

7b
4-16-11

Jackie Henderson

From: Dennis Goris <dennis@goris.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2011 4:35 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; delpepper@aol.com; Del Pepper; paulcsmedberg@aol.com; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: The Euille-Smedberg-Krupicka-Pepper-Donley Tax
Attachments: ATT00001.txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon Mar 21, 2011 16:34:42] Message ID: [28618]

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: 703 836 3227
Email Address: dennis@goris.com
Subject: The Euille-Smedberg-Krupicka-Pepper-Donley Tax
As a longtime city resident and business owner, I find it short-sighted and
and frankly appalling that a new tax to fund transportation is being levied
solely on commercial property.
It might seem like the easy route (fewer
people to complain), but it's bad for Alexandria businesses -- many of
whom
are struggling. And this is only making it harder.
Comments: Disappointing to say
the least.

Jackie Henderson

From: Richard Totoiu <studioantiques@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 13, 2011 4:03 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; delpepper@aol.com; Del Pepper; paulcsmedberg@aol.com; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Linda Owens; Rob Krupicka; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: the commercial add-on tax
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice-Mayor and Council Members

Time: [Sun Mar 13, 2011 16:02:48] Message ID: [28435]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice-Mayor and Council Members
First Name: Richard
Last Name: Totoiu
Street Address: 327 Mansion Drive
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22302
Phone:
Email Address: studioantiques@comcast.net
Subject: the commercial add-on tax
My wife and I have had a small business (Studio Antiques and Fine Art) in Old Town for the past 30 years. Last year was the worst we have had in the past 25 of those years. Fully half of the antiques dealers and more than half of the art galleries in Alexandria have closed in the last few years. This represents not only a loss of revenue to the city, it is also a loss of cultural diversity to the community. We urge you to reject any increase in the commercial property tax.

Jackie Henderson

From: Kim Putens <kputens@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2011 1:48 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; delpepper@aol.com; Del Pepper; paulcsmedberg@aol.com; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Commercial Property Tax
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon Mar 14, 2011 13:47:59] Message ID: [28457]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Kim
Last Name: Putens
Street Address: 924 and 1000 King Street
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 202-297-9090
Email Address: kputens@hotmail.com
Subject: Commercial Property Tax
As you consider how you will fund transportation in the City of Alexandria, I'd appreciate it if you would consider the following:

1. All commercial property taxes and other associated taxes are passed down to the leasee, not absorbed by the building owner. This is called a triple net lease which is a very common lease term for commercial leases.
2. An added commercial property tax sends the message that businesses will have to pay more to do business in Alexandria. As we know, it is already hard to attract retail businesses to Old Town. The condition of so many buildings in Old Town is already a hurdle. Now, let's add on an additional cost to drive potential businesses away.
3. Struggling retail businesses in Old Town cannot withstand another expense added to their balance sheets.
Today, I noticed 2 more businesses that are going out of business in Old Town.
4. Making it more expensive to have a business in Alexandria seems

to go counter to the goals of the City's Strategic Plan/Vision, particularly Goal #1 to improve the vibrancy of King Street.

I

understand there are several options that the Council is considering. While one of those is the lowering or elimination of the BPOL at certain revenue increments, the problem with this is it is perceived as only a temporary offset for small businesses. There is no guarantee that proposals to increase or return the BPOL to historic levels won't return in future years while the commercial property tax continues to loom.

As it

is, the real estate burdens for retail businesses in Old Town are already very high. As Chris Campagna noted in his brief study, the rents in Old Town are out of sync with revenue. A great example - I was recently offered the opportunity to expand my business above my current business.

Once I talked to the landlord and understood the expected rent, I wasn't too concerned, as it is negotiable. However, because I would have to absorb the real estate taxes for the entire building, I decided to pass on the opportunity because the taxes + the rent make it too expensive.

What is very troubling for many of the businesses in Old Town, in particular, is that we question why the commercial property tax is an option at all to pay for transportation. The City was given 3 options – commercial property tax, impact tax and a car tax. The reality is that the transportation issues are not caused by the businesses. The fact is that the City has added a tremendous amount of housing units in the past 10-15

years without making any adjustments to transportation. If anything, the people that move to Alexandria and register their multiple cars should absorb the cost of funding transportation in Alexandria. It doesn't make any sense to us that we would have to pay for the transportation problems not caused by our businesses. Let's tax the entities that cause the problem. Not just look for what might be perceived as the easy tax to send to the General Assembly.

I have said this over and over again. Retail

businesses in Old Town need a leg up from the City. We don't need another

reason to close our shops. Bellacara just celebrated its 11th Anniversary

this weekend. In all honesty, with the economic situation the past 2

years, the rising property costs, and the difficulty to get people to view

Old Town as a shopping destination without the draw of larger retailers and

their mega marketing dollars, it makes it hard for me to imagine another 11

years or even 5 years. At the end of the day, I believe a lot of

businesses, including myself, are starting to ask, is it really worth it?

Frankly, the City spent a lot of money to have Bob Gibbs research and

understand the challenges of King Street retail. What has come from that?

Where are the efforts to make something happen from that? I can't believe

the answer is to impose yet another burden on the retail businesses.

Ultimately, it will be our burden.

The imposition of this tax is

simply unfair. Please exercise the other options that have been given to

you by the legislature.

Let's keep in mind, many business owners live in

Alexandria and some own their buildings too. Business owners also vote.

Jackie Henderson

From: Bea Porter <beatrice.a.d.porter-gruel@saic.com>
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2011 4:06 PM
To: William Eulle; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; delpepper@aol.com; Del Pepper; paulcsmedberg@aol.com; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Jefferson-Houston Elementary School Funding
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon Mar 14, 2011 16:05:53] Message ID: [28463]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Bea
Last Name: Porter
Street Address: 1727 Cameron Street
City: Alexandria
State: Virginia
Zip: 22314
Phone: 571-228-0326
Email Address: beatrice.a.d.porter-gruel@saic.com
Subject: Jefferson-Houston Elementary School Funding

Hello. Tonight there is a work session between the school board, Dr. Sherman, and City Council. I would like to remind you that this neighborhood is not for a public private partnership. We also do not want some huge monstrous building on our block. Please remind Dr. Sherman that we would like him to put his work force somewhere other than in our elementary school. He keeps sneaking around, and we are trying to keep

Comments: abreast of what he is trying to do here. I am not going to be able to make tonights meeting as I have child duty, but did want to remind you of the hard work that Damon Colbert and myself put into canvassing this neighborhood. I realize a new school building will cost a great deal, and I also know that a lot of people feel we need that building, but a new building is not going to make the grades better. It may make more people

want to bring their kids in, but then again, it may not. Its the
children and their well being that is important
here. If one takes care
of ones belongings, they will last a very, very long time. And,
personally, I feel if the
love and care goes into the current building,
this building will last many more years. Of course, I also feel we
should keep it at a k-5 level. It may be nice to nurture the children in
one building for longer school years, but
at the same time, as they grow,
they need to venture out. Thank you again for letting me speak to you.

Bea

Jackie Henderson

From: Dave Cavanaugh <dacava1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 10:00 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; paulcsmedberg@aol.com; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Budget Memo #10
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Tue Apr 05, 2011 22:00:16] Message ID: [28974]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Dave
Last Name: Cavanaugh
Street Address: 4008 Fort Worth Avenue
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22304
Phone: 7034613310
Email Address: dacava1@yahoo.com
Subject: Budget Memo #10

I support the transportation add-on-tax, however Budget Memo # 10 raises my concern the funds will be used to rush development projects without adequate public. There was very little advance notice on the projects included in Budget #10. Without public involvement and transparency in the expenditure of the new transportation dollars, there is a risk that projects will harm neighborhoods, increase infrastructure costs and not generate the economic activity to justify public investment.

Comments: At your April 11, 2011 Budget Work Session would it be possible to have staff clarify Budget Memo 10 as it relates to Transit Corridor C. The project is to construct a 4-mile segment of high-capacity transitway in dedicated lanes in the Landmark/VanDorn Small Area Plan, the Beauregard Corridor Study and the Mark Center site. The estimate project costs for construction exceeding \$39 million. It is assumed developer contributions of at least \$20 million. Providing a line item for construction may be

premature.

Plans are to accelerated funding for Transit Corridor C by providing \$3.5 million in additional funding for FY 2012 and 2013. Is this in addition to the \$4.5 and \$5. million for the high capacity transit corridors listed in the individual Capital Project Details?

Since the

transitway study and the Beauregard Small Area Plan are not completed, what

specific projects are envisioned to be funded in 2012 and 2013?

What

is the likelihood at this time of any developer contributions in construction?

Will the City Council invite public comments on the

Transportation Add-on-Tax project list once the tax is approved?

The

project plan does not include any funding for short and mid-term improvements approved by the City Council. Is there a reason why these projects are being overlooked in both FY 2012 and 2013?

What is the

public participation process that will be used in approving specific projects funded by the transportation add-on-tax? What general criteria will be used to assure the overwhelming benefits of a project will benefit residents, not just landowners and developers?

Will the City Council

vote to approve specific projects, e.g., high occupancy rapid transit, intersection redesign, or new transit stations? To what extent will projects be coordinated with adjacent jurisdictions before being approved for funding?

Consideration of the above questions at your meeting would

help remove some of the uncertainty regarding the transportation add-on-tax

and potentially generate needed support. Given the short period of time, a written response is unnecessary.

Thank you

Jackie Henderson

From: Cindy McCartney <divaboutique@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2011 1:14 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; paulcsmedberg@aol.com; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Add on tax
Attachments: ATT00001.txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Thu Mar 31, 2011 13:13:31] Message ID: [28859]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Cindy
Last Name: McCartney
Street Address: 116 S. Pitt St.
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone:
Email Address: divaboutique@comcast.net
Subject: Add on tax

Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Donley and the Members of Council who are in support of the add-on tax,

I am writing as a small business owner in the City to state my opposition to the proposed Add-on tax. I would like to be able to attend the public hearing...however, I will be working that morning in my shop.

Business in the City for independents is already hard-won,

Comments: and paying our present rents is difficult enough, without what will undoubtedly be added to them if this passes. I have been impressed by how the City has become what I thought was more business-friendly in the 5 years Diva has been in business. The consideration of this tax has made me stop and wonder about that. And the plan for the business license fee "relief", though that should be passed independently of this tax, does not make up for what we will have to pay.

I would like to see you

defeat this tax--to not do so sends a very bad message about Alexandria being "business-friendly". Thanks to Councilpersons Fannon and Hughes for their opposition to the tax.

Thank you. Please do not put

this tax on our backs.

Cindy McCartney, Owner, Diva Designer

Consignment



COA Contact Us: Commercial Add on Tax

Rob Kaufman to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,
alicia.hughes, delpepper, paulcsmedberg, rose.boyd,
jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka,
linda.owens, elizabeth.jones

02/09/2011 09:08 AM

Please respond to Rob Kaufman

Time: [Wed Feb 09, 2011 09:08:20] Message ID: [27560]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name: Rob

Last Name: Kaufman

Street Address: PMA Properties
815 King Street

City: Alexandria

State: VA

Zip: 22314

Phone: 703-548-1810

Email Address: rob@pmaproperties.com

Subject: Commercial Add on Tax

The past few years have been devastating for our local businesses. Sales are down significantly and as of today are seeing only minor improvement. Most building Owners have been responding by working with the rent as best they can in order to keep their Tenants operating and getting through this period.

