

November 10, 2025

To: Waterfront Commission

From: Louise Roseman

Subject: Task Force to Review Waterfront Commission Charter, Membership, and Terms
and to Recommend Future Disposition of Commission

I plan to establish a Commission task force, chaired by Agnes Artemel and including Jan Abraham, Stuart Fox, Charlotte Hall, Deb Roepke, Pat Webb, Esther White, and me, to address the following questions:

1. **Should the Waterfront Commission charter be updated?** If so, propose the revised charter language. The current charter, which was adopted by the City Council in 2012, states –

The functions of the commission shall be to advise city council, the city manager, and appropriate city departments on matters pertaining to:

- *The use of the Alexandria Waterfront by commercial and private vessels; and*
- *Implementation of the Waterfront Small Area Plan.*

For purposes of this article, the term “Alexandria Waterfront” shall include the area within the boundary of the Waterfront Small Area Plan and shall include all waters of the Potomac River located within the boundaries of the city and all piers, docks and other structures located on such waters which are or may be used for the docking of commercial or private vessels.

2. **Should the membership of the Waterfront Commission be updated?** If so, recommend what changes should be made.
3. **Should the terms of the members of the Commission, which are currently two years, be changed?** A number of other boards and commissions have three-year terms.
4. **Should the Commission be sunset when the major development projects are completed?** If not, explain how the Waterfront Commission can continue provide the valuable input/advice to the City Council and City staff that is not merely duplicative of other boards/commissions. The attachment is a first cut of that describing that overlap.

Commission input to the focus of this task force is welcome!

Attachment

**AREAS OF OVERLAP BETWEEN THE FOCUS OF
THE WATERFRONT COMMISSION
AND OTHER CITY BOARDS/COMMISSIONS
- DRAFT -**

	Waterfront flood mitigation project	Art in the parks	Torpedo Factory Art Center	Making the waterfront more accessible to small waterfront	Increased debris removal and other steps to enhance park attractiveness	Monitoring RTN and PRGS developments	Explore collaboration with National Park Service	Further activation of waterfront parks	<i>Other area of focus</i>	<i>Other area of focus</i>
Commission for the Arts		X	X			X				
Park and Recreation Commission	X	X		X	X	?	X	X		
Environmental Policy Commission	X				X					
Visit Alexandria Board of Governors		X	X	?	?			X		
Board of Architectural Review						X				
Planning Commission						X				