

Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Donley, and Members of the City Council:

I am Fran Becker, the Executive Director of Carpenter's Homeless Shelter for the last twelve years.

Carpenter's mission is to end and prevent homelessness in the City. We believe that all City citizens are entitled to safe, affordable housing. We fully support Goal Seven of the Council's proposed strategic plan which calls for Alexandria being that *Caring Community that is Affordable and Diverse With a Rich History and Culture*.

The need for more affordable housing in our City is a long standing concern that has gained much attention. I remember testifying in the early 2000s about dire need for MORE affordable housing units, I remember when the penny fund was truly a penny and was going to help create new units and not servicing debt only.

While the issue has been given much attention and discussion, in this decade, Alexandria has been losing ground maintaining the existing stock of affordable housing. There has been indeed a "net" loss noted last year by the Council appointed Affordable Housing Work Group.

In its interim recommendations to City Council in April 2008, the Group stated, “The loss of affordable housing that has occurred in the last decade is a clear and present threat to the City’s economic and racial/ethnic diversity.

Between 2000 and 2008, the City lost more than **10,000 nonsubsidized affordable rental housing units** because of increases in rents. The Group further predicted that over the next five years, another 1,000 non-Resolution 830 publicly-assisted units face potential loss of subsidy. No wonder emergency shelters, like Carpenter’s, are full.

***I ask you, where is the Alexandria that is Affordable and Diverse???***

The proposed cuts to housing funds in the FY11 budget will only increase this “clear and present threat to the City’s economic racial/ethnic diversity.” The proposed \$686,849 cut in housing funds is an almost a 30 percent reduction relative to FY10. The largest item proposed for reduction is the \$502,060 of the real estate tax dedicated for affordable housing initiatives.

I applaud the initiation of the City's Housing Master Plan process and its efforts to address current affordable housing in Alexandria. The proposed cuts, however, will further reduce affordable housing options that might be identified in this Master Plan.

Herb is right - these proposed cuts will, for all practical purposes, stop the conversation before it begins.

Council members, **please restore the half a million dollars taken from the real estate tax revenue and put it back for affordable housing initiatives and not merely debt service.**

Make Alexandria that rich, diverse, affordable and caring community that we all talk about, at least on paper. We can't afford to lose any more affordable housing...or we need to start thinking about building more emergency shelters.

Thank you.



**COA Contact Us: Real Estate Taxes**

william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,

**Beal Lowen** to: alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka

03/18/2010 02:37 PM

**Please respond to Beal Lowen**

**Time: [Thu Mar 18, 2010 14:37:32] Message ID: [20148]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Beal  
**Last Name:** Lowen  
**Street Address:** 321 South Lee Street  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** Virginia  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:** 703 836 5905  
**Email Address:** lowenbusiness@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Real Estate Taxes  
Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and City Council Members:

It was with dismay and

surprise that I read of the proposed increase in the residential real estate

tax  
rate.

At a time when no ones' income is increasing and all of us are

being careful with our expenses and  
financial planning such an increase

should not take place. There are always needs that are or should be  
societal responsibilities that cannot be met at a level demanded or  
requested by the recipients of the peoples(government) support.

The

increase in the tax rate witnesses one of several things.

The City has

been spending too much money in the past and has promised too much to too  
many interest groups, and can now not draw back to a level of expenditure we  
the tax payers can afford.

**Comments:** You are leadership must find the courage and  
or understanding to allow it to say no.  
Any spending of City's money is  
our leadership not spending government's money but my money and its own  
money.

As I am sure has been said to all you many times when a household  
cannot afford something it doesn't buy it, it doesn't spend money it does  
not have.

I anticipate progressive leadership, not fiscally  
irresponsible leadership.

It is this issue of being unable to manage  
through trying economic times without coming for more and more money that  
is going to be the litmus test of our leaders.

Thank you for your time  
and attention.

Sincerely:

Beal Lowen



**COA Contact Us: Real Estate Taxes**

**Robert Meehan** to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott,  
rob.krupicka

03/18/2010 12:35 PM

**Please respond to Robert Meehan**

**Time: [Thu Mar 18, 2010 12:35:44] Message ID: [20144]**

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

**First Name:** Robert

**Last Name:** Meehan

**Street Address:** 307 Yoakum Parkway  
Apt 523

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22304

**Phone:** 703-751-1631

**Email Address:** BobMeehan@Hotmail.com

**Subject:** Real Estate Taxes

I have lived in Alexandria for more than 30 years but I can no longer afford to stay here. I retired five years ago and have seen my taxes going up far faster than my income. That was true during my working years too but I didn't notice it because I could save a little less to pay the increase in taxes. I can no longer afford to do that.

**Comments:** The ten percent increase in real estate taxes needs to be scaled back to zero. Alexandria government, like it's residents, needs to cut costs even if it means cutting services.

Thank you.



**COA Contact Us: cutting library hours**

**Bill Hendrickson** to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott,  
rob.krupicka

03/17/2010 09:55 AM

**Please respond to Bill Hendrickson**

**Time: [Wed Mar 17, 2010 09:55:14] Message ID: [20121]**

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

**First Name:** Bill

**Last Name:** Hendrickson

**Street Address:** 304 E. Spring St.

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22301

**Phone:** 703-549-7365

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

**Subject:** cutting library hours

**Comments:**

The budget proposal to cut evening hours at Duncan and other branch libraries is shortsighted. The majority of people in Del Ray, where I live, work during the day and, and for many, their only option for the library in the future would be Saturday. Perhaps more important, there are many evening events held at Duncan, some sponsored by the library but others by people or groups in the community. Eliminating these really strikes at the heart of the community, the need for people to gather and take part in activities together. A better solution would be to open the library at noon two or three days a week and close it at nine, so that these important evening activities can continue to take place. Thank you.



**COA Contact Us: A letter in support of ACVA**

william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley, alicia.hughes,

**Jill Erber** to: council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg, rose.boyd,  
jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka

03/15/2010 04:38 PM

**Please respond to Jill Erber**

1 attachment



75a69a9348f26f9d9ee4e9127e4e846e.doc

**Time: [Mon Mar 15, 2010 16:38:46] Message ID: [20071]**

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

**First Name:** Jill

**Last Name:** Erber

**Street Address:** 110 Belleaire Road

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22301

**Phone:** 703-519-3736

**Email Address:** jill@cheesetique.com

**Subject:** A letter in support of ACVA

Dear Council Members,

Attached is a letter written on behalf of the Del

Ray Business Association in support of the Alexandria Convention and

Visitors Association.

**Comments:**

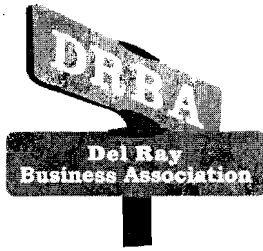
Thank you for taking the time to review  
it.

Best wishes,  
Jill Erber

President, Del Ray Business Assocation

**Attachment:** 75a69a9348f26f9d9ee4e9127e4e846e.doc





March 15, 2010

Dear Council Members,

The Del Ray Business Association (DRBA) would like to take this opportunity to express our views on a matter of some considerable interest to members of the association. We are very well aware of the difficult budgetary decisions that the Council must make on various city programs in this stressful economic climate. One such program to which we hope the Council will give very deliberate consideration is the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association (ACVA).

In particular, we would like to focus your attention on the regional marketing initiatives that the ACVA has been undertaking with supplemental city funding. As Del Ray is a bit off the beaten path for visitors from outside the region, we rely significantly on visitors from within the metropolitan region for our economic health. The promotions that ACVA has conducted to bring regional visitors to Alexandria have been very well received by DRBA members. These include such programs as Boutique Week and Restaurant Week. We believe that over time, these and other similar initiatives will play a very large role in attracting business to Alexandria and specifically, to Del Ray. This, of course, will bring in additional taxes to the city to help fund other important programs.

These regional programs have also led to a very close and cooperative relationship between ACVA and DRBA. We believe it has strengthened both organizations and enhanced membership in both. As long as ACVA is able to continue its regional promotions, we believe that the associations will find more and more ways to leverage the strengths of each other and enhance the overall business climate in Alexandria.

We hope that the Council will give due weight to ACVA's various initiatives, including the regional marketing efforts, as it struggles with the difficult decisions that will need to be made. Please contact me if you have any questions about our views on this matter.

Sincerely,

Jill Erber, President  
Del Ray Business Association



**COA Contact Us: City Budget**

william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
**David Childs** to: alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka

03/15/2010 02:09 PM

**Please respond to David Childs**

**Time: [Mon Mar 15, 2010 14:09:04] Message ID: [20064]**

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

**First Name:** David

**Last Name:** Childs

**Street Address:**

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22304

**Phone:**

**Email Address:** david.childs@live.com

**Subject:** City Budget

In reference to the city's budget, I am providing a few suggestions as to  
raise some monies to help out the budget.

#1. Raise the prices on the

following Parking Violations

10-4-22 , 10-4-23, 10-4-24,

10-4-25, 10-4-26, 10-4-27 - currently the violations carry a \$35.00 fine,

raise the fine to \$40.00 like most other fines

10-4-8 -

currently the fine is \$25.00 - raise it to \$40.00

10-4-41 &

10-4-42 - currently is \$48 - raise to \$100.00 -especially in the case of

10-4-42 since it is involving blocking a fire hydrant or fire lane

which is a safety issue also.

**Comments:**

#2 Currently, there is a Virginia state

statue that carries a \$500 fine for a vehicle being abandoned on the street

or on private property The state code sections are 46.2-1200, 46.2-1200.1 & 46.2-1201. I suggest that someone check with the police parking enforcement people to see how many "abandon auto" notices(52c - 52d forms) to see if it would be worth it to create a city parking code that would mirror the state codes listed above that would allow for the parking enforcement officers to issue a parking citation or be given the authority to get a summons from the magistrate to be given to the owner of the vehicle when they tow the vehicle off the "abandon auto" notice.