Alexandria's businesses have been plagued by a second and very formidable problem in that the City no longer has the edge when it comes to attracting shoppers and therefore businesses. So many other choices are now available throughout the metropolitan area. These new areas are attracting

Comments: both retail and commercial Tenants that may have in the past been drawn to Alexandria. This puts further pressure on the Landlords and Tenants.

From a property owner's perspective the Add on Tax is usually a pass through but the pass through only puts further pressure on those that are already under too much pressure. I believe that the tax will either

finish many of them or convince them that there are too many other choices
on where to put their business and we will lose the tenants.

This is not

the time to nail the last nail into something so fragile.



COA Contact Us: OPPOSED to Commercial Property Add-on Tax

Mary Longacre to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,
alicia.hughes, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott,
rob.krupicka, linda.owens, elizabeth.jones

02/08/2011 06:32 PM

Please respond to Mary Longacre

Time: [Tue Feb 08, 2011 18:32:38] Message ID: [27551]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Mary
Last Name: Longacre
Street Address: 101 N West St
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 703-299-0802
Email Address: longacre@gis.net
Subject: OPPOSED to Commercial Property Add-on Tax
I strongly oppose the idea of taxing commercial real estate at a higher rate than residential real estate. Businesses can't afford any additional taxes right now! Look at all of the empty commercial real estate, especially in Old Town. Businesses already pay a tax on personal property that residents don't pay as well as a tax on gross revenues. Adding on another tax (it is the business tenants of the commercial property who will pay the new tax, not the building owners) is outrageous and counterproductive. Now is the time to ease the tax burden on businesses, not increase it!
Comments:
-Mary Longacre



COA Contact Us: Add-on Business Tax

Joseph Egerton to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,
alicia.hughes, delpepper, paulcsmedberg,
rose.boyd, jackie.henderson, elaine.scott,
rob.krupicka, linda.owens, elizabeth.jones

02/08/2011 06:41 PM

Please respond to Joseph Egerton

Time: [Tue Feb 08, 2011 18:41:02] Message ID: [27552]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Joseph
Last Name: Egerton
Street Address: 1117 King Street
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 703 838 9785
Email Address: Artsafire@artsafire.com
Subject: Add-on Business Tax
Your Honor and Honorable Council Members

The proposed Add-on Business

Tax would be extremely bad for Alexandria businesses. Old Town, in particular, is in serious decline. We have lost many of our high-end retailers to both the economic downturn and to the negative parking reputation brought about by higher fines and stigma that Alexandria is not business friendly. If there is an add-on commercial tax it will only be passed on to the tenants of these commercial buildings and drive more and more desirable businesses away. Just this month we have lost Art Craft Collection and Le Muse craft stores, leaving only two quality craft galleries (other than the Torpedo Factory), Arts Afire and Imagine Artwear.

Our vacant storefronts are being filled with far less exciting businesses than we have had in the past, and we are getting an unbalance of fast food restaurants (two Subways on King Street). Another growing

Comments:

problem is the purchase of our high-profile buildings by foreigners who buy, then let sit and deteriorate. Examples, the Conklyn Bldg. on the corner of King and Patrick Sts. sitting empty for over 3 years now, not painted or fixed up, but there with code signs plastered all over it. That same owner has now purchaed 1106 King Street (Le Gaulois Restaurant) with the courtyard filling up with leaves, debris and even yellow plastic bags with phone books hanging from its wrought iron gates.

Added cost to

current businesses will only drive more away. If Old Town loses its panache, the loss of visitor revenue will far outweigh the added tax revenue.

I ask that you very carefully consider what effect any added tax will do to our businesses.



COA Contact Us: 12.5 cent add on tax to commerical property

Diane Murphy to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,
alicia.hughes, delpepper, paulcsmedberg, rose.boyd,
jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka,
linda.owens, elizabeth.jones

02/08/2011 07:43 PM

Please respond to Diane Murphy

Time: [Tue Feb 08, 2011 19:42:58] Message ID: [27554]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name: Diane

Last Name: Murphy

Street Address: 104 South Columbus Street

City: Alexandria

State: Virginia

Zip: 22314

Phone: 703 408.1152

Email Address: dgmpop@aol.com

Subject: 12.5 cent add on tax to commerical property

As a small business owner and real estate broker located at the above property, I am strongly opposed to this proposal. This added burden will force me to seriously consider re-locating my business outside of the City limits. I have proudly owned and carefully maintained this property and worked very hard to build a business there over the last 17 years. This

Comments: would adversely affect me to the point where I would consider an area with less business tax, real estate tax and parking fees. I believe in the entrepreneurial spirit and have survived economic and real estate downturns but to impose this additional tax on commerical properties exclusively is unfair and beyond burdensome. I ask for your thoughtful reconsideration and rejection of this proposal.



COA Contact Us: tax on commercial property

Thomas Welsh to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,
alicia.hughes, delpepper, paulcsmedberg, rose.boyd,
jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka,
linda.owens, elizabeth.jones

02/08/2011 07:44 PM

Please respond to Thomas Welsh

Time: [Tue Feb 08, 2011 19:44:12] Message ID: [27555]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name: Thomas

Last Name: Welsh

Street Address: 2100 Mount Vernon Ave

City: Alexandria

State: Va

Zip: 22301

Phone: 571.259.1968

Email Address: welshsalon@comcast.net

Subject: tax on commercial property

Dear Mayor Euille and members of council
I am writing to you to voice my

opposition to the proposed tax increase on commercial property. I feel it

is unfair to target one group of citizens to carry this burden. Why is it

Comments: not a across the board rise in the prpoert tax? All citizens will benefit
from better transportation, so all should be taxed fairly.

Sincerely
Tom Welsh



COA Contact Us: Please Vote Against the Piggyback Tax

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

Bud Miller to: delpepper, paulcsmedberg, rose.boyd, jackie.henderson,
elaine.scott, rob.krupicka, linda.owens, elizabeth.jones

02/09/2011 10:27 AM

Please respond to Bud Miller

Time: [Wed Feb 09, 2011 10:27:23] Message ID: [27575]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name: Bud

Last Name: Miller

Street Address: 115-D South Saint Asaph Street

City: Alexandria

State: VA

Zip: 22314

Phone: (703) 684-5312

Email Address: Bud@efficientresearch.com

Subject: Please Vote Against the Piggyback Tax
Dear Mr. Mayor, Members of City Council,

As you may be aware, I, and

many others, have opposed the imposition of a Piggyback Tax on Alexandria

Commercial Properties for some time now. At this point, you have likely

heard the debate numerous
times. (It's unfair, taxes are bad for both

small and large businesses in terrible economic times, live
within your

budget, don't use a new tax to further get into debt, etc.)

You may even

recall the more than 200 Alexandrians who signed a petition against this

same tax when it
was previously proposed. Reference:

<http://www.petitiononline.com/proptaxs/petition.html>

I'll suggest an

Comments: additional thought for your discussions. Time and again, ever since this
tax was first

considered by City Council, you listened to the Community,

you listened to the Chamber of Commerce,
you even listened to small

independent business owners like me and my wife and repeatedly rejected

this
unfair tax.

Nothing has changed. There is no compelling reason

for you to change your past position on this issue.
This tax is bad for

Alexandria. It was bad three years ago, it remains a bad idea today.

Please do not turn your back on hard-working Alexandrians and our
business community,

Thankyou for your consideration



COA Contact Us: 12.5% tax

Robert Adams to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,
alicia.hughes, delpepper, paulcsmedberg, rose.boyd,
jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka,
linda.owens, elizabeth.jones

02/09/2011 03:19 PM

Please respond to Robert Adams

Time: [Wed Feb 09, 2011 15:19:03] Message ID: [27585]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name: Robert

Last Name: Adams

Street Address: 510 S. Fairfax St.

City: Alexandria

State: VA

Zip: 22314

Phone: 703-549-0650

Email Address: Bud@adamsarchitects.com

Subject: 12.5% tax

Ladies and Gentlemen,
I am writing to urge you to avoid further taxation

that affects the ability of struggling businesses to survive in the city of

Alexandria. A tax on investment real estate is yet another signal that

Comments: Alexandria isn't a business friendly municipality.
Please vote against

this tax increase.
Thank you for your consideration of this voter's

views.

Robert Bentley Adams, AIA



COA Contact Us: Proposed Commercial Add-on Tax

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

Tina Leone to: delpepper, paulcsmedberg, rose.boyd, jackie.henderson,
elaine.scott, rob.krupicka, linda.owens, elizabeth.jones

02/09/2011 05:34 PM

Please respond to Tina Leone

Time: [Wed Feb 09, 2011 17:34:22] Message ID: [27589]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Tina
Last Name: Leone
Street Address: Alexandria Chamber of Commerce
801 N Fairfax St
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 703-549-1000
Email Address: tleone@alexchamber.com
Subject: Proposed Commercial Add-on Tax
February 9, 2010

RE: Proposed Commercial Add-on Tax

Dear Mayor,

Vice-Mayor and Council Members,

We represent nearly 860 businesses in

Alexandria. We urge you to protect our businesses and promote economic

growth by rejecting any increase in the commercial property tax.

We

believe this tax is not right for Alexandria.

We are different than our

neighbors, Arlington and Fairfax County. We agree that Alexandria must be

a

party to such a regional transportation system in concert with our

neighbors to alleviate traffic congestion, to introduce new modes of

eco-friendly transit and to foster future growth to and along

commercial

corridors.

However, we are unlike our neighbors who have many large,

national and international corporations to help shoulder the burden of

transportation costs. Our business tax base is predominantly comprised of

small, locally owned and operated businesses that subsist on narrow

profit margins. Over 90% of the City's 9,000+ businesses have fewer than

20 employees. To expect small business owners to bear tax burdens in a

manner similar to the way our neighbors tax their businesses is

unrealistic. It is also potentially crippling to the businesses that

foster the unique charm we have in Alexandria which is craved by

residents and promoted by the City.

Commercial properties also make up

a smaller portion of our tax base- relative to residential properties-

about 45% of the total number of parcels in Alexandria. And when you

remove apartments (since this tax won't apply to them), the percentage is

much smaller. Instead of harming the small businesses that make up our

commercial tax base, we ask you to focus on expanding our tax base through

thoughtful development and diversifying business uses so that there is an

adequate complement of larger businesses that can then pay their

proportionate, larger share of taxes. Imposing a commercial add-on tax

now will merely hurt existing businesses and discourage new businesses from

relocating to Alexandria.

We ask you to consider seizing the

opportunity to market our City as a tax haven for businesses and a more

attractive option to locate a business as compared to our neighbors.

We

also believe this tax is inequitable.

We understand that transportation

improvements, in the form of roadway improvement projects, new public

Comments:

transit systems and roadway maintenance, represent one of the most critical

needs facing the City.

