman softball) that could  
accommodate a similar field. If lights were installed at a turfed Brenman  
soccer field we would acquire almost another half field. Alexandria  
families would truly appreciate your support on this  
matter.  
Sincerely,  
Mariana Ippolito



Vicki Moeser  
<vicki.moeser@gmail.com>

04/17/2009 08:55 AM

Please respond to  
Vicki Moeser  
<vicki.moeser@gmail.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: soccer fields

2  
4-13-09

Time: [Fri Apr 17, 2009 08:55:33] IP Address: [65.117.186.194]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Vicki  
**Last Name:** Moeser  
**Street Address:** 21 Fendall Avenue  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** Virginia  
**Zip:** 22304  
**Phone:** 703-461-7069  
**Email Address:** vicki.moeser@gmail.com  
**Subject:** soccer fields  
**Comments:** Please make soccer fields a priority in your planning/budgeting...



2  
4-13-09



Charles Ziegler  
<candjziegler@hotmail.com>

04/17/2009 12:09 PM

Please respond to  
Charles Ziegler  
<candjziegler@hotmail.com>

To william.euille@alexandriava.gov,  
timothy.lovain@alexandriava.gov, councilmangaines@aol.com,  
council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Budget Resources for Archives and Records  
Center

**Time: [Fri Apr 17, 2009 12:09:40] IP Address: [68.50.210.171]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Charles  
**Last Name:** Ziegler  
**Street Address:** 1201 St. Stephens Road  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** Virginia  
**Zip:** 22304  
**Phone:** 703 370 0648  
**Email Address:** candjziegler@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Budget Resources for Archives and Records Center  
Dear Mayor Euille and Members of the City Council,

As I have spent my working life in the area of archives and records management, I've taken a particular interest such matters in the City of Alexandria. Therefore I note with concern that the City's archives and records management program is to undergo a significant diminution of resources, most especially the loss of a part-time records clerk, in the upcoming City budget. Of particular concern is that, as I understand it, the Archives and Records Center is behind in timely scheduled records destruction due to staffing constraints. That puts the City at risk during the discovery process for lawsuits. In addition, proper supervision of records management issues in the City cannot be properly conducted with the current level of staffing, a situation that could easily result in the loss of important documentation for both current business and historical needs.

I well understand that

the City of Alexandria, along with the rest of the country, is undergoing a period of severe resource constraints, and that hard choices need to be made. However, I would respectfully remind you that an adequately funded records management program is an essential element in the provision of open, honest, and accountable government.

Yours sincerely,  
Charles

Ziegler