I hope this might help

Budget Request from Lynhaven Resident

htmmtt

to:

jackie.henderson

03/15/2010 11:59 AM

Show Details

History: This message has been forwarded.

Dear Alexandria City Council and Mayor Euille,

I am writing to you today to express my concern over the proposed FY 2011 budget cuts to the Alexandria Police Department's "Community Oriented Policing Program (COPs)". Due to my work schedule, I was unable to make last weeks public meeting and hope you do not mind if I email my comments to you directly.

This program is an essential part of the Lynhaven Community and should not be cut. I would politely request that you reconsider any efforts to cut this program. I would also like to request that you increase funding for this program if at all possible. Lynhaven is supposed to have two offices assigned to it. Right now we only have one officer.

Cutting this program doesn't make much fiscal sense either. This program helps keep our streets and kids safe. The officer has a personal presence in our community and continuously works to keep drugs and crime out. The officers focused efforts on the Lynhaven community has led to a continuous reduction in drugs and crime in our neighborhood over the past years.

Good police work is done over time and its continuous. Cutting this program will break the continuity of previous progress and will subject the residents to an increase in activity that they have worked hard with the police to prevent. Eventually, you will need double the police force in Lynhaven to get it back to where it was before these proposed cuts. So cutting it this year, means you will have to spend double the following years to get our neighborhoods back to the position they are today. That is why it doesn't make fiscal sense to cut this program and the progress it has made and continues to make.

Our neighborhoods have improved dramatically because of the solid efforts of the COPS program. But, there is still work to be done and cutting the program at this time doesn't make sense.

Sincerely,

Matt Hite  
258 Lynhaven Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22305



**COA Contact Us: Please do not move health clinic to TC Williams**

william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,

**Bill Watson** to: alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka

03/14/2010 08:51 PM

**Please respond to Bill Watson**

**Time: [Sun Mar 14, 2010 20:50:58] Message ID: [20043]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Bill  
**Last Name:** Watson  
**Street Address:** 6500 Boulevard View  
Unit B2  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22307  
**Phone:** 7038883497  
**Email Address:** billwatson3@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Please do not move health clinic to TC Williams  
To Whom It May Concern,

We recently learned that an adolescent health clinic primarily dedicated to family planning services will be moved from its current location outside of Bradley Shopping Center (on Braddock Road in Alexandria, VA) into the immediate confines of T.C. Williams High School. We understand that in large part the clinic move is motivated by the high rate of adolescent pregnancy in Alexandria, and the ability to have better access to the students. We also understand that students as young as the age of 12 will access family planning and abortion referrals without parental notification through the clinic.

As parents and

Alexandria residents, we are asking the City Council to reconsider this decision that will be harmful to the health of adolescents in Alexandria, and undermine the parent/teen relationship. We would also ask the Council to consider scientific studies on the consequences of adolescent sexual

activity (especially for girls), the irreplaceable role of parents in sexual decision making, and the most effective interventions in reducing adolescent pregnancy.

A study [1] released less than two weeks ago again showed that abstinent teens report “better psychological well-being and higher educational attainment than those who are sexually active.”

Another recent study [2] stated that “sexual abstinence is typically associated with better physical and psychological health among American adolescents,” including less problems with depression, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), infertility later in life, addiction to drugs and alcohol, and academic achievement. This same study indicated that girls are significantly more likely to suffer from depression when they are sexually active than adolescent boys.

Additionally excluding parents from these important decisions removes the strongest support and influence in a young person’s life. While it might not always seem to be the case that young people want to talk about the birds and the bees with mom and dad, studies show that in fact teens do want to hear from their parents on these matters, and actually consider them the most influential people in their lives when it comes to sexual decision making. According to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy [3], a parent most influences a young person’s decision to become sexually involved.

According to this poll,

\* 9 out of 10 teens (94%) think that adults should let teens know they should wait to have sex at least until they get out of high school

\* Nearly 9 out of 10 (88%) teens say

**Comments:** it would be easier to avoid early sexual activity and teen pregnancy if they were able to have more open, honest conversations about these topics with their parents.

Lastly, in early January, a rigorous study [4] was released that compared abstinence education with “safe sex” education (i.e., encouraging contraceptive use). The study overwhelmingly supported abstinence education as the most effective intervention among young teens, to the extent that even groups normally not supportive of risk-elimination programs admitted the study to be “game changing.” Of particular note is the fact that this study involved African-American young students in an inner-city setting, much like T.C. Williams.

In short, the planned move of the clinic into T.C. Williams raises a number of questions and concerns. Why would Alexandria City Schools not offer that which is healthiest and most efficacious for young people? Why is the school system undermining the parent/child relationship, especially regarding topics as important as sexual decision-making?

In light of the evidence, we are asking Alexandria City Council to reconsider this move and instead look at other better and healthier options that will allow our young people to thrive in a way they truly deserve.

Respectfully,

Bill

Watson

Alexandria, VA

Links:

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[1]

<http://www.heritage.org/research/abstinence/bg2372.cfm>

[2]

[http://abstinence.pal-tech.com/assets/File/TA\\_Modules/ScientificReviewTAMod](http://abstinence.pal-tech.com/assets/File/TA_Modules/ScientificReviewTAMod)

[uleWeb03-08.pdf](#)

[3]

[http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/resources/pdf/pubs/WOV2007\\_fulltext.pdf](http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/resources/pdf/pubs/WOV2007_fulltext.pdf)

[4] <http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/abstract/164/2/152>

[5]

[http://www.abstinenceassociation.org/docs/zogby\\_questionnaire\\_050207.pdf](http://www.abstinenceassociation.org/docs/zogby_questionnaire_050207.pdf)

[

6] <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/news2010/nr2010022602.php>

[7]

<http://www.acps.k12.va.us/board/contactsb.php>





**COA Contact Us: T.C. Williams Health Clinic**

**Maria Bremberg** to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott,  
rob.krupicka

03/13/2010 10:48 AM

**Please respond to Maria Bremberg**

**Time: [Sat Mar 13, 2010 10:48:25] Message ID: [20026]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Maria  
**Last Name:** Bremberg  
**Street Address:** 509 Monticello Blvd  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22305  
**Phone:**  
**Email Address:** mc\_cordney@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** T.C. Williams Health Clinic

We recently learned that an adolescent health clinic primarily dedicated to family planning services will be moved from its current location outside of Bradley Shopping Center (on Braddock Road in Alexandria, VA) into the immediate confines of T.C. Williams High School. We understand that in large part the clinic move is motivated by the high rate of adolescent pregnancy in Alexandria, and the ability to have better access to the students. We also understand that students as young as the age of 12 will access family planning and abortion referrals without parental notification through the clinic.

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sexual decision making. According to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen

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teen pregnancy if they were able to have more open, honest conversations

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**Comments:**

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overwhelmingly supported abstinence education as the most effective intervention among young teens, to the extent that even groups normally not supportive of risk-elimination programs admitted the study to be "game changing." Of particular note is the fact that this study involved African-American young students in an inner-city setting, much like T.C. Williams.

In short, the planned move of the clinic into T.C. Williams raises a number of questions and concerns. Why would Alexandria City Schools not offer that which is healthiest and most efficacious for young people? Why is the school system undermining the parent/child relationship, especially regarding topics as important as sexual decision-making?

In light of the evidence, we are asking Alexandria City Council to reconsider this move and instead look at other better and healthier options that will allow our young people to thrive in a way they truly deserve.

Respectfully,

Maria Bremberg, Mother of 4  
509

Monticello Blvd.  
Alexandria, VA 22305

Mary Beth Cahill, Mother of

4  
2427 Central Ave.  
Alexandria, VA 22302

Mary Kate Sparrow, Mother of

3  
2131 North Early Street  
Alexandria, VA 22302

Jennifer Lungren,

Mother of 4  
800 North Lantham  
Alexandria, VA

22304

Links:

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[1]

<http://www.heritage.org/research/abstinence/bg2372.cfm>

[2]

[http://abstinence.pal-tech.com/assets/File/TA\\_Modules/ScientificReviewTAMod](http://abstinence.pal-tech.com/assets/File/TA_Modules/ScientificReviewTAMod)

[uleWeb03-08.pdf](#)

[3]

[http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/resources/pdf/pubs/WOV2007\\_fulltext.pdf](http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/resources/pdf/pubs/WOV2007_fulltext.pdf)

[4] <http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/abstract/164/2/152>

[5]

[http://www.abstinenceassociation.org/docs/zogby\\_questionnaire\\_050207.pdf](http://www.abstinenceassociation.org/docs/zogby_questionnaire_050207.pdf)

[

6] <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/news2010/nr2010022602.php>

[7]

<http://www.acps.k12.va.us/board/contactsb.php>



**COA Contact Us: Library Hours**

**Demian Brady** to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott,  
rob.krupicka

03/13/2010 10:41 AM

**Please respond to Demian Brady**

**Time: [Sat Mar 13, 2010 10:41:48] Message ID: [20025]**

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

**First Name:** Demian

**Last Name:** Brady

**Street Address:** 12 E. Cliff St.

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22302

**Phone:** 703683-2585

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

**Subject:** Library Hours

I appreciate the Council's attempts to cut back the budget. This is a much better approach than hiking fees and taxes at a time when families' wages are stagnant, and when many people are unemployed. If you are doing that, I just haven't heard about it yet! But I would suggest a library schedule

**Comments:** shifted back one hour than your proposed 10-7. Opening instead from 11AM to 8PM would give people who work more time to use the library in the evening.