We support these improvements and we are willing

to pay our fair share. However, funding these needs cannot be borne

solely by the business community.

Transportation is a core public

service provided by the City. It is well-established that commercial

properties require substantially less services from the City than do

residential properties. Yet under the City's current taxing structure,

commercial and residential properties are taxed at an equal rate. Thus,

commercial property owners pay proportionately equal taxes for fewer

services than residential property owners. Residents and businesses

alike will benefit from transportation improvements, and thus, the

funding of such improvements should result from a uniform tax

rate.

Finally, we believe this tax is not the only tool available to the

City to fund transportation improvements.

The Chamber recognizes the

City's need to generate sufficient revenue to solve its transportation

problems. However, the imposition of a commercial add-on tax cannot be

supported by Alexandria's small business base. Rather, transportation

improvements should be funded through general fund revenue or through

localized tax districts that raise funds for transportation improvements in connection with new developments.

You have established a precedent for

dedicated funds raised through the general real estate tax base in its

creation of an open space fund. A similar dedicated allocation of general

revenue funding may be established for transportation infrastructure

improvements. You also have the ability to issue general obligation

bonds to fund transportation improvement projects. As a supplement to this

dedicated revenue source, there are the funding options implemented in

conjunction with the North Potomac Yard Plan, in which special tax

districts create an additional dedicated revenue stream.

Care needs to

be taken, however, to ensure that we avoid the overlay of too many tax alternatives.

Imposing special tax districts then also increasing the

overall tax rate and imposing other particular fees would be unduly

burdensome and would discourage growth and development.

We ask you to

please consider these points carefully and protect our businesses by

refusing to impose the commercial add-on tax.

Sincerely,

The

Alexandria Chamber of Commerce
Tina Leone
President/CEO



COA Contact Us: Sheltercare

Linda Wilkoff to: william.euille, frank.fannon, kerry.donley,
alicia.hughes, delpepper, paulcsmedberg, rose.boyd,
jackie.henderson, elaine.scott, rob.krupicka,
linda.owens, elizabeth.jones

02/10/2011 09:02 PM

Please respond to Linda Wilkoff

Time: [Thu Feb 10, 2011 21:02:53] Message ID: [27620]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name: Linda

Last Name: Wilkoff

Street Address: 4658 Kirkpatrick Lane

City: Alexandria

State: Va.

Zip: 22311

Phone:

Email Address: linda@wilkoff.com

Subject: Sheltercare
Dear Alexandria Leaders,

For the last three years, I have had the honor
to work and get to know many of the dedicated staff members at Sheltercare.

This professional, supportive facility has changed the lives of students I
know, serve, and love.

They operate with a small staff already,
reducing the staff would diminish the services they could provide and
number of youth they would be able serve.

Comments: We are all living busy lives;
take some time to visit Sheltercare and see firsthand the encouraging
influence they have on our teenagers.

Please consider fully funding
their student needs this year.

Thank you for your time.
Linda

Wilkoff

Jackie Henderson

From: Stephen Langone <srLangone@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2011 6:33 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Please Choose Option A
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Wed Apr 20, 2011 18:32:30] Message ID: [29358]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Stephen
Last Name: Langone
Street Address: 4600 Duke St 629
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22304
Phone: 7036009419
Email Address: srLangone@hotmail.com
Subject: Please Choose Option A
Comments: Please Choose Option A for the Alexandria City Firefighter Local 2141!

Jackie Henderson

From: Daniel Grayson <Dangimal@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2011 9:36 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Firefighter pensions
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Wed Apr 20, 2011 21:35:50] Message ID: [29362]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name: Daniel

Last Name: Grayson

Street Address:

City: Alexandria

State: Va

Zip: 22314

Phone:

Email Address: Dangimal@gmail.com

Subject: Firefighter pensions

Hello,
My family and I are in support of budget option A where fire and

EMS pension contributions would not be raised. I think
you would be

obliged to explain to those who are willing to put their life on the line

Comments: for you and your family why your
charging more without giving more and

costing me as a taxpayer more at the same time. I implore you to vote for

option
A.

Thank you for your time.

Jackie Henderson

From: Erin Kirby <erinmkirby@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 16, 2011 10:03 AM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper;
paulcsmedberg@aol.com; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka;
Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Dedicated transit
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Sat Apr 16, 2011 10:03:02] Message ID: [29261]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Erin
Last Name: Kirby
Street Address: 5335 Duke St., apt.112
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22304
Phone:
Email Address: erinmkirby@hotmail.com
Subject: Dedicated transit
Please vote to put dedicated transit money towards DASH bus service. I
Comments: know you are holding a public hearing today.
Thank you

Jackie Henderson

From: Phillip Perry <afd236@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 16, 2011 11:05 AM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; paulcsmedberg@aol.com; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Firefighter Pention
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Sat Apr 16, 2011 11:05:15] Message ID: [29262]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Phillip
Last Name: Perry
Street Address: 9285 Prime Ct
City: La Plata
State: MD
Zip: 20646
Phone: 240-299-9440
Email Address: afd236@aol.com
Subject: Firefighter Pention
City of Alexandria Mayor, Vice Mayor and Council-

As a 26 year member of

the Alexandria Fire Department, I must say that I have never been happier with the leadership that we have with our Fire Chief, Mayors, City Council and City Manager. For the first time since the debauchery of Public Safety, the fire department is starting to move forward to meet the increasing demand of the City's growth. I am confident in our leadership to meet the future challenges the fire department faces.

Comments: With regards to our retirement and health insurance concerns for the next fiscal year, it will be a great strain on my family's budget to take another decrease in take home pay. Fuel prices are driving all consumer good prices up and my wife and I are taking on extra work to adjust for this increase. Should City Council decide to increase the contribution to our retirement and to our health insurance, this will further cause great stress on our household. I am asking council to please consider what we have already gone through,

with no pay increase for several years and the never ending health care increases.

Thank you for your service to the citizens and the employees of the City and the complex task of a fair balance for those being served and those serving.

Jackie Henderson

From: Michelle Faber <michelle.elanafaber@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 16, 2011 2:52 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; paulcsmedberg@aol.com; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Option A
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Sat Apr 16, 2011 14:52:20] Message ID: [29263]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name: Michelle

Last Name: Faber

Street Address: 28 S. Gordon St.

City: Alexandria

State: VA

Zip: 22304

Phone: 7036479867

Email Address: michelle.elanafaber@gmail.com

Subject: Option A
Attention City Council,

Please vote for option A. The citizens of

Alexandria don't want the firefighters to suffer from budget cuts. They

risk, and dedicate their lives to make our community safe, and it is our

Comments: duty to support them. The city
received a huge surplus this year, and

firefighters haven't received a pay increase in years-that is unfair

considering all that they do for us 24/7 365 days a year! Please chose

the moral option.

Sincerely,
Michelle Faber

Jackie Henderson

From: Adrien Cotton <adrien@fitnessontherun.net>
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2011 10:56 AM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; paulcsmedberg@aol.com; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: CAT Tax
Attachments: 7fa3784a1053f66f88c2ea8fa4be1515.docx; ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon Apr 18, 2011 10:56:16] Message ID: [29287]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Adrien
Last Name: Cotton
Street Address: 109 South Alfred Street
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 202 262 5395
Email Address: adrien@fitnessontherun.net
Subject: CAT Tax

Dear Mayor Euille and members of the Alexandria City Council.

Thank you

for the opportunity to testify before you Saturday, April 16, 2011 regarding the increase in commercial real estate taxes to fund transportation infrastructure. I urge you, again, to investigate alternatives to this proposal that will not include a tax on small businesses like ours. It will hurt us deeply.

Comments: I'm attaching my testimony for your review and consideration.

Adrien
Cotton
co-Owner
Fitness on the Run LLC
109 South Alfred
Street
Alexandria VA 22314

Attachment: 7fa3784a1053f66f88c2ea8fa4be1515.docx

Testimony

of

Adrien Cotton

Co-Owner

Fitness on the Run LLC

109 South Alfred Street

Alexandria VA 22314

www.fitnessontherun.net

before Alexandria Mayor and City Council

April 16, 2011

Thank you Mr. Mayor and Members of the Council for the opportunity to participate in this hearing, and for your service to Alexandria. My name is Adrien Cotton. I'm the founder and co-owner of Fitness on the Run, located on South Alfred Street, next door to the Friendship Firehouse. We are a fitness and health firm practicing in both individual and group settings. As residents of Alexandria for over 20 years, my business partner (also an Alexandria resident for over 12 years) and I appreciate the uniqueness of the area, as well as Council's efforts to balance competing interests.

I started my business seven years ago and have watched it grow through 3 different Alexandria locations and now serve over 100 clients, most of who live in the greater Alexandria area. Despite a tough couple of years for all of us in the business community, Fitness on the Run was able to survive. We paid all of our bills and continue to operate without any loans. However, after paying our 10 trainers and one Business Manager—who also live in the area—as well as the existing taxes and fees associated with running a business in Alexandria, the business was left with just \$3,000 at the end of the year.

This proposed tax increase represents a third of that net gain for our firm. The increase would amount to an additional \$1,000 tax hit.

As a committed business owner struggling to remain in the black during a tough economy, it is a hit we cannot afford to take. Make no mistake about it, we love running our business. What we enjoy most is seeing people make serious changes to their lifestyles that will ultimately increase their longevity. We also like that we serve the Alexandria Community. We are proud members of the Old Town Boutique District.

It is, however, a business and it must remain profitable in order to remain viable. This tax increase puts that viability in jeopardy. To maintain the same level, we would have to make some tough decisions. This tax, on the heels of the increase in parking fees, (which we consider a hidden tax on business) is short-sighted.

I understand the improvement needs of other areas of the city, but asking small business owners who are struggling to stay afloat and keep Old Town vibrant to shoulder this burden in challenging economic times is absolutely the wrong decision. Old Town has fostered an image where residents and tourists alike can come to find unique small businesses like ours. Massive tax increases like this one are what drives owners like me to close our doors. As a long-time resident, as well as someone who cares for the 100 Alexandrians who walk through my doors each week, we can't kill off our small businesses and leave Old Town with chain stores and empty store fronts. This add-on tax should not move forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jackie Henderson

From: Donna Schmidt <donnaschmidt530@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 5:28 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Retirement pay option
Attachments: ATT00001.txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon Apr 25, 2011 17:28:21] Message ID: [29494]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Donna
Last Name: Schmidt
Street Address: 3 E Luray Ave
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22301
Phone: 703-836-0344
Email Address: donnaschmidt530@comcast.net
Subject: Retirement pay option
Comments: I support Option A for the retirement/compensation package

Jackie Henderson

From: Paul Prevost <paul.prevost@us.army.mil>
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 4:23 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Emergency Medical Services Budget Considerations
Attachments: 73d42d547242e371192902ea00d373cd.pdf; ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon Apr 25, 2011 16:23:21] Message ID: [29489]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Paul
Last Name: Prevost
Street Address: 621 Putnam Pl
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22302
Phone: 703.604.7255
Email Address: paul.prevost@us.army.mil
Subject: Emergency Medical Services Budget Considerations
FROM: Chairman, Alexandria Emergency Medical Services Council.

