



Alexandria City Academy

Session 1

September 15, 2022

Welcome

James F. Parajon

City Manager





Overview of City Government Organization

James F. Parajon
City Manager

The People





City's Form of Government

- Council-Manager form of government
- City Council elected to 3-year term; all at-large
 - Mayor
 - Presides over Council meetings
 - Ceremonial head of government
 - May vote but may not make motions or veto
 - Represents City
 - Exercises Leadership
 - Undertakes Initiatives
 - Community Voice
 - Vice Mayor selected by Council at Organizational/First Meeting of Council term

Roles & Responsibilities

- Council-Manager Form of Government
 - Derived from Progressive, anti-corruption movements of the early 20th century
 - First established in Staunton, VA in 1908
 - Alexandria City Manager position created in 1922
 - Research has shown that cities with Council-Manager form of government are more prosperous and more efficient
- City Manager
 - Serves at Council's pleasure
 - Non-partisan, non-political
 - Professionally educated, trained, and experienced
 - Operates under ICMA Code of Ethics

Roles & Responsibilities

- City Manager
 - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the City
 - Responsible for day-to-day operations of City government
 - Appoints department heads and City employees
 - Establishes docket for Council meetings
 - Helps City Council translate vision into actions
 - Proposes policies and makes recommendations to Council
 - Proposes operating budget, tax rates and 10-year capital improvement program
 - Approves Administrative Regulations

Roles & Responsibilities

- City Council
 - Policy-making and legislative body for City government
 - Adopts annual budget and sets tax rates
 - Establishes land use policies and zoning; authorizes land acquisition, development and "special uses."
 - Appoints City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk
 - Appoints members of Boards and Commissions
 - Authorizes issuance of bonds

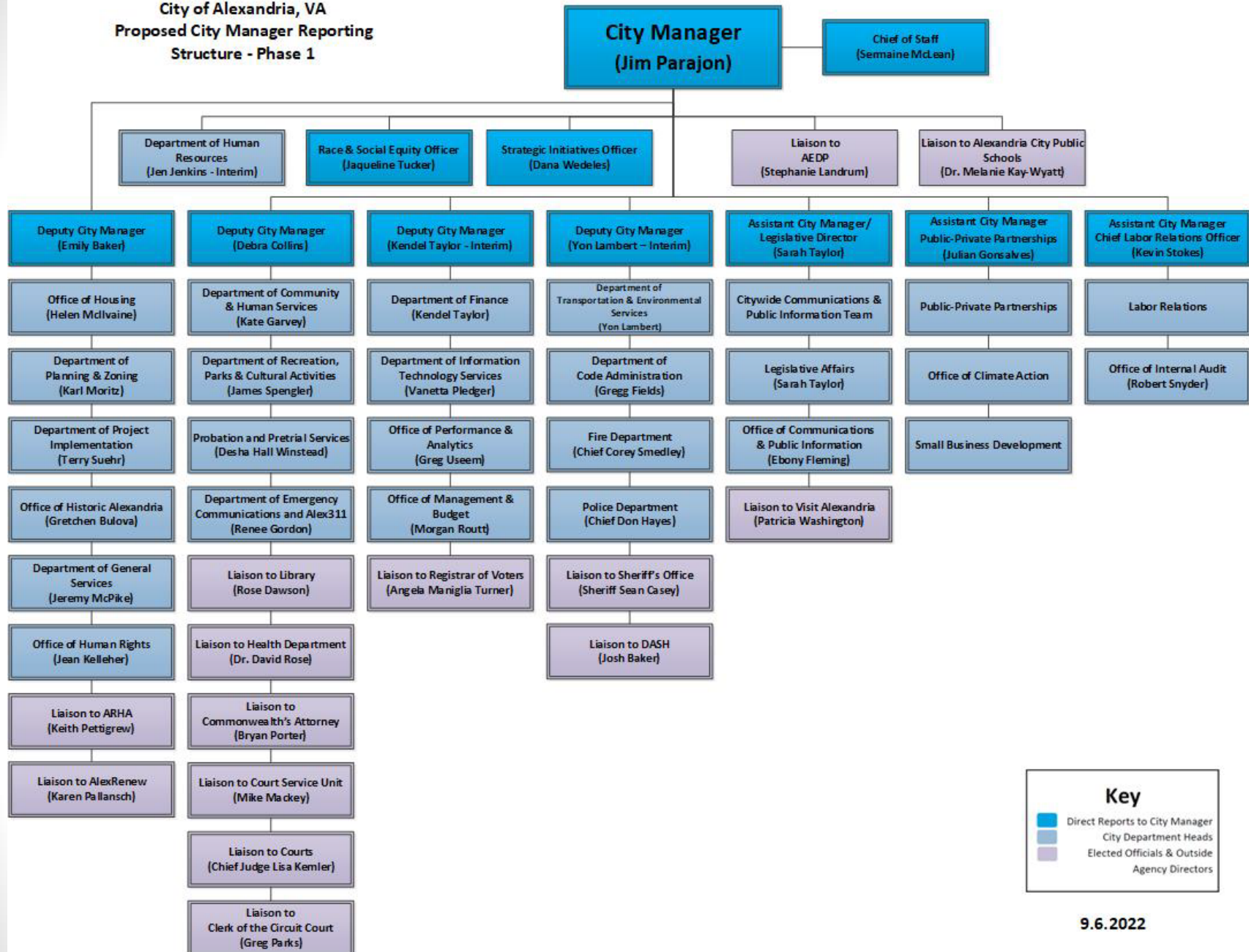


City Departments

- 23 City departments and offices report to City Manager
- Sheriff's Office, Commonwealth's Attorney, Clerk of Circuit Court elected
- Approximately 2,500 full-time and about 600 part-time/seasonal employees
- City works closely with other City related agencies
 - Alexandria City Public Schools
 - Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority
 - Alexandria Renew Enterprises
 - Alexandria Economic Development Partnership
 - Visit Alexandria
 - DASH (Alexandria Transit Company)
 - Libraries, Health, Courts, Registrar of Voters



City of Alexandria, VA
Proposed City Manager Reporting
Structure - Phase 1



9.6.2022

Residents / Customers / Clients



**Front Line
Employees**

**Supervisors and
Managers**

RESPONSIBLE/ACCOUNTABLE



**Department
Heads**

**City
Manager**



RESPONSIVE/SUPPORTIVE

Mission/Vision/Values

*In City government, our **MISSION** defines what we do for our community, our **VISION** is where we are headed as an organization, and our **VALUES** guide our actions and decisions.*

- **Mission:** Working together to foster a thriving Alexandria.
- **Vision:** A culture that supports each of us and inspires excellence.
- **Values:** Respect, Integrity, Teamwork and Continuous Improvement





Questions?

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alexandriava.gov/CityManager