Thank you,

Demian



**COA Contact Us: Teen Wellness Center**

william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,

**Lisa Jacobs** to: alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka

03/12/2010 08:57 PM

**Please respond to Lisa Jacobs**

**Time: [Fri Mar 12, 2010 20:56:54] Message ID: [20021]**

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

**First Name:** Lisa

**Last Name:** Jacobs

**Street Address:** 2909 Richmond Lane

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22305

**Phone:** 703-549-1504

**Email Address:** ljacobs2909@verizon.net

**Subject:** Teen Wellness Center  
To the Mayor, Vice Mayor and distinguished Members of City Council,

I am

writing to strongly urge you to SUPPORT MOVING THE TEEN WELLNESS CENTER  
INTO TC WILLIAMS HIGH SCHOOL. Since the campus has been closed during  
lunch, the health center has seen fewer and fewer kids. We have a shocking

**Comments:** teen pregnancy rate, a sky-rocketing child obesity rate, and a scary STD  
rate. Please do whatever you can to make sure that Alexandria teens have  
access to the high quality health services that they need.

Thank you for

taking care of our kids.

Lisa Jacobs



**COA Contact Us: SUPPORT FOR THE HEALTH CLINIC**

william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley, alicia.hughes,

**Beth Coast** to: council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg, rose.boyd,  
jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka

03/12/2010 05:48 PM

**Please respond to Beth Coast**

**Time: [Fri Mar 12, 2010 17:48:38] Message ID: [20019]**

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

**First Name:** Beth

**Last Name:** Coast

**Street Address:** 1602 Boyle Street

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22314

**Phone:** 703-548-6685

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

**Subject:** SUPPORT FOR THE HEALTH CLINIC

Dear City Council and Mayor Euille,  
I am writing you to show my strong

support for opening the health clinic at T.C. Williams. I have many

reasons for this support, but I will try to keep this as brief as

possible.

I believe that the health center is so much more than a

place to get birth control, as many seem to think. Many students in our

city do not have health insurance, so getting basic medical care is hard to

come by for some of our children. Just to diagnose a flu, a cavity, mental

health issues, etc... should be reason enough to have this clinic available

to our students. What about pre-natal care for the 36 pregnant girls at

T.C. Williams? Don't you believe that they, and their babies, deserve

health services that are convenient to the school? I shudder to think how

many more teens would become pregnant if we didn't already offer birth

control options.

As a mother of 6 year old twins, I know that my

husband and I will raise them to not drink underage, not to do drugs and

**Comments:**

to save sex for after marriage. As a teacher who has taught 18 years in high school, I know the chances of them trying something we have raised them NOT to do, are great. I would hope that since we are open-minded, that our children would come to us for direction in any of the above, and if they did not feel comfortable with that, I hope they would go somewhere where they could get the help that they need. I would much rather have my children get condoms from the health center, than go without and risk pregnancy or worse, DEATH with AIDS or contract a STD. This is a different era then when we grew up... AIDS did not exist when I was in high school. Please do not take us back in time to the '50's, 60's or even 70's where students didn't have any option. If they are coming to the health center for birth control and we didn't help them, would they then abstain?... I think not. Please consider what is best for ALL children in the City of Alexandria. We are a public school system and must meet the needs of all of our children, no matter what they may be.

Sincerely,  
Beth Coast  
1602 Boyle Street  
Alexandria, VA

22314  
703-548-6685





**COA Contact Us: Teen Wellness Center**

**Susan Yoder Torres** to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
alicia.hughes, council, delpepper,  
paulcsmedberg, rose.boyd, jackie.henderson,  
elaine.scott, rob.krupicka

03/12/2010 03:54 PM

**Please respond to Susan Yoder Torres**

**Time: [Fri Mar 12, 2010 15:54:48] Message ID: [20017]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Susan Yoder  
**Last Name:** Torres  
**Street Address:** 4823 Peacock AVE  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22304  
**Phone:**  
**Email Address:** suyotoesq@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Teen Wellness Center  
I am a life-long Alexandrian and a member of the TCW Class of 1980. My  
husband and I have two children (ages 10 and 14) in Alexandria City Public  
**Comments:** Schools. We urge you to support the relocation of the Teen Wellness Center  
to TC Williams.



**COA Contact Us: Teen clinic move to T.C.**

**Ann O'Hanlon** to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott,  
rob.krupicka

03/12/2010 02:50 PM

**Please respond to "Ann O'Hanlon"**

**Time: [Fri Mar 12, 2010 14:50:46] Message ID: [20015]**

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

**First Name:** Ann

**Last Name:** O'Hanlon

**Street Address:** 2810 Farm Road

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22302

**Phone:** 703 795-1239

**Email Address:** ann\_ohanlon@yahoo.com

**Subject:** Teen clinic move to T.C.

Dear Mayor Euille and Council Members,

I'm the president of the George

Mason Elementary School PTA. We are very strongly in support of the

proposed move of the  
teen clinic to T.C. Williams. On-site health care

is critical so that students have easy access to numerous services,

including  
birth control. As you know well, teen pregnancies in urban

areas -- including Alexandria -- continues to be a great problem in  
the

United States, affecting our neediest populations the most, and changing

the lives of these very young women forever.

**Comments:** Nearby and discreet health

care for our teens is one part of the solution. I hope you will approve  
this move.

I don't know if all PTAs will manage to write to you or

testify, so I will note that many of us recently had an e-mail exchange

about this issue. The response was overwhelmingly in support of this move

-- nearly every PTA in the city weighed in and no one dissented from this

position.

Thank you,  
Ann O'Hanlon



**COA Contact Us: Teen Wellness Center**

**Micaela Jones** to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott,  
rob.krupicka

03/12/2010 02:49 PM

**Please respond to Micaela Jones**

**Time: [Fri Mar 12, 2010 14:49:50] Message ID: [20014]**

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

**First Name:** Micaela

**Last Name:** Jones

**Street Address:** 959 North Pegram St.

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** Virginia

**Zip:** 22304

**Phone:** 703-823-5261

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

**Subject:** Teen Wellness Center  
Good afternoon, all.

I write in support of the proposed move of the Teen

Wellness Center to the TCWilliams Main Campus.

This is an important

service that we offer to our teens, not just for sensitive subjects like

birth control and preventing STD's...but it serves a sizeable school

**Comments:** population with physical exams and vaccinations. Having the Center at TCW  
will make it an even more integral part of the school.

I have two

children currently attending TCWilliams and one child who is an alumna.

Thanks so much for your attention! No need to reply to this

email...have a good weekend.

**T.C. Williams High School**

Health Center

3330 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22302

(703) 824-6866 Fax: (703) 820.6411

**FACSIMILE SHEET**TO: Jackie HendersonFAX NUMBER: 703 838 6433

FROM: Nancy Ranton, MSN, CRNP  
School Nurse  
TEL # 703.824.6866  
FAX# 703.820.6411

RE: City Council Public Hearing for  
13 Mar 2010 - 0930DATE: 3/12/10TOTAL # OF PAGES: 3NOTES: Please accept this letter into  
the formal records.NR

Learning to Live • Loving to Learn



Alexandria City Public Schools

## T. C. Williams High School

3330 King Street • Alexandria, Virginia 22302

Telephone: (703) 824-6800 • Facsimile: (703) 824-6826 • [www.acps.k12.va.us](http://www.acps.k12.va.us)

### The Wellness Center Statement

13 March 2010

As the person on the front line of health for nearly 2300 students every day, I am thrilled at the prospect of having The Teen Wellness Center in my hallway. Having the resource of the wellness center in our building will greatly enhance the health and well being of our students and give us unique opportunities to work collaboratively. Some of the major health needs that I see on a daily basis in the School Health Office include vision problems and the need for glasses, poor dentition, mental health issues such as depression and obesity, counseling for sexual behaviors and unplanned pregnancies, the need for health insurance to secure medical services, and of course all kinds of first aid.

Currently, students frequently need to go to the teen clinic (as it is called today). Because we are a closed campus, students may not leave the building during the school day unless they are 18 years old or they have a written note from a parent or guardian.

Recently, one student presented to me with a shingles infection and needed treatment. Because of the nature of this virus, treatment must be started within 24 hours to achieve the best outcome and limit the potential of pain duration for up to 3 months. Thankfully, this student was 18 years old and could walk there. She did, however, miss about 1 ½ hours of class. Had the wellness center been within the building, she would have lost much less instructional time.

I am also aware of students who cut whole days of school in order to be able to access the teen clinic services.

Another barrier to seeking services at the teen clinic is parental expectation for students after school. Some parents require their teenager to come directly home after school each day, thinking that this action will inhibit their child from engaging in risky adolescent behaviors. The reality is that adolescents inherently test the boundaries of behavior, and sometimes get into trouble. Accessing the physical and mental health care services at The Teen Wellness Center will help to address some of these risky behaviors before they become serious problems.

Immunizations are also an enormous issue here as we continue to enroll immigrants and foreign exchange students. Following the requirements from both the health department and the school board, students generally have three visits in which to receive a complete set of vaccinations. Often times, students will miss whole days in order to get their shots.

When the wellness center is located within TCW, they will be able to get their vaccines during lunch and not miss valuable instruction time.

Finally, I would like to offer thoughts with regard to Fathers Kleinmann and Cregan's thoughts in this week's Gazette Packet. I agree with the fact that high school teenagers shouldn't be having sex, and I agree that single teen mothers are not a family. Because we understand that teens can make poor judgments at times that get them into trouble, I believe, too, that having a wellness center in the high school building brakes down barriers to their getting counseling before poor decisions are made. I want to prevent teen pregnancy with all my heart.

I am sorry that I could not attend today to offer this in person, but I work as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at Virginia Pediatric Group, LTD. in Fairfax. It is my second job on Saturdays.

Thank you so much for supporting the creation of The Teen Wellness Center at TC Williams. I am proud to be part of a school system that values the role of health in educating the whole child.



Nancy Runtton, MSN, CRNP  
TC Williams High School Health Office



**COA Contact Us: Community Oriented Policing Program**

**Colleen Matthews** to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
alicia.hughes, council, delpepper,  
paulcsmedberg, rose.boyd, jackie.henderson,  
elaine.scott, rob.krupicka

03/27/2010 04:52 AM

**Please respond to Colleen Matthews**

**Time: [Sat Mar 27, 2010 04:52:30] Message ID: [20337]**

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

**First Name:** Colleen

**Last Name:** Matthews

**Street Address:** 143 W Reed Ave

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22305

**Phone:** 609-412-8157

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

**Subject:** Community Oriented Policing Program

Hello,

I purchased my first home this month in the Hume Springs section of

Arlandria. Now I have become aware that the 2011 budget may reduce the

number of COPs (Community Oriented Policing Program) in the area. I'm

writing to request that you please maintain the COPs in the budget.