The EMS

council members strongly recommend that the City of Alexandria government

consider 4 items for funding in the 2012 fiscal year budget. These are:

Twelve new fire-fighter / medic recruits, Emergency Communications

Technician training, AFD Capital Improvement Program facilities, and AFD

Research, Planning and Analysis.

Comments: The EMS Council recognizes that 2012

fiscal budget needs present challenges and desires that the City of

Alexandria maintain it's excellent and award winning Emergency Medical

Services.

Memorandum for consideration is attached.

Very

Respectfully,

Paul E. Prevost
Chairman, Alexandria Emergency Medical

Services Council
Email: paul.prevost@us.army.mil / Mobile: 571.338.2038 /

Work: 703.604.7255

Attachment: 73d42d547242e371192902ea00d373cd.pdf

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL

City of Alexandria, Virginia

Office of the Chair: Paul E. Prevost, 621 Putnam Place, Alexandria, Virginia 22302
paul.prevost@us.army.mil; (703) 604-7255

April 22, 2011

MEMORANUM FOR MAYOR EUILLE, CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS, and CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: Emergency Medical Service Budget Considerations

The Alexandria Emergency Medical Services Council members strongly recommend that the City of Alexandria government consider the following items for funding in the 2012 fiscal year budget:

(1) Twelve (12) new fire-fighter / medic recruits.

- Requires \$376,923 in City Funding to support the federal Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response (SAFER) grant.
- The goal is for these 12 recruits to be full time fire fighter / medics and serve as 4th person on what are now 3 person engine companies.
- This recommendation is in City Manager's FY 2012 Proposed Budget

(2) Emergency Communications Technician training.

- Requires \$100,000 to cross train police Emergency Communication Technicians (ECTs) on the skills needed for Emergency Medical Dispatch.
- The goal is trained personnel in Emergency Medical Dispatch to help save lives.
- This recommendation is in City Manager's FY 2012 Proposed Budget.

(3) Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

- Funding is required to support CIP efforts for Alexandria Fire Department facilities.
- It is anticipated that these public safety projects will provide enhanced emergency response to the surrounding area once complete.
- This recommendation is in City Manager's FY 2012 Proposed Budget.

(4) Research, Planning and Analysis.

- Funding is recommended to enhance the Fire Departments Research, Planning and Analysis capabilities, with the specific intent to analyze emergency response data.
- The goal is to gain a better assessment of emergency response utilization and performance.
- This recommendation is not in City Manager's FY 2012 Proposed Budget.

The EMS Council recognizes that 2012 fiscal budget needs present challenges and desires that the City of Alexandria maintain its excellent and award winning Emergency Medical Services.

Jackie Henderson

From: Gwendolyn Hubbard Lewis <gblewis425@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 4:10 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Budget Addition for After School Program
Attachments: a011699235732461c453d7bc7cfb3ffe.pdf; ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon Apr 25, 2011 16:09:38] Message ID: [29488]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Gwendolyn Hubbard
Last Name: Lewis
Street Address: 4950 Brenman Park Dr., Apt. 110
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22304
Phone: 571-527-0399
Email Address: gblewis425@comcast.net
Subject: Budget Addition for After School Program
To the Honorable members of the Alexandria City Council: As you know, the "Concerned Citizens Network of Alexandria" (CCNA) was formed in June 2009 to empower a comprehensive community wide effort to increase student achievement and to reduce the high dropout rates in Alexandria City Public Schools for African American, Latino and low-income students. We are requesting that you add \$30,000 to your budget for our after school program.

Comments: We envision a model community where all stakeholders contribute to student education and to the opportunity for every student to realize their individual potential. We are now a nonprofit 501(c)(3) community based organization and certified supplemental educational service provider (SESP) to tutor Title I students. We have invited you to some of our events, some of you attended and we appreciate it. For those of you who haven't had an opportunity to become familiar with us, I have attached

information on our organization and one of our programs "Reach and Rise for Excellence" (RARE), an after school program for middle school students.

Recently, the Concerned Citizens Network of Alexandria (CCNA) and the Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) District signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to develop and implement a pilot after school mentoring and tutoring program. Called "Reach and Rise for Excellence" (RARE), the 16 week innovative program will focus on academic achievement, life skills and cultural awareness for Alexandria's "at promise" struggling middle school students.

The School Board approved the MOU during its February 10, 2011 deliberations. The program began Monday March 14, 2011 at the Hammond Middle School. Superintendent Sherman has stated "Partnerships with our community are an essential part of our transformation as a school division. I am delighted to work with Gwen Lewis and CCNA on behalf of the children of Alexandria. CCNA serves as a model for what is possible when dedicated caring community members want to make a difference." ACPS also provided \$10,000 to help support our pilot program and more than \$30,000 of in-kind support. We are requesting that the City also partner with us in this important continuous effort to support our "at promise" youth. We are requesting that you begin by adding \$30,000 to your budget for CCNA which will allow us to further support our CCNA programs that will pull together community support for the "whole child" and family.

The cost of the programs to support a student for one year is about \$2500. Your support will go a long way to boost our efforts to provide needed services for our students and to encourage other aspects of the community to do the same. Alfred Street Baptist church has taken the lead of the Faith Based community by donating \$5,000 and becoming part of our Board of Directors. We are here to stay.

Much work is needed and we are committed to seeing our children succeed.

We are also seeking out grants and other funding support to sustain our program goals and objectives.

One of CCNA's partners, Tenants and

Workers United (TWU) Interim Executive Director, Jennifer Morley, says that, "Together we bring Alexandria students and their parents

comprehensive programming that focuses the shared capacity of our schools

and communities to develop the whole child to their fullest potential."

Gwendolyn Day- Fuller, CCNA Board Chair and distinguished professional educator, says "As a community based organization, CCNA will serve as a symbolic bridge from the community to the school district. Involved parents will be a critical element of our program." CCNA Advisor, COL RET

Jim Paige, says "We are confident when communities, parents and school partners put the educational and social development of all children first; we pave the way for their growth and confidence."

We know that you too

are very concerned and committed to the welfare of our children and how our

city can benefit economically as we come together as a team to transform

our educational system to make our students productive, tax paying citizens

of Alexandria. Have a Blessed day, Gwendolyn Hubbard Lewis, Executive Director, CCNA

Attachment: a011699235732461c453d7bc7cfb3ffe.pdf



CONCERNED CITIZEN NETWORK OF ALEXANDRIA
A COMMUNITY WIDE INITIATIVE TO BUILD TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY

“Reach and Rise for Excellence” (RARE) Program

Index of Content

- A. Project Description
- B. Programs Description
- C. Population Group Served
- D. Participant Selection Process
- E. Project Evaluation
- F. Budget

A. Project Description

“Reach and Rise for Excellence” is an after school program that will target “at promise” students to improve academics and social skills, while exposing them to lifelong learning experiences, in a structured environment. This program is meant to provide an otherwise unavailable experience and bridge the digital divide among “at promise” students while seeking to increase student achievement levels. In order to cultivate this willingness to achieve using information technologies, we will incorporate the following elements:

*Programming flexibility: CCNA is in the position and has the opportunity to explore issues that may not be a part of the standard school curriculum because it is a community organization. We intend to leverage this position to incorporate healthy lifestyles, the historical study of ethnic groups and research-based prevention programs within our activity choices. Although this program will remain an educational focused program, we believe that being able to bring these issues into our program will enable our participants to have a better understanding of each other and their community.

*Technology tools: Our program will be using two programs, Apangea Math & Writing and ePals, to increase student achievement as well as computer literacy. As one of the goals of our program, we believe that technology is a powerful enabling tool that can support critical thinking and other developmental skills.

*Community Partnerships: Some activities will be facilitated by community partners using a diverse range of community-based organizations. The following are our some suggested partners:

- Alexandria Arts Commission - connect RARE students to arts. “At Promise” students will have the opportunity to be exposed to various Medias of art.
- Dream In Color - will provide dance and theatre to the students. This will allow the students to develop skills and be exposed to another media of art.
- Chamber of Commerce - will connect RARE to the numerous businesses.
- City of Alexandria Youth Services Department - connect students with additional services.
- City of Alexandria Health Dept - connect students and family members with additional services.
- City of Alexandria Parks and Recreation - connect students with additional programs and services.
- Alexandria City Public Schools - provide program space, refer students, etc.
- Alexandria Black History Museum –Cultural and Historical Education.
- Virginia Retired Teachers Association volunteers- assist with homework and Mentoring.
- Juvenile court - refer students, provide career speakers.
- Parent Leadership Training Institute-- partners with RARE to provide parent Advocacy.

B. Description of Programs

“Reach and Rise for Excellence” seeks to bring computer access, enrichment and economic opportunity to “at promise” students at George Washington and Hammond Middle Schools through a variety of programs including Apangea Math and Writing, an online enrichment tool and the ePals Global Community.

Apangea: Apangea Math provides one-student-to-one-teacher differentiated math instruction through a unique integration of proprietary tutoring technology and live, online certified teachers. As a web-based solution, Apangea Math can be accessed from any computer with an internet connection – ensuring students can learn math anytime, anywhere. Apangea Writing offers differentiated instruction paired with one-on-one tutoring from live, certified English teachers making for a powerful educational combination. The stepped writing process teaches students the critical skills necessary to become strong, successful writers. As a web-based solution, Apangea Writing will run on any computer with an internet connection – ensuring students can learn writing anytime, anywhere.

Homework Assistance: RARE will contain a homework assistance piece that will allow students to have access to grade level teachers and school staff in order to complete homework and other enrichment work. Students will have access to computers

in order to complete online coursework. Program Monitors will oversee the homework assistance time, ensuring that homework is completed.

EPals: The ePals Global Community is the world's largest network of K-12 classrooms, enabling students and teachers to safely connect and collaborate with classrooms in more than 200 countries and territories. Offered at no cost to classrooms, educators can access the community to find collaborative projects, join discussions in the community forums, and search thousands of classroom profiles to engage with others in authentic exchanges - all within in a safe, protected online environment.

Leadership Development: Tenants and Workers United will be partnering with CCNA and the RARE program to provide a Leadership Development series. This weekly Leadership Series will help improve participant's communication, social teamwork and leadership skills.

Cultural Education: The Alexandria Black History Museum will be partnering with the RARE program to provide a Cultural Education series. This weekly series will be designed to support all participants through an affirmation of their culture. The series will help participants to be aware of their heritage as well as other cultures and to value the accomplishments of their family, their community and their ancestors. It builds a sense of pride and self-esteem, as well as an understanding of other participants' perspectives and background.

Parent Involvement: We plan to offer monthly workshops, in cooperation with our community partners, for participants' families in a variety of areas including: financial literacy, health and nutrition, continuing education, communication, etc.

C. Population Groups Served

Out of the Alexandria Public School System's 2,253 middle school students, the RARE program will initially serve up to 96 students, with the intent of reaching out to "at-risk" students, while having the diversity of participants reflect the diversity of students in the school system.

