

Communications &

Public Information

Overview



#### Who are We?

- City Spokespersons
- Media Relations
- Citywide
   Communications
- Community Engagement
- Webpage Management



James F. Parajon, City Manager





Director\*
Ebony Fleming

\* Also serves on EOC's Joint Information System



Strategic Communications Manager

Berkeley Teate



Outreach Coordinator

Elaine Scott



Language Access
Coordinator

Genevieve Babecki



Strategic Planner Michelle Benjamin



Creative Communications Manager

Justin Thompson



Web Developer

Gerry Dineros

Visual Information Specialist

Hiring in Progress



Web Editor

Jacqueline Cozma



Editorial & Media Relations Manager

Jacqueline Woodbridge



Writer/Editor

Jael Zeballos



Social Media Strategist

Giovonny Bland



#### Editorial Branch

(Writing)

- Editorial advisor to PIOs
- Establish, execute and maintain citywide style guide policies, tone/voice
- Support variety of platforms
- See publications through editorial process
- Ensure language access and cultural competence to effectively reach Alexandria residents
- Provide support and tools to staff



# Strategic Branch

(Outreach)

- Develop Citywide Communication Plan
- Contribute to development of citywide language access and community outreach
- Align department communication schedules with City priorities
- Work with departments to develop communication plans
- Coordinate with department communicators
- Help establish internal workflow conducive to all branch needs



#### Creative Branch

(Web Site/Social Media)

- Deliver creative communications products and ideas according to strategic communication plans
- Identify and adopt citywide standards and technical guidance for communication platforms and tools
- Provide guidance on using communication platforms to reach audience and objectives
- Ensure language access and cultural competence to effectively reach Alexandria residents



# How We Communicate

#### External Communications

- ➤ alexandriava.gov
- ➤ AlexTV Channel 70
- ➤ Citywide Calendar of Events
- ➤ Emergency Alerts (not 911)
- > eNews
- ➤ Media Relations
- ➤ News Releases
- ➤ Social Media and Webcasts
- ➤ Community Outreach & Engagement

#### **Internal Communications**

- > AlexNet
- ➤ AlexNews (on hiatus)
- ➤ Employee focused information
- **➤** Emergency Communications
- > Communications Tools
- ➤ Style Guide and Protocols



## External Communications

- ➤ alexandriava.gov
- ➤ News Releases
- ➤ Media Advisories
- ➤ Alexandria eNews
- ➤ Channel 70
- > Social Media
- > Calendar of Events
- ➤ Hybrid Presentations





On February 28, City Manager James Parajon proposed a General Fund Base Operating Budget of \$881.1 million, as well as a \$2.39 billion 10-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY 2024-2033.



St. Patrick's Day Parade

Don't miss Alexandria's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 4, featuring pipe bands, Irish dance schools, community groups, and a host of other musicians and performers.



**FEATURED NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

City Services Moving to Mark Center

This February, DCHS, Alexandria Health Department and some other City services will begin a phased move to a centralized location at the new Redella S. "Del" Pepper Community Resource Center at 4850 Mark Center Drive.





Celebrate St. Patrick's Day early. Spend an evening singing and dancing along with the Irish Breakfast Band and the Whiskey Before Breakfast Band. Caturday March 11 from 7 0nm Tickate



City of Alexandria Academy Programs

City Manager James Parajon Proposes FY 2024 Budget

City of Alexandria Commission on Aging Seeks Nominations for Excellence in Aging Awards: Deadline March 31



## Internal Communications

- AlexNet: alexandriava.gov/AlexNet
- AlexNews (on hiatus)
  - > Employee Newsletter
- Emergency Communications
  - eMail
- Employee Hotline





#### Alexandria eNews

alexandriava.gov/eNews

- > Everybody should sign up with a work and personal email address
- > Emergency alerts
- > 100+ choices of topics
- > Free e-mails, texts, voice calls
- > 50,000+ subscribers





#### Stay informed with eNews!

The City of Alexandria's eNews service lets you sign up to receive information on more than 100 topics, including vital emergency alerts. The messages, ranging from news releases and department newsletters to public meeting dockets and payment deadline reminders, can be sent directly to your e-mail account, PDA, pager, cell phone, or BlackBerry. You can even receive alerts from other national and regional organizations, such as Amber Alerts, airport delays, and Metrorail service disruptions.

There is no cost to sign up for Alexandria eNews, although your wireless provider may charge you to receive e-mail or text messages on your mobile device. If you already use e-mail or text messaging, Alexandria eNews messages will work the same way. Contact your wireless provider if you have any questions about the fees they may charge.

> Don't miss out on important news and emergency alerts. Sign up for Alexandria eNews today!

The following groups are currently available on Alexandria eNews:

- · General Information
  - · Alexandria City Council
  - · Alexandria Library Monthly Calendar
  - · American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Stimulus)
  - · Animal Watch
  - Animal Welfare League News
  - . Boards and Commissions Vacancies
  - Economic Development Updates · Election Information and Sample Ballots
  - FYI Alexandria
  - · General City News Releases · Government Telephone Number
  - Changes · Job Opportunities
  - · Notices of City Government Meetings
- Public Safety
- . Code Enforcement Undates

- · Planning and Zoning
  - · Administrative Requests for SUPs
  - · All Community Meetings
  - · All General Information
  - Arlandria
  - · Beauregard Corridor Plan
  - · Boards of Architectural Review
  - · Board of Zoning Appeals · Braddock Road Metro Area
  - Carlyle / Eisenhower East
  - · Eisenhower West Planning Study
  - · Historic Districts and Historic
  - Preservation · Hunting Creek
  - Infill Development
  - · King Street
  - · Landmark / Van Dorn Updates
  - Mt. Vernon Avenue Updates
  - Open Space Planning
  - Planning Commission
  - Potomac Yard Updates
  - · Route 1 Planning



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Alex311 is the City of Alexandria's customer service initiative to connect our customers to more than 175 City services in a variety of convenient ways.



#### 6 Convenient Ways to Connect:

- Web <u>alexandriava.gov/Alex311</u>
- Mobile App Available in the App Store or Google Play
- Twitter @AlexandriaVA311
- Facebook @AlexandriaVA311
- Phone Dial 311 or 703.746.4311
  - Monday-Friday: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- In-Person





# Office of Communications & Public Information

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alexandriava.gov/Communications Alexandriava.gov/AlexNet

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