As

a single women moving into the neighborhood I'm concerned for safety and

**Comments:** think that the COPs serve a valuable role in the community. The COPs know

the people (good and bad) in the neighborhood, are able to identify

potential problems, and are securing neighborhood safety. Please continue

this valuable program to help prevent crime.

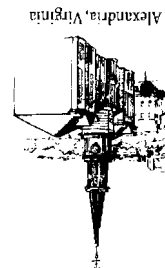
Thank you for your

consideration.

- Colleen Matthews



*Historic Alexandria Resources Commission*  
220 North Washington Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2521  
(703) 838-4554



March 22, 2010

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

Dear Mayor Euille and City Council Members:

The members of the Historic Alexandria Resources Commission recognize the budgetary constraints conferred upon the City due to the recession, in considering the FY 2011 budget. However, it is important to note the significant impact of the proposed reduction to the Office of Historic Alexandria. If the budget is adopted, the Office of Historic Alexandria will experience a 20% overall general fund reduction since 2007. The Council and citizens of Alexandria have made a long-term commitment to maintaining the City's historic sites and to promotion of the City's history in attracting visitors and benefiting those of us who live in Alexandria. Further cuts in the budget of OHA place in jeopardy the investment already made in preservation of Alexandria's rich history, our ability to reward visitors with a positive and enlightening experience in our City, and our future status as one of the country's most attractive historic destinations.

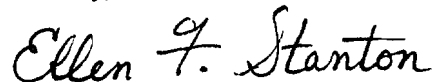
The proposed budget will affect the ability of the Office of Historic Alexandria to carry out its mission for the benefit of the citizens of Alexandria. This year, many major events must be planned and implemented by the staff. Clearly, the proposed reduction in resources hazards the ability of OHA to accomplish these planned activities, not to mention its ability to deal with unpredictable issues that arise.

- The self-study leading to accreditation of the City-owned museums by the American Association of Museums will be submitted in November 2010. This year marks the first time that OHA will apply for accreditation (which is attained by only a small percent of museums in the nation) as a whole for all OHA museums.
- The Sesquicentennial of the Civil War, a 4-year commemoration, will begin in May 2011, requiring much preparation. The benefits to the City are enormous with regard to increased tourism and revenue, prestige and reputation, and educational and participatory opportunities for diverse citizens of all ages.
- The Contraband and Freedmen's Cemetery design will be implemented. This is a culmination of years of archaeology, research and citizen involvement.
- The Alexandria Ad Hoc Fort Ward Park and Museum Area Stakeholder Advisory Group will make recommendations about future management direction at Fort Ward Park.
- The Alexandria Waterfront Plan will be unveiled in April 2010, followed by continued input and direction by OHA to interpret and preserve the history of Alexandria's greatest asset.

In addition, the reduction in staff means fewer hours of operation, less research, no new exhibits, a decrease in school programs for our children, and a reduction in revenue from rental of the sites. While volunteers provide more than \$500,000 to the City in hours donated, additional volunteers cannot be used at our OHA sites without staff to supervise these generous citizens. We applaud the stellar and dedicated OHA staff who continue to devote themselves to the history of our City and to our museums.

The Historic Alexandria Resources Commission requests your reconsideration of the proposed reductions to the OHA budget that will have significant negative economic, cultural, and quality-of-life implications.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ellen F. Stanton". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Ellen F. Stanton, Chair  
Historic Alexandria Resources Commission



**COA Contact Us: City History and Archaeology Budgets**

**James McCall** to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott,  
rob.krupicka

03/23/2010 01:15 PM

**Please respond to James McCall**

1 attachment



36963dced404245a7eb8e7af7e05f25d.rtf

**Time: [Tue Mar 23, 2010 13:15:22] Message ID: [20260]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** James  
**Last Name:** McCall  
**Street Address:** 537 South Fairfax Street  
**City:** Alexndria  
**State:** Va  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:** 703 519-1860  
**Email Address:** JHMcCall@comcast.net  
**Subject:** City History and Archaeology Budgets  
Dear Mayor Euille and Members of the City Council,

I write to you as a

member at large of the Alexandria Archaeological Commission (AAC), and as a longtime resident of the City who has been involved in many aspects community affairs. I am deeply concerned that the current budget crisis and proposed cuts undermine the City's ability to protect the very elements of Alexandria which make it what it is – those that provide its character and which set it apart as not only a place to live but a destination and key part of our economic future. In addition, if the City's programs to preserve and interpret this history are to meet goals set out for them in the proposed strategic plan (Goal 7), we must at least retain current funding levels. I urge you to think beyond the immediate budget numbers

and consider the long-range implications of (and losses from) cuts to Alexandria's history assets. I also ask you to consider a proposal to help alleviate some of the problems.

Alexandria's individuality depends

largely on its historic character and its rich history resources, without which we are no different than Arlington or any other suburb of Washington, DC. Most of American political, economic, military, and social history had facets which played out in Alexandria. From the earliest human inhabitants to the exploration of the region in the 17th Century to the French and Indian Wars, from the discussions that expressed the earliest aspirations of united colonies to the forerunner of the U.S. Constitution, not to mention its role in the domestic slave trade, the Civil War, two world wars, and the civil rights movement, Alexandria has been a crossroads of American vibrancy. Our diversity, and what makes us special, is because of this history – not despite it. It remains who we are as Alexandrians and as Americans

Alexandria is unique almost nationwide in the richness of what was left behind from this history spanning the entire American story. While some may take these assets for granted, many who live in Alexandria are deeply aware of this history, and chose to live here in part because of what it has left to us in terms of buildings, streetscapes, people, and other aspects of the city that touch their daily lives. Alexandria's historic fabric is thus also the basis for the high value of much of it real estate – both residential and commercial, and hence part of what supports the city.

The current budget crisis, which affects all aspects of City programs, threatens to impair our ability to preserve and protect these resources, let alone expand programs for them as the proposed strategic plan outlines among its objectives. The budget for the Office of Historic Alexandria (OHA) is already inadequate to sustain its current missions, and place programs, from preservation to interpretation to tourism, all central to community identity, and putting our “brand” in

crisis. OHA cannot staff and run facilities such as Fort Ward and the Black History Museum with two people, even with many (unprofessional) volunteers. These programs require trained expertise and dedicated staff, even just to keep these open, maintained, and accessible.

Archaeology, in

particular, has been hard hit. Its budget, which has been cut even in good budget years, is already insufficient to prevent serious erosion of its ability to meet its codified City and community needs for the present and future. The proposed \$7500 cut itself will have serious consequences. For example, the budget made an incorrect staffing assumption about the effect of removing \$3500 for a part time position. This cannot be covered by full time staff. In fact, this reduction will mean that the Archaeology Museum in the Torpedo Factory cannot open on Sundays, which represents 20% of its annual visitors. This cut will also undermine Archaeology's existing contribution to support the Torpedo Factory finances, and the proposed waterfront plan.

In non-personnel funds, archaeology loses in FY2011

\$3,900 out of the \$18,752 it had for 2010 leaving \$14,852. This amount is below 1995 levels (\$18,552) – even without factoring in the full effect of inflation. Of the amount left, most are funds already committed in long-term agreements for basic necessities such as copier service, security, and pest control – leaving about \$9,000 -- far below what is needed for educational materials, public program promotion, etc. These cutbacks also leave Archaeology poorly positioned to meet the objectives set in Goal 7 of the proposed strategic plan, which outlines a 20% increase in new programs and services, particularly free programs to residents, and to "increase City-managed program participation numbers by 10% each year." Archaeology cannot meet these goals with this budget, and has already been forced eliminated summer archaeology camp for children and free public walking tours, such as the Alexandria Black History tour for Black History Month.

Archaeology's very future is also in jeopardy, as

it faces the loss of key staff for what has been a standard-setting, pioneering program. In 2010, it will lose to retirement two full time

**Comments:** staff, one archaeologist, and one collections management specialist (we have over 1,000,000 artifacts). This leaves the department with one full-time and one part-time professional archaeologist, plus one part-time administrative assistant, and one additional to meet all the work of the city's archaeology program needs, which includes: (not a complete list)

- \* City Code enforcement – review planning documents, oversee developer-hired archaeologists.

- \* historical research – with the failure

to fill the city position of research historian (Mike Miller), archaeology has become the city's center for historical research into the story of Alexandria, done by staff and volunteer researchers supervised by staff

- \* supporting major city projects like Freedmen's Cemetery and the investigation of Fort Ward

- \* operation of museum – changing exhibits,

answering visitor questions, keeping doors open for visitors to the

City

- \* maintenance of a collection of over 1,000,000 artifacts

- \*

collection of artifacts and preparing them (washing, labeling, etc.) for

the collection

- \* collection of oral histories from Alexandria residents

and others

- \* reviewing historical signs, both city and private (like the

Bruin Slave pen sign)

- \* maintaining and improving the archaeology

website

- \* administering resident educational programs

- \* attend and

providing support for history-related city meetings on subjects such as the

Waterfront Plan, small area plans, environmental sustainability, \_\_\_\_\_

- \*

promotion of archaeology programs – press releases, flyers, mailings

- \*

finding, training, and supervising volunteers, supporting FOAA  
\* basic

office administration – purchasing orders, personnel papers, budget

preparation, etc.

At a minimum, the positions of people lost through

retirement must be filled if Archaeology is to fulfill its mission for the

City and the community.