Our chosen student population is approximately 43% African-American, 27% Hispanic/Latino, 6% Pacific Islander and 20% Caucasian.

D. Participant Selection Process and Criteria

The "Reach and Rise for Excellence" (RARE) program is initially designed to accommodate 96 students. Students will be ultimately targeted for this program through the assistance of guidance counselors, school administration, parent, juvenile court and peer referrals. Students who are having issues in the following areas will be targeted: Low grades, Behavior problems, Irregular attendance or those students with an Individual Education Plan.

Currently, the school system has identified numerous students that would fit within the framework for the after school program. While marketing will be implemented for the entire school site proposal, the selection process would be weighted so that those who are the most at-risk are the students that receive the most attention.

E. RARE Evaluation Plan

While the content varies from activity to activity, we will measure our success in achieving the programs' goals in the following ways:

By keeping attendance sheets for all activities: Attendance sheets will be compiled into weekly program reports, which will show a connection between the dosage of this program and a participant's success.

By receiving quarterly interim and grade reports: The RARE program staff will work with school officials to receive quarterly grade reports for the participants, to ensure that participants are making progress, especially in math.

By keeping a portfolio for each student: We will track the academic and behavioral progress of each student

By conducting beginning, mid-year and end of the year surveys for students and parents: Students and parents will be asked to complete surveys about the structure of the programs and activities.

F. Budgets

Please see the attached pages for RARE's program budget. While a 3-day and 5-day budget have been included, it is our recommendation that the RARE program be held 5 days a week, if full funding is achieved.

In light of some of the funding challenges, we will be preparing a leaner budget that would suit holding the program at one site.

Jackie Henderson

From: Carolyn Wilder <wilder_carolyn@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 4:04 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Meals on Wheels and Senior Discounts
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon Apr 25, 2011 16:04:01] Message ID: [29487]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Carolyn
Last Name: Wilder
Street Address: 705 Potomac St.
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 7038370475
Email Address: wilder_carolyn@yahoo.com

Subject: Meals on Wheels and Senior Discounts

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and Members of City Council,
I am writing to ask

for your support to increase funding for the Meals on Wheels program and for senior discounts for the City's recreational programs in the current budget review process. I have been a volunteer for the MOW program for over four years. The people I serve rely on this program for nutritional meals as well as the social contact they receive from the volunteers. Currently, they receive meals Monday through Friday with some Saturday deliveries. To be able to offer meals seven days a week would help insure

Comments: that these people can continue to age in place without the need to move into assisted living or nursing home care.

Senior discounts for City

recreational programs would be another way for seniors to maintain active lives and stay involved in the community. The recent community forums sponsored by the Office on Aging and Adult Services highlighted the huge growth projection for the senior segment of Alexandria's population. It is important the our local government demonstrates its support for programs

that benefit all seniors.

Alexandria is aware of the need to allow these people to remain independent and in their homes for as long as possible, as evidenced by the recent creation and implementation of "At Home Alexandria". Our seniors deserve our help, but they also deserve our respect. These are two ways that they can continue to live with dignity.

Thank you for your consideration of these two valuable programs.

Jackie Henderson

From: Linda Durand <ldurandcpa@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 3:37 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Meals on Wheels funding initiative
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon Apr 25, 2011 15:37:25] Message ID: [29480]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Linda
Last Name: Durand
Street Address: 603 N Overlook Drive
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22305
Phone: (703) 549-1013
Email Address: ldurandcpa@comcast.net
Subject: Meals on Wheels funding initiative
April 25, 2011

To the Mayor, Vice Mayor and Members of the City

Council of the City of Alexandria:

I am writing regarding the additional

funding of Meals on Wheels that is being discussed at tonight's City Council meeting.

As a board member and Treasurer of Senior Services of

Alexandria, I have observed the costs of programs affecting seniors in

Comments: Alexandria. In partnership with the Office on Aging and Adult Services, Senior Services of Alexandria has been managing the Meals on Wheels program. For several years, we have organized, trained and monitored the numerous volunteers who deliver the meals, and we have coordinated meal delivery for those individuals who pay for their meals as well as those individuals whose meals are covered by city assistance. Two years ago with a grant from the Ronald Bradley Foundation, SSA expanded the program to

included meals on holidays for all participants in the program. In January 2011, SSA again expanded the program to include meals on Saturday for all participants in the program, made possible by grants from the Rotary Club and Yellow Cab. The funds that SSA currently receives from the City, does not cover the costs that SSA incurs to manage the program for the weekday meals. We have been efficient in our efforts to manage this program and we have expanded the program so seniors will continue to receive meals on holidays and Saturdays. However, in spite of our efficiencies, we continue to have an economic shortfall and have covered this shortfall with money we have raised through our fundraising efforts. The \$12,000 being considered by the City Council would help to eliminate that shortfall and allow SSA to use its difficult to raise donations for other programs that will benefit the seniors of the City of Alexandria.

Thank you for considering this

funding initiative.
Linda Durand

Jackie Henderson

From: Lonnie Phillips <AlexandriaMedics@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 3:34 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Proposed 1% cost sharing
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon Apr 25, 2011 15:34:13] Message ID: [29479]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Lonnie
Last Name: Phillips
Street Address: 221 Randolph Ave
City: Front Royal
State: va
Zip: 22630
Phone: 540-270-7842

Email Address: AlexandriaMedics@yahoo.com

Subject: Proposed 1% cost sharing
Respected Council Members,

As you prepare to enter the final days of

developing the FY2012 budget, I again encourage you to consider "Option A"

of the Budget Memo #15 dated March 11, 2011 regarding employee contribution(s) to their retirement. The reasons are numerous but most importantly:

1) During the June 22, 2010, meeting while reviewing

Comments: Docket Item 30, "Consideration of Resolution Establishing the Virginia Retirement System Employee Contribution Rate for City Employees Employed

July 1, 2010 and Beyond", many of you stated the importance implementing cost sharing that year, and once it was done, it would not have to be revisited for a few years. "Revisiting" again the very next year lessens employee confidence. Voting against the increase may restore some of that confidence. Here is a link to that meeting.

[http://alexandria.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=1352∓meta_id=62908](http://alexandria.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=1352&meta_id=62908)

2) At the above meeting it was also emphasized that it is difficult for employees to see a decrease in their net income – which this proposal once again will cause. Additionally the Mayor appropriately voted “Nay” because the City has “a process to have these matters to go before the City Council Pension and Compensation Committee for review”. This still has not gone through that process nor has it gone through the newly created Ad Hoc Retirement Benefit Advisory Group. This failure to go thru these processes makes it difficult for employees to accept the additional financial burden.

3) As shown in the recent Pay and Compensation Study, we are still undercompensated and will continue to lose good employees to neighboring jurisdictions if we don’t become competitive. An additional step backwards may be a critical misstep.

4) Option A is less expensive than Option B.

5) There are some tough decisions that Council will face in the near future regarding employee retirement. Making them without detailed analysis will certainly have a significant impact on employee morale. We understand the present political climate and the issues facing retirement plans nationwide. A comprehensive look at the plans and comparators is the correct way to (potentially) initiate such drastic changes. The twenty-five minutes spent at the June 22, 2010 meeting discussing what %, if any, new employees should pay seemed arbitrary and was against the opinion of the City Manager and Personnel Director.

6) In the absence of sound analysis of pay and benefits, this year’s 1% cost shifting seems like an assault on all employees.

As you have heard over the past weeks, this plan is going to be harmful to our employees and potentially harmful to our citizens as we lose those employees.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,

Lonnie

Phillips, President
Alexandria Medics Association
540-270-7842

Jackie Henderson

From: Mary Faber <mkfaber@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 1:17 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Meals on Wheels
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon Apr 25, 2011 13:17:05] Message ID: [29467]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Mary
Last Name: Faber
Street Address: 6102 Edsall Road, #301
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22304
Phone: 703-217-0442
Email Address: mkfaber@mac.com
Subject: Meals on Wheels

Dear Mr. Mayor and Members of the City Council:

I have been a Meals on

Wheels volunteer for several years and hope to continue to deliver those

healthy meals to needy city seniors for many more years. I also know

about the great need for seniors who are still active to receive

discounts at the city's rec centers.

Please do not cut these budgets

Comments: but, instead, add to them.

These programs are two of the best in

Alexandria: They are efficient. They are cost-effective. They are staffed

by energetic, caring, and well-informed people. And they are bolstered by

volunteers who have the city and its needy seniors at heart.

Although

I have participated in one of the senior rec programs, I am most familiar with Meals on Wheels.

Not only do MOW volunteers and staff provide meal delivery, but we also help needy seniors in other ways, ways that involve coordination with other city departments. For example, during my NOW service

--I have found a smell of gas in the apartment of a wheelchair-bound senior, lit the pilot light, called my NOW contact, and received assurance that a social worker would check on that person and that the gas company would investigate and fix the problem.

--I have found a disabled senior, who was alone and very hard of hearing and asleep sitting on her couch, unable to organize her food, so I woke her, talked to her, and helped her get ready to eat.

--I have addressed a few envelopes for a meal recipient whose vision was too low (even with glasses) to enable her to check the address herself. (She was writing to thank a church volunteer for a gift.)

--I and other volunteers have routinely noticed when our routes are changed and reflect the dropping of seniors we are used to seeing. We care about these people and feel sorrow when they become sick, are hospitalized, or die.

Often NOW volunteers and the city's exceptional staff are the only people these needy and mostly alone seniors see during the day.

I urge you to expand these programs, even in these tough economic times. The so-called "ownership society" should not mean the callous "let seniors fend for themselves society."

Thank you for listening.

~mary

faber

Alexandria, VA

Jackie Henderson

From: Barbara S. Anderson <barbaras.anderson@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 1:05 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Funding for Meals on Wheels/Senior Services of Alexandria
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon Apr 25, 2011 13:05:21] Message ID: [29464]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Barbara S.
Last Name: Anderson
Street Address: 4011 Ellicott Street
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22304
Phone: (703) 820-3600
Email Address: barbaras.anderson@comcast.net
Subject: Funding for Meals on Wheels/Senior Services of Alexandria
Dear Mayor Euille and Members of the City Council:

I understand you will

be considering budget proposals this evening for additional funding of \$12,000 to be paid to Senior Services of Alexandria (SSA) for the administration of Meals on Wheels. I strongly urge you to approve this line item in the budget.

In a time of scarce resources and decreased revenues feeding vulnerable seniors and the disabled remains through the

Comments: Meals on Wheels program is critical to their well-being, and to the character of the Alexandria community. Senior Services of Alexandria has provided the administrative oversight and volunteers for this essential program for several years at a substantial deficit to SSA. In other words, SSA raises approximately \$30,000 per year in contributions to offset the administrative expenses of the program, funds that are desperately needed

for other vital programs and services it provides.

SSA has worked

tirelessly to ensure that meals are delivered even during blizzards, and has secured contributions to supply meals on holidays that are not otherwise covered by the program funding. We hope to expand this to Saturday meals during the coming year -- at no additional cost to the City of Alexandria. As SSA takes on these increased responsibilities for the program, we encourage the City Council to provide the additional funding this evening to offset some of the administrative costs.

