

FY 2026 Budget Comments Received



New comments on top.

Date Received	Comment
Wednesday, February 12, 2025	The city needs to stop spending money on leaf collection. Do a public outreach program to inform residents on the benefits of leaving leaves in their yards. Enough wasting scarce City resources to help houses look like golf courses. Andrew Hartsig
Wednesday, January 22, 2025	As a member of the Northern Virginia Transportation District, Alexandria has the authority to levy a tax on commercial property of up to \$0.125 out of \$100 of value. Our neighbors and fellow members Fairfax County and Arlington County levy this tax, but Alexandria does not. Alexandria's share of funding to the NVTDA comes out of our General Fund. Alexandria should join its neighbors in levying this tax in order to achieve a better balance of revenue from commercial and residential property. Proceeds from this tax would help fund the city's transit projects without placing undue burden on residents. Peter D Carlson
Tuesday, January 14, 2025	Please consider fully funding parking enforcement in Old Town .Since the ALX traffic data was collected in 2015, for the 2016 study, there has been an unforeseen increase in delivery traffic by 400 % during peak times . Enforcing existing ordinances that prohibit double-parking, idling, or parking within 200 feet of a crosswalk might generate money as well as calm traffic. (Proactively notifying delivery based businesses could accelerate adherence.) Louise Watts
Friday, December 13, 2024	I wanted to request that the budget to add a glass recycling drop off to better serve the Del Ray, Rosemont, and North Old Town neighborhoods. The city has recognized that glass recycling is an efficient solution, but existing sites are not convenient to our neighborhood. We hope that a new drop off would increase participation in the program enough to pay for itself within a few years. Thank you for your consideration of this request. Aaron Goldsmith
Wednesday, December 11, 2024	Please budget to add a glass recycling drop off to better serve the Del Ray, Rosemont, and North Old Town neighborhoods. City materials emphasize that dropping off glass at drop off locations is the "Least expensive, most sustainable option." The existing sites are not convenient to our neighborhood. We hope that a new drop off would increase participation in the program enough to pay for itself within a few years. We propose considering a new drop off bin near where Main Line Boulevard dead ends. The Main Line Boulevard location is far closer to Del Ray and North Old Town than any existing drop off, but far enough from residences to avoid creating a nuisance for neighbors. I and my neighbors have developed this idea in close and deeply appreciated coordination with city staff and with the Rosemont Citizens Association's PELT committee. We are particularly thankful for Gary Hensley's work advising us and getting input from his colleagues at T&ES. City staff sound optimistic that the Main Line Boulevard location is feasible, as might be a second additional location near the Southern Towers. There is more about this request, including a map of existing and proposed drop off locations and photos of the potential locations at https://alx-glass.github.io Thank you, Robert Letzler
Thursday, December 5, 2024	This is an opportunity to review the city's expenditures closely. With "After seeing the healthiest growth in our real estate tax base in over 15 years, the last two years have shown slowing. For 2025, we are expecting a continuation of that trend" becoming the trend, it should not be assumed that we can continue to spend as we have in the past. The city's property tax revenue may be projected to grow at 1.5%, but many residents will see a substantially larger amount on next year's real estate tax bill, as we always do. That's the reality of living in the city. If the city's expenditures are projected to exceed the inflation rate, looking for new revenue sources to cover the delta should not be the first thing done to fix the problem. A careful and possibly painful scrub of where the money should go should be first. When the "good times" return, returning some excess funds to the taxpayers should also be part of the process. You should also consider incentivizing your department heads to accomplish the year's objectives without using all the funds available. I realize that zeroing out the budget is a government mantra; maybe Alexandria can become a trendsetter in how local governments can run more efficiently. All homeowners in the city have seen their tax bills rise more than the inflation rate over the last fifteen years. As you look at the budget, remember that the tax rate is not the focus of your constituents. The focus is on how much the check is written for, and the tax rate should be set to keep the property tax bill as close to the inflation rate as possible. Rene Rodriguez