One approach to addressing these financial

problems has been to seek outside and private funds to help support cannot

sustain historic properties and programs. Even in the best of economic

times, this has proven difficult. While private funds already help support

historic properties in the city that are open to the public, such as

Carlyle House, the Athenaeum, the Lee-Fendall House, and Freedom House, the

record, ability, and willingness of private sources to maintain historic

properties is not good. In fact, the lack of such sources locally was the

reason the city took over the properties it now has, and in some cases

unique resources have been lost to the public, such as Lee's boyhood home,

and the tall ship Alexandria. The latter – itself a symbol of Alexandria –

could not be maintained by private funds, was sold, and now lies at the

bottom of the sea. Until a high-profile, full time fundraising campaign

with a national reach can be organized and implemented, and one fully

embracing all of Alexandria's historic resources, private funding sources

are not a practical or realistic approach to protecting the source of

Alexandria's identity.

We do have additional options. One the Council

should look at seriously is a small tax on food, beverages, and hotel rooms

beyond the current level. An advantage to this approach is that it can be

specified to support the City's key historic programs while it would be

levied primarily on visitors, not residents, and allows them to help pay

for properties to which admission is free. Such a tax would not be large

enough to discourage visitors or to discourage those here from eating and

drinking here. This innovation could also help support an initial campaign

for Alexandria's commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

Historic Alexandria, the essence of what set our city apart, is in jeopardy. Our city has a special responsibility for stewardship for irreplaceable resources. Please do not allow Alexandria's historic properties and programs to sink. Once lost, these treasures cannot be retrieved – a loss to the community, the region, the nation, and future generations of Alexandrians and Americans. OHA, and the City's pioneering Archaeology programs, created by the vision of the City, are at risk and must be budgeted adequately, even to ensure their survival until better economic times.

I would be happy to meet individually with you or any of your staff to discuss the crisis and what can be done to address it.

Sincerely,

James H. McCall, Alexandria Archaeological  
Commission

**Attachment:** 36963dced404245a7eb8e7af7e05f25d.rtf



Dear Mayor Euille and Members of the City Council,

I write to you as a member at large of the Alexandria Archaeological Commission (AAC), and as a longtime resident of the City who has been involved in many aspects community affairs. I am deeply concerned that the current budget crisis and proposed cuts undermine the City's ability to protect the very elements of Alexandria which make it what it is – those that provide its character and which set it apart as not only a place to live but a destination and key part of our economic future. In addition, if the City's programs to preserve and interpret this history are to meet goals set out for them in the proposed strategic plan (Goal 7), we must at least retain current funding levels. I urge you to think beyond the immediate budget numbers and consider the long-range implications of (and losses from) cuts to Alexandria's history assets. I also ask you to consider a proposal to help alleviate some of the problems.

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fact, this reduction will mean that the Archaeology Museum in the Torpedo Factory cannot open on Sundays, which represents 20% of its annual visitors. This cut will also undermine Archaeology's existing contribution to support the Torpedo Factory finances, and the proposed waterfront plan.

In non-personnel funds, archaeology loses in FY2011 \$3,900 out of the \$18,752 it had for 2010 leaving \$14,852. This amount is below 1995 levels (\$18,552) – even without factoring in the full effect of inflation. Of the amount left, most are funds already committed in long-term agreements for basic necessities such as copier service, security, and pest control – leaving about \$9,000 -- far below what is needed for educational materials, public program promotion, etc. These cutbacks also leave Archaeology poorly positioned to meet the objectives set in Goal 7 of the proposed strategic plan, which outlines a 20% increase in new programs and services, particularly free programs to residents, and to “increase City-managed program participation numbers by 10% each year.” Archaeology cannot meet these goals with this budget, and has already been forced eliminated summer archaeology camp for children and free public walking tours, such as the Alexandria Black History tour for Black History Month.

Archaeology's very future is also in jeopardy, as it faces the loss of key staff for what has been a standard-setting, pioneering program. In 2010, it will lose to retirement two full time staff, one archaeologist, and one collections management specialist (we have over 1,000,000 artifacts). This leaves the department with one full-time and one part-time professional archaeologist, plus one part-time administrative assistant, and one additional to meet all the work of the city's archaeology program needs, which includes: (not a complete list)

- \* City Code enforcement – review planning documents, oversee developer-hired archaeologists.
- \* historical research – with the failure to fill the city position of research historian (Mike Miller), archaeology has become the city's center for historical research into the story of Alexandria, done by staff and volunteer researchers supervised by staff
- \* supporting major city projects like Freedmen's Cemetery and the investigation of Fort Ward
- \* operation of museum – changing exhibits, answering visitor questions, keeping doors open for visitors to the City
- \* maintenance of a collection of over 1,000,000 artifacts
- \* collection of artifacts and preparing them (washing, labeling, etc.) for the collection
- \* collection of oral histories from Alexandria residents and others
- \* reviewing historical signs, both city and private (like the Bruin Slave pen sign)
- \* maintaining and improving the archaeology website
- \* administering resident educational programs
- \* attend and providing support for history-related city meetings on subjects such as the Waterfront Plan, small area plans, environmental sustainability, \_\_\_\_\_
- \* promotion of archaeology programs – press releases, flyers, mailings
- \* finding, training, and supervising volunteers, supporting FOAA
- \* basic office administration – purchasing orders, personnel papers, budget preparation, etc.

At a minimum, the positions of people lost through retirement must be filled if Archaeology is to fulfill its mission for the City and the community.

One approach to addressing these financial problems has been to seek outside and private funds to help support cannot sustain historic properties and programs. Even in the best of economic times, this has proven difficult. While private funds already help support historic properties in the city that are open to the public, such as Carlyle House, the Athenaeum, the Lee-Fendall House, and Freedom House, the record, ability, and willingness of private sources to maintain historic properties is not good. In fact, the lack of such sources locally was the reason the city took over the properties it now has, and in some cases unique resources have been lost to the public, such as Lee's boyhood home, and the tall ship Alexandria. The latter – itself a symbol of Alexandria – could not be maintained by private funds, was sold, and now lies at the bottom of the sea. Until a high-profile, full time fundraising campaign with a national reach can be organized and implemented, and one fully embracing all of Alexandria's historic resources, private funding sources are not a practical or realistic approach to protecting the source of Alexandria's identity.

We do have additional options. One the Council should look at seriously is a small tax on food, beverages, and hotel rooms beyond the current level. An advantage to this approach is that it can be specified to support the City's key historic programs while it would be levied primarily on visitors, not residents, and allows them to help pay for properties to which admission is free. Such a tax would not be large enough to discourage visitors or to discourage those here from eating and drinking here. This innovation could also help support an initial campaign for Alexandria's commemoration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War.

Historic Alexandria, the essence of what set our city apart, is in jeopardy. Our city has a special responsibility for stewardship for irreplaceable resources. Please do not allow Alexandria's historic properties and programs to sink. *Once lost, these treasures cannot be retrieved – a loss to the community, the region, the nation, and future generations of Alexandrians and Americans.* OHA, and the City's pioneering Archaeology programs, created by the vision of the City, are at risk and must be budgeted adequately, even to ensure their survival until better economic times.

I would be happy to meet individually with you or any of your staff to discuss the crisis and what can be done to address it.

Sincerely,

James H. McCall,

Alexandria Archaeological Commission



**COA Contact Us: Property Tax Increase**

william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
**Chris Reams** to: alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka

03/23/2010 11:58 AM

**Please respond to Chris Reams**

**Time: [Tue Mar 23, 2010 11:58:55] Message ID: [20258]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Chris  
**Last Name:** Reams  
**Street Address:** 16 W. Wyatt Ave  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22301-1554  
**Phone:** 703-549-1940  
**Email Address:** christopherareams@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Property Tax Increase  
Dear Council Members,

**Comments:**

I wish to convey my deep concern over the increase  
in the maximum property tax increase of nine cents per \$100 assessed value.  
This is a ridiculously high increase in times when property values are  
plunging across the board and many of us are struggling with job loss,  
reduced salaries and zero cost of living increases.  
The increase may  
seem small, but taken in total with other proposals and increases, such as  
the recent increases in parking fees, user fees, storm water management  
fees, sanitary sewer fees, etc., the amount adds up.  
In addition,  
increasing commercial property taxes will be passed on to us, the  
consumers.  
I strongly recommend you find efficiencies and decreases to  
cover your shortfalls.

Thank you.

Respectfully,  
Chris Reams



**COA Contact Us: please don't cut Duncan's hours**

**Mimi Saunders** to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott,  
rob.krupicka

03/23/2010 10:18 AM

**Please respond to Mimi Saunders**

**Time: [Tue Mar 23, 2010 10:18:19] Message ID: [20256]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Mimi  
**Last Name:** Saunders  
**Street Address:** 2511 Clay St.  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22302  
**Phone:** 7037395529  
**Email Address:** andymimisaunders@verizon.net  
**Subject:** please don't cut Duncan's hours  
SAMPLE LETTER:

I am extremely upset that the Library Board and the City Manager have proposed cutting Duncan Library's operating hours. This is an incredibly short-sighted and unreasonable cut, particularly considering that, during an economic downturn, library resources are in greater demand.

For working families, the reduced hours would make the libraries virtually inaccessible during the week. For children, these shortened hours would mean morning programs and story times would be delayed or cut, and evening story times would be eliminated. For adults, evening programs -- such as book clubs and author talks -- would likely be eliminated, and the meeting rooms would be inaccessible for community groups and library events, as all of these typically begin at or after

**Comments:** 7pm.

Is this worth a savings of just \$173,000 annually, when the cost

is reducing access to all of Alexandria's neighborhood branches?

If

you've never visited Duncan Library, I encourage you to do so. It's a true neighborhood library; many patrons live within walking distance, and the staff knows practically every child by name. It is, without a doubt, a central part of the Del Ray community and an invaluable City service.

Please keep the library open in the evening. The impact of the reduced hours is extremely disproportionate to the amount of the budget cut achieved.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the FY 2011

Budget.