Thank you for
your consideration.

Jackie Henderson

From: mary lee anderson <dande9978@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 9:16 AM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Funding for Meals on Wheels and Alexandria Seniors
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon Apr 25, 2011 09:16:21] Message ID: [29433]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: mary lee
Last Name: anderson
Street Address: 33 west glendale avenue
City: alexandria
State: va
Zip: 22301
Phone: 703-549-5636
Email Address: dande9978@comcast.net
Subject: Funding for Meals on Wheels and Alexandria Seniors
Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and Members of City Council,
I am writing to ask

for your support to increase funding for the Meals on Wheels program and for senior discounts for the City's recreational programs in the current budget review process.

As a long-time volunteer for the MOW program, I know first hand how important this safety net is for the most vulnerable seniors in our City. Current city funding is for meals on weekdays.

Comments: Senior Services of Alexandria has worked hard to make some weekend service

possible and additional support from the City would guarantee healthy food

each day of the week for those approved by OAAS. This is not a luxury but a

critical need for the elderly home-bound population.

Senior discounts

for City recreational programs would make it easier for seniors to maintain active lives and stay involved in the community. The recent community forums sponsored by the Office on Aging and Adult Services highlighted

the

huge growth projection for the senior segment of Alexandria's

population.

It is important the our local government demonstrates its

support for programs that benefit all seniors.

Thank you very much for

your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary Lee Anderson

Jackie Henderson

From: Silvia Portillo <sportillo@tenantsandworkers.org>
Sent: Friday, April 22, 2011 4:34 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: letter support to Anhsi
Attachments: c04801da1e1c6b0c91172690441989f4.jpg; ATT00001.txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Fri Apr 22, 2011 16:33:31] Message ID: [29410]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Silvia
Last Name: Portillo
Street Address: 3801 Mt. Vernon Ave.
City: Alexandria
State: Virginia
Zip: 22305
Phone: 703-684-5697*304
Email Address: sportillo@tenantsandworkers.org
Subject: letter support to Anhsi
I am sending the letter support to ANHSI for a proposal
"Transportation/Specialty Care Fund" is very important for
patients who suffer chronic health problem sometime referred to doctors to
Comments: University of Virginia in Charlottesville.
Thank you, so much for your
attention our community.
Silvia Portillo
Health Coordinator
Attachment: c04801da1e1c6b0c91172690441989f4.jpg

Jackie Henderson

From: Brian Schmauder <schmaubj@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2011 10:27 AM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: firefighter pension
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Thu Apr 21, 2011 10:26:56] Message ID: [29370]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Brian
Last Name: Schmauder
Street Address: 3013 Mosby Street
City: Alexandria
State: Virginia
Zip: 22305
Phone: 2024987498
Email Address: schmaubj@gmail.com
Subject: firefighter pension
I am sending this email to urge the city council vote for Option A on employee retirement contributions. We need to take care of those that run through FIRE to save the citizens of Alexandria, and others that are in need of help. PLEASE PLEASE vote for Option A on employee retirement contributions.

Jackie Henderson

From: Marya Fitzgerald <maryafitz@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2011 8:45 AM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Sunday employees at Archeology Museum
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Fri Apr 29, 2011 08:44:52] Message ID: [29589]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Marya
Last Name: Fitzgerald
Street Address: 511 E. Custis Avenue
City: alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22301
Phone: 703.549.2223
Email Address: maryafitz@gmail.com
Subject: Sunday employees at Archeology Museum
As a taxpaying citizen and a City volunteer of up to 500 hours/yr., I ask

you to reinstate \$5000 to the Archaeology Museum's budget, so the
Museum

can pay staff to keep the Museum open on Sunday afternoons. Sundays
are a

big visitation day (25% of total annual visitors), and it has proven very
difficult to use only volunteers for these precious Sunday afternoons.

Like most people, volunteers would prefer to spend Sundays with their
Comments: friends and families, especially after donating many hours to the City

during the week.
Considering that the Archaeology Museum is a unique

jewel in the City's crown, it's a reasonable request that City Council find
\$5000 to keep it open on Sundays without imposing on volunteers.

Marya

Fitzgerald
President, Friends of Alexandria Archeology

Jackie Henderson

From: Scott Humphrey <rlkane@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2011 1:21 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Proposed business add-on tax
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Thu Apr 28, 2011 13:21:15] Message ID: [29577]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Scott
Last Name: Humphrey
R. L. Kane, Inc.
Street Address:
311 South Washington Street
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 703-549-2800
Email Address: rlkane@verizon.net
Subject: Proposed business add-on tax
The upcoming vote on the tax rate is an important matter. If more resources are needed for transportation or just keeping the quality of Alexandria to its expected standard, any tax increase should be shared equally among both business and residents. The proposed add-on tax for business is bad for the following reasons:
1) It discriminates against
business and will divide rather than unite citizens.
2) The residential
Comments: community demands the most from the budget since residents, not businesses,
fill the schools which consume the majority of the budget expense.
3)
Transportation problems and needs are more as a result of the residential
traffic movements than the business.
4) The rationale for a commercial
add-on tax because Arlington and Fairfax do it, then let's follow their
lead for development density around Metro stations of 6, 8 or 10 FAR
(Floor

Area Ratio).

5) The Economic Sustainability effect is not benefitted by
an attack against the business community.

Thank you in advance for your
vote AGAINST the add-on tax.

R. L. Kane, Inc.
Scott C. Humphrey,

President

Jackie Henderson

From: Allison Stewart <mail@change.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 27, 2011 1:22 PM
To: Jackie Henderson
Subject: Pass the Transit Add On Tax

Dear Honorable Bill Euille and City Councilors,

In FY2007 the city received \$5,485,00 in state Urban funding for DASH buses, by FY2010, that amount was reduced to ZERO. The Transit Add On Tax, funded by commercial real estate, will supply much needed funds for new transit projects, to include bus racks on new DASH buses, extended bike trails, and other bike amenities.

Fairfax and Arlington counties have used this state approved tax initiative to fund vital new transit and transportation projects that increase the affordability of transportation in their communities, reduce congestion on their road networks, and mitigate the negative environmental impacts of their transportation systems. Neither Fairfax nor Arlington experienced a “flight” of businesses from their jurisdictions because of the tax. To the contrary both jurisdictions created communities that attract new businesses and workers.

In Alexandria, we can expect to observe an overall increase in business as more shoppers enjoy improved transit options in our shopping districts. Have you ridden the Trolley and observed/absorbed the enthusiasm of tourists riding down King Street? Witnessed locals jumping on/off the Trolley as they also benefit from this innovative transit option? The King Street Trolley proves transit is good for Alexandria, good for business. [We built it and they came.] Passage of the Transit Tax will increase the vibrancy of our communities for those who live, work, shop and dine in Alexandria. Transit will bring more business. If we can’t move, we can’t “grow business.”

The Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (ABPAC) strongly endorses passage of the Transit Add On Tax. We regret the resistance to the only viable funding we have in the current economy to improve our transit infrastructure. Part of the Old Town and Del Ray charm is the walkability of the stores, restaurants, and shopping. However, gridlock in getting to/from the city’s shopping districts will restrict/constrict and not grow their businesses. Residents of Cameron Station have openly stated in public meetings they opt to dine in Shirlington rather than fight the effort to head to Old Town. The West End, the city’s most populous area, can not grow business without a reliable transit plan. The Transit Add On Tax will improve the quality of life for residents and businesses that travel here to shop, dine, and work throughout our community.

Passage of the transit tax will increase the safety and practicality of bicycling as a transportation mode, while helping to save costs related to parking and road maintenance. As a Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly Community, Alexandria is beginning to enjoy the rewards of investing in the facilities that enable cyclists to move through our community. The benefits of cycling include reduced traffic fatalities and injuries, reduced congestion, increased affordability of transportation and improved health and environmental outcomes. In addition, the Transit Add On Tax is critical to achieving the goals set forth in the city’s Energy and Climate Change Action Plan.

Improved cycling amenities will also elevate bicycling as a viable transit option. Long relegated to the perception that cycling is recreational, hundreds of cyclists transit through the city every weekday to commute to work, removing cars off of the road, reducing both their personal and regional carbon footprint. The Market Square success as a Washington Area Bicycle Association Pit Stop for Bike to Work Day every May is a testament to the number of cyclists who bicycle to, from, or within the city to commute to work.

A-BPAC strongly urges you to pass the Transit Add On Tax.

Respectfully yours,

Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee and supporters

Allison Stewart
washington, DC

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/support-biking-in-alexandria-va. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition.



Jackie Henderson

From: Barbara Glomb <barbaraglomb@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 7:25 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: increased funding for Senior programs
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Tue Apr 26, 2011 19:25:25] Message ID: [29535]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Barbara
Last Name: Glomb
Street Address: 403 Tennessee Ave.
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22305
Phone:
Email Address: barbaraglomb@comcast.net
Subject: increased funding for Senior programs

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and Members of City Council,

I am writing to

ask for your support to increase funding for the Meals on Wheels program,

and for senior discounts for the City's recreational programs in the

current budget review process. As a long-time volunteer for the MOW

program, I know first hand how important this safety net is for the most

Comments: vulnerable seniors in our City. Current city funding is for meals on weekdays.

Senior Services of Alexandria has worked hard to make some weekend service possible, and additional support from the City would

guarantee healthy food each day of the week for those approved by OAAS.

This is not a luxury but a critical need for the elderly home-bound population.

Senior discounts for City recreational programs would make it easier for seniors to maintain active lives and stay involved in the community. The recent community forums sponsored by the Office on Aging and Adult Services highlighted the huge growth projection for the senior segment of Alexandria's population. It is important that our local government demonstrates its support for programs that benefit all seniors.

Barbara Glomb
403 Tennessee Ave.
Alexandria, VA 22305

Jackie Henderson

From: James Churchill <jccdsvc@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 12:22 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: DASH & Transportation
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Tue Apr 26, 2011 12:22:05] Message ID: [29516]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: James
Last Name: Churchill
Street Address: 6301 Stevenson Avenue 715
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22304
Phone: 7039657762
Email Address: jccdsvc@aol.com
Subject: DASH & Transportation
If it is not too late to lend my support for the Council to work for a
dedicated funding source for DASH and transportation improvements, I
would
Comments: like to do so.
Just spotted the April 16 deadline on the bus
poster.
Thanks.