**COA Contact Us: Budget cuts at Ft. Ward**

william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,

**Charles Ziegler** to: alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott

03/22/2010 11:44 AM

**Please respond to Charles Ziegler**

**Time: [Mon Mar 22, 2010 11:44:19] Message ID: [20224]**

**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:** cziegler1@hotmail.com

**Subject:** Budget cuts at Ft. Ward

Hon. Mayor and City Council,  
I am writing to urge that the budget cuts for

Ft. Ward, as proposed in the City budget for FY 2011, not be implemented, and that proposed cut of \$11,000 in operating funds for Ft. Ward from City internal operating accounts be restored. The staff of Ft. Ward has already undergone significant reduction, and if the current budget proposals are enacted, I am concerned that it would mean, among other things:

- Reduced levels of public programming and interpretive activities;
- Reduced levels of collections care and exhibit development;
- Neglect of maintenance and preservation in the historic site;
- Excessive duties for the remaining staff—the Museum Director and Assistant Director/Curator.

**Comments:**



I would also note that the beginning of the Civil War Sesquicentennial, with which the City of Alexandria in general, and Ft. Ward in particular, will impose additional duties. For all these reasons, I urge that the additional budget cuts proposed for Ft. Ward not be implemented.

I understand that these are difficult financial times for the City government, and that to govern is to choose; many of the choices are between bad and worse. If it proves impossible to restore the proposed cuts in funding at Ft. Ward, I suggest that the 20-hour per week Museum Technician position at the Ft. Ward Museum position be left as "unfunded," rather than totally eliminated, thus at least making the restoration of funding easier when the financial position of the City improves.

Yours sincerely,  
Charles Ziegler



**COA Contact Us: Alexandria's Economic Health**

william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,

**Dennis Goris** to: alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka

04/01/2010 08:45 AM

**Please respond to Dennis Goris**

**Time: [Thu Apr 01, 2010 08:45:06] Message ID: [20458]**

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

**First Name:** Dennis

**Last Name:** Goris

**Street Address:** 501 Upland Place

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22301

**Phone:** 703 395 3644

**Email Address:** dennis@goris.com

**Subject:** Alexandria's Economic Health

I would love to increase my business revenue by 20% with the wave of an

arm. But that's not reality. And its not realistic to  
think raising the

tax rate on commercial property will be good for business -- or good for

Alexandria. Where will the money  
going come from? Businesses are

struggling. There is too much vacant commercial space in northern Virginia

for businesses

not to look elsewhere for something so essential to their

bottom line. And they will.

I don't disagree that Alexandria faces some

huge funding challenges. If property taxes must be increased, why place a

disproportionate burden on Alexandria's business community? A more

**Comments:**

equitable approach would be to apply any increase to  
everyone who will

benefit from funding transportation projects -- residential as well as

commercial property property.

Property tax is a direct pass-through

expense to commercial tenants, and thus directly affects Alexandria

business' biggest

expense after labor. The bottom line, especially in

this market, really is the bottom line. And if you charge business more,

some will leave. This is why, as a longtime resident and business owner

in Alexandria, I strongly urge the Council to  
reconsider its proposal for

a disproportionate tax rate on business.



**COA Contact Us: Punishment Tax!**

william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley, alicia.hughes,  
**Laura Lee** to: council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg, rose.boyd,  
jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka

04/01/2010 08:42 AM

**Please respond to Laura Lee**

**Time: [Thu Apr 01, 2010 08:41:48] Message ID: [20457]**

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

**First Name:** Laura

**Last Name:** Lee

**Street Address:** 420 N. Van Dorn St

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** Va

**Zip:** 22304

**Phone:** 703-370-1000

**Email Address:** llee@hawthornsuitesalexandria.com

**Subject:** Punishment Tax!

I would like to encourage you to VOTE AGAINST the adoption of this punitive \$2.7 million new tax. We have had to lower our prices to manage through this economic disaster and I find it hard to believe Alexandria can't make it's budget considering we are already TAXED to Death and get VERY little in return as you have forgotten all about the suffering WESTEND so you could wrecklessly place all our taxes into Carlisle and Old Town! To add more taxes would be criminal to us as we already struggle enough to get business to stay here in the westend.

**Comments:** This tax is NOT a good idea! May I suggest you tax all the businesses down in OLD TOWN that are thriving from our tax money while we sit here year after year on your promise to make things better!?

Thank You!

Sincerely,

Laura Lee  
General

Manager  
Hawthorn Suites Alexandria

RE: COA Contact Us: Making it a chore to send you an email

Charlie Pease

to:

Elaine.Scott, 'Charles Pease'

03/30/2010 05:54 PM

Cc:

alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, frank.fannon, jackie.henderson, kerry.donley, paulcsmedberg, rob.krupicka, rose.boyd, william.euille, Beth.Temple, Joanne.Pyle, nanella, council, Brandon.Shultz, Judy.Stack, Sharon.Annear

Please respond to peasechas

Show Details

An open letter to the City Council and the City Manager of Alexandria, Virginia

Ladies and Gentlemen:

My thanks to the Council and to Elaine Scott for including the many actual City Government email addresses in her response to my concerns about the problems of webpage email as a vehicle for means of communication from individual citizens to the appropriate persons within the City of Alexandria Government. I will be sharing this set of email addresses with other citizens, so that they will be able to communicate more efficiently with you all.

Now that I have these email addresses I can ask the Council members and the City Manager some questions about the status of the Alexandria City School Budget.

What follows is my extract of some budget numbers from the current School Board report. I am also including an article by Patrick Welsh, a member of the faculty at T.C. Williams High School, which appeared recently in The Washington Post. The Welsh article should be of concern to the Council as it considers the present and future budgets for the City School System.

My immediate questions for the Council concern the amount of money that the Federal Government contributes to the City School Budget. It appears to be a pittance.

The table below, also attached as an Excel spreadsheet, shows that the Federal Government contribution is on the order of 0.03 percent of the over \$200 million dollar school budget.

Perhaps there are additional Federal funds buried in the amount that is shown as the Virginia Commonwealth ("State") contribution; if so we should all be made aware of that sum. If there are no other Federal funds, or only a very small additional amount buried in the Virginia Commonwealth money that is provided to the City School system, then my first question would be what unfunded mandates are imposed by the Federal Government in exchange for their pittance? My second question would be how much less we would be forced to spend if we were to forego any "Federal Largess"?

Thank you for your service to the City, and thank you for your time to review these questions.

Sincerely,

Charles Pease

Voter

The Article:

At T.C. Williams High School, a 'low achieving' label is a wake-up call

By Patrick Welsh

Sunday, March 21, 2010; B01

The Washington Post

Things around T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria, where I teach English, have gotten pretty gloomy.

Two weeks ago, Superintendent Morton Sherman called an emergency faculty meeting. We gathered in the school auditorium to hear him break the news: Ours was officially a "persistently low achieving" school. That unflattering label is a new one, created by state officials and Education Secretary Arne Duncan for high schools ranked in the lowest 5 percent of schools statewide with demographics similar to ours.

I was stunned. Some of my seniors from last year went on to Yale, MIT, the University of Chicago and other great schools. Just that morning I had listened to my current seniors discuss Cormac McCarthy's "All the Pretty Horses," a novel that is hardly fare for underachievers. How dare some bureaucrats tag us with such a demeaning label?

Yet I couldn't hide from the facts: Based on students' scores over the past two years on the Virginia Standards of Learning tests, T.C. was ranked 122 of the 128 high schools in the state that serve a number of at-risk students but do not accept federal Title I resources. "Persistently low achieving" wasn't just another education cliché. Our scores didn't lie.

Things only got worse when Sherman told the teachers that we had four options for corrective action, three of which would probably involve firing at least half of us.

From that afternoon on, low-grade paranoia filled the school. We weren't just afraid of losing our jobs; the way we thought about T.C. had changed. Math teacher Gary Thomas got a call from his brother-in-law asking what it was like to teach at one of "the worst schools in the nation." Thomas is a West Point graduate and retired Army colonel who usually can be found in his classroom an hour before and an hour after school, tutoring kids. "You feel horrible when you are putting in the time and effort and see a lot of your students who catch on and do well get characterized as low achievers," he told me.

How did our school -- which in 1984 received one of the country's first Department of Education excellence awards and in 1988 had the highest number of National Merit semifinalists in the state -- get to this point?

T.C. Williams has always been proud of its student achievement and its diverse community. But as the demographics of the school shifted over the past 25 years and low-income students -- many of them minorities and immigrants -- began to outnumber middle-class kids, one thing that didn't change was the way the school thought about its students. Even though we knew better, many of us -- both teachers and administrators -- acted as if all our students came to school with basic reading and math skills and had a parent at home actively supervising their education. The stragglers could do the work, we insisted, if they were in a room full of other kids who could do the work, too. The school definitely did not want to create tracking classes, in which kids are separated according to ability, or anything that could resemble ethnic or class-based segregation.

Instead of zeroing in on the relatively small number of students who came to us unprepared and needed a great deal of help to catch up, we opted for appearances. The school mixed kids of different academic levels into the same classes in hopes that the best students would pull up those on the bottom. We also continued passing kids through the system, whether they had learned the skills they needed or not. Gary Thomas says many students enter T.C. Williams not knowing how to add or subtract without a calculator, and even the better students do not understand fractions.

We tried to confront some of these challenges once before. But in 1997 the school board rejected a task force recommendation that Alexandria create an alternative school -- the type of school that we desperately need today to serve students with specific educational challenges. Glenn Hopkins, who runs a nationally recognized local preschool program, remembers that fight. He said he and other task force members were "pilloried by a small but vocal cadre of short-sighted community activists." Most of these activists were African Americans who had battled segregation years ago. "They saw a small alternative school as a ruse to bring back segregation," Hopkins said. The school board, unnerved, shelved the recommendation.

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And we are outraged that the school system enrolls newly arrived 18- to 20-year-old immigrants in the general student population, where they aren't in programs tailored to their particular needs. Had we done as Arlington and Fairfax counties do and offered them enrollment in an adult education program, their Standards of Learning scores would not have counted, and it's very unlikely that T.C. would have gotten the "persistently low achieving" label. We would also be serving those students better.