Jackie Henderson

From: Kathleen Pepper <jcleoblack@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 11:50 AM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: re Restoring Funding for PT Position on Sundays for Archaeology Museum
Attachments: bd954a1a45d68e316d9931c546e41c6d.doc; ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Tue Apr 26, 2011 11:49:40] Message ID: [29515]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Kathleen
Last Name: Pepper
Street Address: Alexandria Archaeological Commission
5320 Thayer Avenue
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22304
Phone: 703-305-0385
Email Address: jcleoblack@gmail.com
Subject: re Restoring Funding for PT Position on Sundays for Archaeology Museum

Dear Mayor Euille and members of City Council,

The Alexandria

Archaeological Commission (AAC) urges you to add into the FY2012 budget,

\$4,100 to restore funding for the part-time position to work Sundays in the

Archaeology Museum. This would keep the Museum open from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00

p.m. every Sunday. Ideally, the AAC would like to have the Museum open 5

Comments: hours every Sunday, from noon to 5:00 p.m., which would require \$5,200 annually for a part-time position. A significant portion of all visitors to the Museum come on Sundays, upwards of 150-200 visitors or more, making this the day of highest visitation for Museum. At present, volunteers have been staffing the Museum on most Sundays but this is a situation that cannot continue permanently. Volunteers are increasingly difficult to

26 April 2011

Dear Mayor Euille and members of City Council,

The Alexandria Archaeological Commission (AAC) urges you to add into the FY2012 budget, \$4,100 to restore funding for the part-time position to work Sundays in the Archaeology Museum. This would keep the Museum open from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. every Sunday. Ideally, the AAC would like to have the Museum open 5 hours every Sunday, from noon to 5:00 p.m., which would require \$5,200 annually for a part-time position. A significant portion of all visitors to the Museum come on Sundays, upwards of 150-200 visitors or more, making this the day of highest visitation for Museum. At present, volunteers have been staffing the Museum on most Sundays but this is a situation that cannot continue permanently.

Volunteers are increasingly difficult to find and, absent the restoration of funding for the part-time staff position, the Archaeology Museum would soon be forced to close on Sundays. While some visitors to the Museum may happen upon it while exploring the Torpedo Factory, the majority are likely coming to the corner of the third floor by design and are drawn to the Torpedo Factory as a result. It would be particularly sad to close the Museum on Sundays in light of the creation of the Torpedo Factory Art Center Board to revitalize the Torpedo Factory and increase visitation. The Archaeological Commission recognizes that the economy is still weak. However, the AAC believes that restoration of the funding for a part-time person to work Sundays will add little in cost to the budget but add much to the City in visibility, revenue, and quality of life.

Thank you for your consideration of the Archaeological Commission's request to restore funding for a part-time person to work Sundays in the Archaeology Museum.

Sincerely,

S. Kathleen Pepper, Chair
Alexandria Archaeological Commission

find and, absent the restoration of funding for the part-time staff

position, the Archaeology Museum would soon be forced to close on Sundays.

While some visitors to the Museum may happen upon it while exploring the

Torpedo Factory, the majority are likely coming to the corner of the third floor by design and are drawn to the Torpedo Factory as a result. It would be particularly sad to close the Museum on Sundays in light of the creation of the Torpedo Factory Art Center Board to revitalize the Torpedo Factory and increase visitation. The Archaeological Commission recognizes that the

economy is still weak. However, the AAC believes that restoration of the funding for a part-time person to work Sundays will add little in cost to the budget but add much to the City in visibility, revenue, and quality of life.

Thank you for your consideration of the Archaeological

Commission's request to restore funding for a part-time person to work Sundays in the Archaeology Museum.

Sincerely,

S. Kathleen Pepper,

Chair
Alexandria Archaeological Commission

Attachment: bd954a1a45d68e316d9931c546e41c6d.doc

The Trade Center

APR 28 2011

P.O.Box 23700

Alexandria, Virginia 22304

April 27, 2011

Mayor and City Council

Hand Delivered

City Hall

Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Mr. Mayor and Members of Council:

This is a last minute plea with you to trash the notion of a Commercial Add on Tax for Commercial Real Estate in the City.

The point, which I believe has not been made strongly enough, is that NOT HAVING such a tax is a Competitive Advantage for Alexandria. You are all competitive spirits or you would not have put your necks out there to run for public office. I CALL ON THAT SPIRIT to help Alexandria small business win the competition it has with the adjoining counties. It would also help in attracting larger businesses to the City, especially those who might want to locate close to a border of our neighboring Counties. You cannot add more territory to the size of the City; but, you can do everything else in your power to attract and keep businesses in the City that pay all kinds of other taxes, direct and indirect to help our tax base.

Vote No to the "add on tax" in the spirit of fairness and good old fashioned competition.

Sincerely,



Joseph M. Guiffre, Partner/Resident

Jackie Henderson

From: Joseph Egerton <artsafire@artsafire.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2011 2:39 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Commercial Add-On Tax
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Thu May 05, 2011 14:38:38] **Message ID:** [29764]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Joseph
Last Name: Egerton
Street Address: 1117 King Street
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 703 838 9785
Email Address: artsafire@artsafire.com
Subject: Commercial Add-On Tax
Honorable Mayor and Council Members

I realize that the decision to scrap
the Commercial Add-On Tax was a difficult one for many of you,
especially
because Richmond offered matching funds. However, because Alexandria
small
Comments: businesses operate at a disadvantage because of our population density
vs.
neighboring cities, it is especially beneficial to us.
Thank you for
listening to our concerns and passing something that taxes all properties a
little bit and makes for a more fair broader based tax.
Thank You!

Jackie Henderson

From: Bea Porter <beatrice.a.d.porter-gruel@saic.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2011 12:42 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Jefferson-Houston Elem School Maintenance
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Tue May 03, 2011 12:41:44] Message ID: [29695]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Bea
Last Name: Porter
Street Address: 1727 Cameron Street
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 571-228-0326
Email Address: beatrice.a.d.porter-gruel@saic.com
Subject: Jefferson-Houston Elem School Maintenance

Hello. I know the budget is in place and we are slated for a new Jefferson-Houston school building by 2014. That is 3 years away, which is fine with me, but at a civic association meeting the other night, Helen Morris in speaking of the upcoming new school, said that until there is a new building, there will be no maintenance other than changing light bulbs at the current site. That was very disturbing to me. I am not sure if you are who I should be speaking to this about, so I am contacting you. In the last several years there has been quite a lot of complaints about the

Comments: physical condition of the building, and now that they are expanding the grades, it does not make sense to me to not continue maintenance over the next 3 years. She said no painting, nothing. How can they continue to expand the grades if there will be no maintenance, as it is, I am not sure how many children are in attendance in the grades above 6. I am really bothered that they are bringing in the upper grades as we have middle schools that are capable of handling the capacity. The older children need to move up to grow to expand, while the younger children also need to grow,

but not be intermixed with the older children yet. I have heard of several incidents where the older children pick on the younger ones, and without adequate space, I just don't see this working. Just giving my two cents.

Jackie Henderson

From: Tina Leone <tleone@alexchamber.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2011 2:20 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Thank You
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Tue May 03, 2011 14:19:39] Message ID: [29697]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Tina
Last Name: Leone
Street Address: Alexandria Chamber of Commerce
801 N Fairfax St
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 703-549-1000
Email Address: tleone@alexchamber.com
Subject: Thank You
Dear Mayor, Vice-Mayor and Council Members,

On behalf of the Alexandria

Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and our nearly 900 members,
we

sincerely thank you for your excellent work on FY2012 City Budget. We

appreciate how difficult your decisions were during this process and

commend you and City staff for the very hard work all of you have

done.

Comments: Choosing not to implement the commercial add-on tax sends a clear

message to our region that Alexandria wants to attract and retain
business.

You chose to do the right thing for Alexandria and did not simply follow

the lead of our neighbors. Indeed, we can now be known as a safe haven
for

businesses in northern Virginia.

As Mr. Smedberg pointed out, we still

have work to do with you and City staff to ensure that we select,
implement

and continue to fund the transportation projects that have the highest impact for Alexandria. We take that responsibility seriously and look forward to working with you in this regard.

We thank you again for your cooperative approach and collective bravery in creating this budget. We are proud of what you have done for the benefit of all Alexandrians.

Sincerely,

Mike Anderson, Chair & Tina Leone,

President/CEO
Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

Jackie Henderson

From: Mark Allen <mallen@markallenlaw.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2011 2:24 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Commercial add-on tax
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Tue May 03, 2011 14:24:14] Message ID: [29698]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Mark
Last Name: Allen
Street Address: 111 Oronoco St.
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 703-836-8787
Email Address: mallen@markallenlaw.com
Subject: Commercial add-on tax

Dear Mr. Mayor and Members of Council:

I'm sure you feel like your job

comes with a constant barrage of criticism, and indeed it does. But when you do the right thing, those citizens who have been critical -- including me -- should offer our thanks. Not just because we're happy about the outcome, but for the civilized, thoughtful, and respectful way we were able to disagree, engage in polite public discourse, and come to a conclusion we

Comments: can all live with. Thank you.

The commercial add-on tax was a bad proposal from the start. It just doesn't fit our City well. I'm grateful that you took the time to listen and study the idea, and obviously I'm happy about the outcome. Let us hope we don't revisit this issue next year, for it will be an equally divisive proposal then. Besides, there is still room in our budget for cutting excess and spending our money more frugally.

We may disagree on issues from time to time, but I have no

doubt that all of you have nothing but the best in mind for the City we all love. Your actions last night made me proud to see that local government can indeed work.

There's much work ahead, but for now, you deserve congratulations for a job well done.

Mark Allen

Jackie Henderson

From: Nicholas Partee <nicholas.partee@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2011 9:19 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Stop hamstringing your most devoted citizens
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Tue May 03, 2011 21:19:28] Message ID: [29710]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Nicholas
Last Name: Partee
Street Address: 54 Dale St
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22305
Phone: 571-969-2433
Email Address: nicholas.partee@gmail.com
Subject: Stop hamstringing your most devoted citizens
Mayor and Members of City Council,

It was brought to our attention by

City staff (Jack Browand was the messenger, but I don't know the source)

that Alexandria will now require Farmers Markets to purchase general liability insurance to protect the City. I can only speak for 4 Mile Run Farmers and Artisans Market, but we're insulted. A small team of

Comments: volunteers spend hundreds of hours working the market, take no money from

their effort, and in fact periodically have to shell out money to keep things rolling. This just adds another expense to our bottom line that

would otherwise go to marketing, paying for events, performers, and general market operations. Not to mention making sure the cash we shell out out-of-pocket before the market season makes it back to us.

We are

running this farmers market for a number of reasons, but mainly to improve

quality of life in Alexandria. This comes at little to no expense to the

City, but at the cost of most of our free time. The least the City could

do is make things a little easier on its volunteers. Stop laying

administrative hurdles in our way and adding fees to the already

difficult process of running a start-up market in the lowest income

neighborhood in the City.

We already require our vendors to carry

\$1MM in general liability insurance and we require them to name the City

as an additional insured on their certificate of liability. The NY State

guide for farmers markets instructed this as a best practice, so we

thought it would be more than sufficient. If the City wants more

coverage than that, pay for it yourselves. This lack of support for

people that spend more time in a week than most people spend in a year

helping Alexandria be a better place to live is ridiculous. Our efforts

are what you should think of as leverage on the City budget. A little

goes a very long way when the labor is free. Support us, and we will

make your dollars go so much further.

We have extremely limited funds

(the \$300-\$400 for general liability would cost us in the neighborhood of

15% of our budget), and we're doing all we can with them right now. This

is on top of the meetings we are asked to attend by AHD and City staff so

they can explain why they need more from us. We're sick and tired of

wasting our time with any more than operating procedures a not for profit,

100% volunteer run market.

In short, pay for your own liability

coverage for volunteer run farmers markets.

Sincerely,
Nick Partee
4MR

Market Management

Jackie Henderson

From: Jaime Graham <jaimejack1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2011 1:03 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: New budget
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Tue May 03, 2011 13:03:00] Message ID: [29696]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Jaime
Last Name: Graham
Street Address: 1605 Walleston Court
City: Alexandria
State: Virginia
Zip: 22302
Phone: 2022855713
Email Address: jaimejack1@gmail.com
Subject: New budget

Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Donley and members of the City Council,

I

am writing to express my concern with your recent adoption of a budget that

is 6.6% higher than the prior fiscal year. In addition, you have again

raised the property taxes of the residents of the City to pay for addition

spending and priorities. While I understand that there are many important

priorities that must be funded, including the new schools and improved

transportation infrastructure. I do find it upsetting that you apparently

Comments: view the residents of Alexandria as an unlimited source of funds. I expect

you as my elected leaders to make the hard decisions and cut expenditures

when warranted.

I would like to request a response to this letter,

specifically, what has been done to cut unnecessary spending or

re-negotiate costly employee pensions. It is important to me to know that

our City Government is willing to cut spending as well as to increase the

taxes of your residents. The people of this area already suffer from a

crushing cost of living, please do not think that you can increase our taxes unnoticed. It feels like no one is on the side of the residents...the business community has supporters, the costly public employee unions have supporters, but the people that fund the whole operation are completely neglected. Thanks for your time,

Jaime

Graham

Jackie Henderson

From: Mark Allen <mallen@markallenlaw.com>
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2011 3:44 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Commercial add-on tax
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Mon May 02, 2011 15:43:38] Message ID: [29665]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Mark
Last Name: Allen
Street Address: 111 Oronoco Street
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 703-836-8787
Email Address: mallen@markallenlaw.com
Subject: Commercial add-on tax

Dear Mr. Mayor and Members of Council:

I write one last time in the hours before your vote to urge you, once again, to vote against the proposed 12.5 cent commercial add-on property tax.

As I have said before, raising tax revenue for transportation projects is a good cause. We all benefit from better transportation. Therefore, we should all pay for it. It is manifestly unfair for the transportation agenda to be funded

Comments: on the backs of a select few members of the taxpaying public, who some may

perceive as "rich" because they own businesses.

Moreover, suggesting that you will lower the BPOL tax isn't the appropriate quid pro quo. I don't think you have enough statistical information to support the notion that those who will pay increased taxes will benefit from the BPOL reform. I suggest to you that those who will benefit from BPOL reform won't be those who pay the increased tax, since most of the businesses

earning \$350,000 or less don't own or rent commercial space. They're home-based.

You also haven't studied the effects of this tax on the assessed values of commercial real estate. The increased tax burden will have the effect of diminishing the value of those properties in comparison to their non-commercial counterparts. According to one appraiser active in the City, each 1-cent raise in the tax rate could cause a reduction in value of \$10,000-- in other words, your proposed 12.5 cent increase would lower the value of a \$1 million building to \$850,000.00. Be prepared for an onslaught of challenges to the assessed values of hundreds of commercial buildings.

Just because you can impose this tax doesn't mean you should.

Please don't add to the burdens of the business community in this challenging time. Raise everyone's taxes if you want, but don't engage in this kind of class conflict by taxing just a few.

Mark S. Allen

Jackie Henderson

From: Deborah Plunkett <deborah_plunkett@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 01, 2011 10:31 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: pension comensurate with the sacrifices
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Sun May 01, 2011 22:31:19] Message ID: [29644]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Deborah
Last Name: Plunkett
Street Address: 534 N. Columbus Street
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone:
Email Address: deborah_plunkett@yahoo.com
Subject: pension comensurate with the sacrifices
Mr. Mayor, Council Members,
I ask that you please think about the

life-shortening strain willingly undertaken by our Alexandria Firefighters
and paramedics, and choose accordingly to support a respectable pension
for

Comments: these brave people. It is only right to look after those who have risked
and given so much for us. Having a well-run, honorable community is
worth

paying a bit more in taxes.

Sincerely,
Deborah Plunkett

Jackie Henderson

From: Glen Worrell <mail@change.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2011 10:26 AM
To: Jackie Henderson
Subject: Pass the Transit Add On Tax

Dear Honorable Bill Euille and City Councilors,

In FY2007 the city received \$5,485,00 in state Urban funding for DASH buses, by FY2010, that amount was reduced to ZERO. The Transit Add On Tax, funded by commercial real estate, will supply much needed funds for new transit projects, to include bus racks on new DASH buses, extended bike trails, and other bike amenities.

Fairfax and Arlington counties have used this state approved tax initiative to fund vital new transit and transportation projects that increase the affordability of transportation in their communities, reduce congestion on their road networks, and mitigate the negative environmental impacts of their transportation systems. Neither Fairfax nor Arlington experienced a “flight” of businesses from their jurisdictions because of the tax. To the contrary both jurisdictions created communities that attract new businesses and workers.

In Alexandria, we can expect to observe an overall increase in business as more shoppers enjoy improved transit options in our shopping districts. Have you ridden the Trolley and observed/absorbed the enthusiasm of tourists riding down King Street? Witnessed locals jumping on/off the Trolley as they also benefit from this innovative transit option? The King Street Trolley proves transit is good for Alexandria, good for business. [We built it and they came.] Passage of the Transit Tax will increase the vibrancy of our communities for those who live, work, shop and dine in Alexandria. Transit will bring more business. If we can’t move, we can’t “grow business.”

The Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (ABPAC) strongly endorses passage of the Transit Add On Tax. We regret the resistance to the only viable funding we have in the current economy to improve our transit infrastructure. Part of the Old Town and Del Ray charm is the walkability of the stores, restaurants, and shopping. However, gridlock in getting to/from the city’s shopping districts will restrict/constrict and not grow their businesses. Residents of Cameron Station have openly stated in public meetings they opt to dine in Shirlington rather than fight the effort to head to Old Town. The West End, the city’s most populous area, can not grow business without a reliable transit plan. The Transit Add On Tax will improve the quality of life for residents and businesses that travel here to shop, dine, and work throughout our community.

Passage of the transit tax will increase the safety and practicality of bicycling as a transportation mode, while helping to save costs related to parking and road maintenance. As a Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly Community, Alexandria is beginning to enjoy the rewards of investing in the facilities that enable cyclists to move through our community. The benefits of cycling include reduced traffic fatalities and injuries, reduced congestion, increased affordability of transportation and improved health and environmental outcomes. In addition, the Transit Add On Tax is critical to achieving the goals set forth in the city’s Energy and Climate Change Action Plan.

Improved cycling amenities will also elevate bicycling as a viable transit option. Long relegated to the perception that cycling is recreational, hundreds of cyclists transit through the city every weekday to commute to work, removing cars off of the road, reducing both their personal and regional carbon footprint. The Market Square success as a Washington Area Bicycle Association Pit Stop for Bike to Work Day every May is a testament to the number of cyclists who bicycle to, from, or within the city to commute to work.

Jackie Henderson

From: Lisa Jacobs <ljacobs256@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2011 10:08 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Budget
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Tue May 03, 2011 22:08:21] Message ID: [29712]

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: ljacobs256@gmail.com
Subject: Budget
As a taxpayer and a parent, I would like to say THANK YOU for approving a budget which allows ACPS to build new schools and additional classrooms. I know that no one likes a tax increase, but I very much appreciate your strong support of our city's children and schools. It is a wise investment in our future. THANK YOU!
-Lisa Jacobs

Jackie Henderson

From: Kim Putens <kputens@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2011 2:53 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Thank You!
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Wed May 04, 2011 14:52:38] Message ID: [29730]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

First Name: Kim

Last Name: Putens

Street Address: 924 and 1000 King Street

City: Alexandria

State: VA

Zip: 22314

Phone: 202-297-9090

Email Address: kputens@hotmail.com

Subject: Thank You!

Comments: I want to express my sincere gratitude for your decision to not pass a commercial add-on tax. Most importantly, I appreciate your thoughtful consideration of our comments and willingness to listen to what the business community had to say on the issue. The retail community, in particular, is still struggling during this economic climate and any additional costs to do business would be devastating for many. To that end, I would enjoy finding opportunities to partner with the City to help boost the retail community.

Thank you again,
Kim Putens

Jackie Henderson

From: Cindy McCartney <divaboutique@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2011 12:47 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Thank you so much...
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Wed May 04, 2011 12:46:48] Message ID: [29726]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Cindy
Last Name: McCartney
Street Address: Diva
116 S. Pitt St.
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone: 703-683-1022
Email Address: divaboutique@comcast.net

Subject: Thank you so much...

Dear Mr. Mayor, Mr. Vice Mayor and Members of Council,
As a small business

owner, I want to thank you very much for not passing the add-on

tax.

This action has shown once again your responsiveness and the fact

Comments: that you listen carefully to all sides of an argument, which is very rare
in city governments as a whole. This too is very much appreciated. It
reinforces strongly the fact that our City wants to attract and support
small business.

~Cindy McCartney, Owner, Diva Designer Consignment

Jackie Henderson

From: Elleni Vorvis c/o Apple Seed Maternity and Baby Boutique
<shop@appleseedboutique.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2011 3:20 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg;
Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Thank You!
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Wed May 04, 2011 15:19:54] Message ID: [29731]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Elleni Vorvis
Last Name: c/o Apple Seed Maternity and Baby Boutique
Street Address: 115 S Columbus St
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22314
Phone:
Email Address: shop@appleseedboutique.com
Subject: Thank You!
We just wanted to say thank you and express our gratitude and appreciation
for your willingness to listen to the business community regarding the
Comments: commercial tax issue. We are obviously thrilled with the result and just
wanted to say THANK YOU again for listening to our concerns.
Apple Seed

Jackie Henderson

From: Amy Rutherford <amy@redbarnmercantile.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2011 3:41 PM
To: William Euille; Frank Fannon; Kerry Donley; Alicia Hughes; Del Pepper; Paul Smedberg; Rose Boyd; Jackie Henderson; Elaine Scott; Rob Krupicka; Linda Owens; Elizabeth Jones
Subject: COA Contact Us: Thank you
Attachments: ATT00001..txt

COA Contact Us: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

Time: [Wed May 04, 2011 15:40:33] Message ID: [29733]

Issue Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members
First Name: Amy
Last Name: Rutherford
Street Address: 657 North Armistead Street
City: Alexandria
State: VA
Zip: 22312
Phone: 703-813-5555
Email Address: amy@redbarnmercantile.com

Subject: Thank you

Dear Mr. Mayor and City Council members,

I'd like to take a minute to

give my sincere thanks for your recent decision on the add on tax. As a

small
business owner and resident of Alexandria, I truly appreciate that

you listened to our concerns, took them
seriously enough to take action

and ultimately did what is in the best interest of the businesses and the

Comments: residents of Alexandria.

Your decision will hopefully allow my store

to remain in business a little while longer. Now, if there was only

something you could do about the gas prices...!

Thank you,

Amy

Rutherford
Owner, Red Barn Mercantile