But the teachers also realize that we earned this label. For 39 years, I've been teaching grammar, writing and literature. Yet if a student comes into my classroom reading well below grade level, I don't know how to teach him to read. I should have taken courses years ago; I just never thought that I would need to teach reading in the 12th grade. And teachers

throughout the school system have passed kids on to the next grade, even though they have not mastered the skills they need to succeed at the next level.

Now that we've earned a label no one wants, maybe we'll be ready to label other things more accurately. Even students can identify the key challenges more clearly than many educators. "If T.C. wants to see any improvement, it will need a principal who will stick around and be willing to make unpopular decisions and confront head-on issues involving race -- which are really issues of economic class," said senior Luke Dorris, who has gained early admission to Columbia University.

The students also realize what's at stake. Tenth-grader Layla Mustafa said she is hearing a lot of kids say that their parents are thinking about taking them out of T.C. and sending them to private schools. "There are a lot of smart, hard-working kids here who are getting a great education, but with the state calling us 'persistently low achieving,' people outside of the school won't believe that," she said.

I'm confident we can shed our unwanted label. We took a great first step Tuesday night at a dinner that Superintendent Sherman hosted for all the T.C. staff members. Some, fearful that he would announce numerous firings, were calling it "the last supper." I thought it turned out to be Sherman's finest hour. He defended us and our work and told us he would probably exercise the least punitive option available to him: the "transformation model," which requires that we submit a detailed plan for improvement. He then opened the floor for the most honest discussion I have heard in all my years at the school.

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I thought T.C. Williams being tagged "persistently low achieving" was the lowest moment of my career at this school. Now I see it more as an unfriendly wake-up call, something to pull us back from the long, slow slide of not serving all our students well.

Labels can be unfair. They never tell the whole story. But though we never wanted to achieve our new label, I have no doubt that it will help us get back to achieving our best.

Patrick Welsh teaches English at T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria.

Some Alexandria School Budget Data:



Ref: <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/budgets/op2011/proposed/>

## Alexandria School Budget 2011

### Revenue Type

Beginning Balance	\$	5,647,199	2.80%
State Funds	\$	26,073,166	12.92%
Local Funds	\$	1,449,667	0.72%
Federal Funds	\$	66,154	0.03%
City Appropriation	\$	168,559,439	83.53%
Total		\$	201,795,625 100.00%

FY 2010 Pupil Count		11623
Estimated Pupils - 2011		12002
Cost per Student FY 2010	\$	17,362
Est Cost per Student - 2011	\$	16,813

**From:** Elaine.Scott@alexandriava.gov [mailto:Elaine.Scott@alexandriava.gov]

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2010 11:11 AM

**To:** Charles Pease

**Cc:** alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov; council@krupicka.com; delpepper@aol.com; frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov; jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov; kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov; paulcsmedberg@aol.com; rob.krupicka@alexandriava.gov; rose.boyd@alexandriava.gov; william.euille@alexandriava.gov; Beth.Temple@alexandriava.gov; Joanne.Pyle@alexandriava.gov; nanella@aol.com; council@krupicka.com; Brandon.Shultz@alexandriava.gov; Judy.Stack@alexandriava.gov; Sharon.Annear@alexandriava.gov

**Subject:** Re: COA Contact Us: Making it a chore to send you an email

Dear Mr. Pease,

The City Council has asked that I let you know that they have received your e-mail. Your concerns will be reviewed and a response will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,  
Elaine Scott  
Citizen Assistance  
703-746-4800 - Main  
703-746-4317 - Direct  
703-838-6426 - Fax

From: Charles Pease <peasechas@att.net>

To: william.euille@alexandriava.gov, frank.fannon@alexandriava.gov, kerry.donley@alexandriava.gov, alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov, council@krupicka.com, delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com, rose.boyd@alexandriava.gov, jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov, elaine.scott@alexandriava.gov, rob.krupicka@alexandriava.gov

Date: 03/29/2010 04:55 PM

Subject: COA Contact Us: Making it a chore to send you an email

Ref: <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/budgets/op2011/proposed/>

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From that afternoon on, low-grade paranoia filled the school. We weren't just afraid of losing our jobs; the way we thought about T.C. had changed. Math teacher Gary Thomas got a call from his brother-in-law asking what it was like to teach at one of "the worst schools in the nation." Thomas is a West Point graduate and retired Army colonel who usually can be found in his classroom an hour before and an hour after school, tutoring kids. "You feel horrible when you are putting in the time and effort and see a lot of your students who catch on and do well get characterized as low achievers," he told me.

How did our school -- which in 1984 received one of the country's first Department of Education excellence awards and in 1988 had the highest number of National Merit semifinalists in the state -- get to this point?

T.C. Williams has always been proud of its student achievement and its diverse community. But as the demographics of the school shifted over the past 25 years and low-income students -- many of them minorities and immigrants -- began to outnumber middle-class kids, one thing that didn't change was the way the school thought about its

students. Even though we knew better, many of us -- both teachers and administrators -- acted as if all our students came to school with basic reading and math skills and had a parent at home actively supervising their education. The stragglers could do the work, we insisted, if they were in a room full of other kids who could do the work, too. The school definitely did not want to create tracking classes, in which kids are separated according to ability, or anything that could resemble ethnic or class-based segregation.

Instead of zeroing in on the relatively small number of students who came to us unprepared and needed a great deal of help to catch up, we opted for appearances. The school mixed kids of different academic levels into the same classes in hopes that the best students would pull up those on the bottom. We also continued passing kids through the system, whether they had learned the skills they needed or not. Gary Thomas says many students enter T.C. Williams not knowing how to add or subtract without a calculator, and even the better students do not understand fractions.

We tried to confront some of these challenges once before. But in 1997 the school board rejected a task force recommendation that Alexandria create an alternative school -- the type of school that we desperately need today to serve students with specific educational challenges. Glenn Hopkins, who runs a nationally recognized local preschool program, remembers that fight. He said he and other task force members were "pilloried by a small but vocal cadre of short-sighted community activists." Most of these activists were African Americans who had battled segregation years ago. "They saw a small alternative school as a ruse to bring back segregation," Hopkins said. The school board, unnerved, shelved the recommendation.

Over the past two weeks, teachers at T.C. have been angrier than I have ever seen them. We are angry at federal officials who label those of us who work in the most challenging schools as failures. We are angry at administrators who constantly send us mixed messages (be rigorous, but don't give out many Ds and Fs, and make sure everyone graduates!). We are angry that our leadership has been so unstable (the new principal to be named soon will be our third in five years).

And we are outraged that the school system enrolls newly arrived 18- to 20-year-old immigrants in the general student population, where they aren't in programs tailored to their particular needs. Had we done as Arlington and Fairfax counties do and offered them enrollment in an adult education program, their Standards of Learning scores would not have counted, and it's very unlikely that T.C. would have gotten the "persistently low achieving" label. We would also be serving those students better.

But the teachers also realize that we earned this label. For 39 years, I've been teaching grammar, writing and literature. Yet if a student comes into my classroom reading well below grade level, I don't know how to teach him to read. I should have taken courses years ago; I just never thought that I would need to teach reading in the 12th grade. And teachers throughout the school system have passed kids on to the next grade, even though they have not mastered the skills they need to succeed at the next level.



Now that we've earned a label no one wants, maybe we'll be ready to label other things more accurately. Even students can identify the key challenges more clearly than many educators. "If T.C. wants to see any improvement, it will need a principal who will stick around and be willing to make unpopular decisions and confront head-on issues involving race -- which are really issues of economic class," said senior Luke Dorris, who has gained early admission to Columbia University.

The students also realize what's at stake. Tenth-grader Layla Mustafa said she is hearing a lot of kids say that their parents are thinking about taking them out of T.C. and sending them to private schools. "There are a lot of smart, hard-working kids here who are getting a great education, but with the state calling us 'persistently low achieving,' people outside of the school won't believe that," she said.

I'm confident we can shed our unwanted label. We took a great first step Tuesday night at a dinner that Superintendent Sherman hosted for all the T.C. staff members. Some, fearful that he would announce numerous firings, were calling it "the last supper." I thought it turned out to be Sherman's finest hour. He defended us and our work and told us he would probably exercise the least punitive option available to him: the "transformation model," which requires that we submit a detailed plan for improvement. He then opened the floor for the most honest discussion I have heard in all my years at the school.

One by one, teachers walked up to two microphones and addressed the problems -- and solutions -- they saw at T.C.: the lack of clear, consistent discipline; kids roaming the halls freely during class; the failure to curb cellphone and iPod use; the need to identify and focus on those students who are woefully behind in reading and math.

I couldn't help but chuckle when Steve Geter, a 27-year-old history teacher who didn't exactly kill himself studying when he was in my English class 10 years ago, suggested, to thunderous applause, that we could help change the atmosphere by making students wear uniforms. It seemed to be the first time that everyone was pulling in the same direction to confront the problems that helped give us the label we all hate.

I thought T.C. Williams being tagged "persistently low achieving" was the lowest moment of my career at this school. Now I see it more as an unfriendly wake-up call, something to pull us back from the long, slow slide of not serving all our students well.

Labels can be unfair. They never tell the whole story. But though we never wanted to achieve our new label, I have no doubt that it will help us get back to achieving our best.

Patrick Welsh teaches English at T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria.

## A Commitment to Restore City Services When the Recession Ends

Chet and Sabra Avery

to:

William Euille, Frank Fannon, Alicia Hughes, Kerry Donley, Rob Krupicka, Paul Smedberg, Michele.Evans, mark.jinks, Jim James Hartmann, Jackie.Henderson, Del Pepper

03/26/2010 01:12 AM

Cc:

"FRed Scheigert@", "Robert Fulk", "Petra Osborn", "Adam Osterman", "Charles Benagh", Jean.Niebauer, Jim.Maslanka, "Joseph Delfico", Maurice.Tomdio, "Mike Hatfield", "Ruth Soto", "Teri Bertsch", "Tom Sachs", "Stuart Ellis Jr.", "Pat Troy", "Tom Lantz", "Abdullah Rufus", "Tom Babinszki", "Mollie Danforth", "Kent Fee", "Mat Harris", "Pat Spurlock", "Jenny R. Wade", "Jim McClellan", "Karen Gautney", Miladis.Martinez, "Collette Harrell", "Nancy Turner", "John Ates", "athir Ahmad"

Show Details

Mr. Mayor and Members of Council,

At this time when you are forced to reduce services while raising taxes and fees to maintain core city services and priorities, as a private citizen, I am writing to request that you identify and maintain a list of unfilled positions and program service cuts that will be made and take action through a budget policy position to restore cuts made at this time of reduced revenues to restore these program curtailments when the economy turns around and increased revenues occur once more. Those of us who live and know about Alexandria keenly feel the impact of budget reductions on City services and the stress placed on already overstretched City Staff. City tax payers and residents and employees can better handle resource and service reductions if City Council goes on record and issues a budget policy statement that clearly states that city staff and service reductions will be restored when city revenues improve.

As you well know, what often happens when budget cuts occur, the services that are lost are never restored because too often returning revenues are used for new initiatives while lost program staff and services are never restored.

As a person who lives in and loves this City, I know that residents and city staff in Alexandria will be better prepared to deal with service and resource reductions if the City Council establishes a policy to restore services that have been reduced once revenues return to normal.

These are difficult times and you have hard decisions to make and we, who live in Alexandria, will be more able to weather service curtailments if you assure us that unfilled positions service reductions and diminished services will be restored when our economy and revenues increase once more.

Thank you for your attention to the consideration of this budget policy request.

Chet

Chet and Sabra Avery  
16 East Linden Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22301  
703 549-4617



**COA Contact Us: City of Alexandria Pipe and Drum**

**Matt Tourville** to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott,  
rob.krupicka

03/29/2010 07:28 PM

**Please respond to Matt Tourville**

1 attachment



5bb76af8fad2228e0cfc017e53f3f483.jpg

**Time: [Mon Mar 29, 2010 19:28:27] Message ID: [20391]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Matt  
**Last Name:** Tourville  
**Street Address:**  
**City:**  
**State:**  
**Zip:**  
**Phone:** 7039066274  
**Email Address:** mgt@edsallroad.com  
**Subject:** City of Alexandria Pipe and Drum  
Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I have been a marching member of the  
City of Alexandria Pipe and Drums(CAPD) for three years now.  
It has  
been brought to my attention that the budgeted money that has helped  
sustain the CAPD is scheduled to be completely removed.  
Without this  
funding the band would have to seek corporate sponsorship. Typically with  
that type of funding the band's name and mission of being ambassadors to  
the City of Alexandria would be jeopardized.  
With all of the 40+ members  
donating their time and energy to represent the City, I feel the budget

matter needs to be addressed before it's too late.

**Comments:** Band

Accolades:

After serving 8 years as the Escort to the President of the

United States it has been an honor to be part of the very well known and professional group.

CAPD has participated in all of the City of

Alexandria's parades for many many years. During the summer the group performs at market square and various City events for the public mostly comprised of tourists visiting Old Town.

The group also represents the

City of Alexandria at events like American University's graduation each year and as far at Winchester's Apple Blossom parade.

I thank-you for

your time and am proud to serve the City of Alexandria,

Matt Tourville

**Attachment:** 5bb76af8fad2228e0cfc017e53f3f483.jpg



**COA Contact Us: "Green Roof" Project at Burke Branch Library**

**Eileen Bradley to:** william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott,  
rob.krupicka

03/29/2010 06:48 PM

**Please respond to Eileen Bradley**

**Time: [Mon Mar 29, 2010 18:48:44] Message ID: [20389]**

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

**First Name:** Eileen

**Last Name:** Bradley

**Street Address:** 4705 W. Braddock Road  
#30

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22311

**Phone:** 703-379-1251

**Email Address:** eileenbradley97@yahoo.com

**Subject:** "Green Roof" Project at Burke Branch Library

I am writing to let you know that Burke Branch Friends of the Burke Branch

Library emphatically oppose any rejection of the pending project that would

install a "green roof" on the Library's building. I testified

before the Mayor and Council on November 21, 2009 alongside Members of the

Library Board to urge against further cuts in the Library's budget. Thus

we share Brooksie Hoopman's, the Library Board Chair's, very genuine and

serious concerns about the state and fate of the library's resources.

However, we strongly disagree with her rejection of the project as

waste of the City's resources. We reject the position for several reasons.

Briefly --

1. The position is premised on a factually incorrect

premise; namely, that the current roof is sound and secure. Burke Library

staff can tell you that the roof has leaked and been repaired for such

problems. Second, the roof continues to leak in the Young Adult section.

Moreover, to the extent that extreme climate and temperature variations in the library are due in whole or part to the current impervious roof, the green roof should help alleviate the resulting adverse conditions for employees and patrons alike.

2. The position appears to be premised on the hope, if not the belief, that the Mayor and Council can convert the matching funds set aside in the capital budget to the City's and thus the Library's operational budget. Short, of a total economic collapse, we doubt that the elected leadership will or should invade the capital budget to effectuate any restoration of the extremely unfortunate and regrettable cuts in the Library's operations. (We are no experts, but it may not even be legally possible.)

3. Given points 1 and 2 above, which appear to be at heart of the opposition to install the green roof, we believe the position has no clear rational or convincing basis for upending a "go forward" decision the Mayor and Council made on September 22, 2009. Unfortunately, though an understandable cry for budget relief for Library operations, the position can and will be interpreted by those in some quarters to be aimed at thwarting environmental progress. The City's Eco-Charter and its Eco-Action Plan project the eventual retrofitting of all city building roofs to stem water pollution and its effects. The current general economic strife can't and shouldn't be legitimately used as an accepted or acceptable rationale for putting off -- actually cancelling -- a project such as this when both the EPA funds and the requisite city matching had already been set aside.

**Comments:**

4. It is regrettable that the Library Board did not receive a timely "heads up" from the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services on its plans. However, mistakes or neglect in communications between city agencies should not deprive the Burke community residents and its Library of the benefits and equities inherent in the latest in environmental

developments. We are mindful that the Duncan Library Branch has a green roof. We believe Burke should be permitted to join the environmental mainstream.

5. We are also mindful that Congressman Moran worked to ensure that the City of Alexandria receive the general EPA grant several years ago and that EPA itself expects a project to be launched in Alexandria , which addresses pollution issues related to the Four Mile Run watershed. The City has greatly relied on its staff experts at the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services to acquire and "grow" its reputation as one of the environmentally progressive urban areas in the country. These same experts chose the Burke Branch Library for sound reasons. The Mayor and Council Members should reaffirm their support of this Project and perhaps direct the Department to ensure that it "covers its inter-agency communication bases" in the future.

We will send a written presentation further elaborating the Friends' position on the Green Roof question no later than April 2. We just learned last week of the details of the Board Chair's testimony on March 10 and her additional comments at the March 24 budget working session or we would have commented sooner. We are sorry that we disagree with an acknowledged champion of the Library whom I joined, as I said above, in testifying against cutting the Library's budget. But in this instance, we must depart from the Chair and a position that we believe harms the interests of the Burke community and its Library and does not advance the interests of the Library as a whole.

Sincerely,

Eileen

Bradley  
President  
Burke Branch Friends



**COA Contact Us: Proposed 3% Add-on Business Tax**

**Christopher Shea** to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
alicia.hughes, council, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,  
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott,  
rob.krupicka

04/01/2010 08:46 AM

**Please respond to Christopher Shea**

**Time: [Thu Apr 01, 2010 08:46:33] Message ID: [20459]**

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

**First Name:** Christopher

**Last Name:** Shea

**Street Address:** 5013 Flanders Ave

**City:** Kensington

**State:** MD

**Zip:** 20895

**Phone:** 301-942-8410

**Email Address:** ckeefe.shea@gmail.com

**Subject:** Proposed 3% Add-on Business Tax

I've just read about the proposed tax increases on businesses Alexandria.

I work in Alexandria and would hope that the City Council would against this tax increase.

If a tax increase is neccessary to close th budget

gap, I would hope the council would consider the alternative proposed by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce and put a 1% tax increase across the board on all properties. This would share the burden among all who live and work in Alexandria, better position Alexandria businesses for economic recovery, all give the city council more discretion in how the tax revenues are spent. It's a win-win solution for every one.

**Comments:**

Thanks.

Christopher Shea  
Proprietor  
Ted's Montana Grill





**COA Contact Us: Commercial Real Estate Tax Hike**

**Christopher Campagna** to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,  
alicia.hughes, council, delpepper,  
paulcsmedberg, rose.boyd,  
jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka

04/01/2010 08:49 AM

**Please respond to Christopher Campagna**

**Time: [Thu Apr 01, 2010 08:49:27] Message ID: [20460]**

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

**First Name:** Christopher

**Last Name:** Campagna

**Street Address:** 816 Duke Street

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** Va

**Zip:** 22314

**Phone:** 7038366555

**Email Address:** chrkam@tartanproperties.com

**Subject:** Commercial Real Estate Tax Hike

It is hard for me to imagine a worse idea at a worse time. The City of Alexandria suffers everyday from an earned reputation as being a hard place to do business. Don't fool your selves we are NOT business friendly. There has been improvement, but we are a long way from becoming THE place to start, grow and run a business. Which we need to become if you want to fund a first class education system and things like pocket parks. Now is not the time to perpetuate our anti-business reputation. This will serve as a deterrent not an incentive for businesses and investors. DO NOT PASS TAX INCREASE ON COMMERCIAL PROPERTY. It would be a mistake to think that commercial tax hike does not affect the almighty voter the way tax increase residential does. It will impact every facet of a voter/citizen's life. Call me if you care to discuss 202-669-3909.