

RESOLUTION NO. 2467

WHEREAS, City Council wishes to establish a work group to provide recommendations to City Council regarding alternatives for the Waterfront Small Area Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Waterfront is an invaluable resource, rich in history, art, open space, views, recreation, culture, and boating, and

WHEREAS, the City's objective is for the Waterfront to be welcoming to and for the benefit of all City residents and visitors and be compatible with the adjacent residential neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, alternatives should be explored particularly regarding the three development sites, the land use and density thereon, including by-right development, and including the possibility of additional parks and museums or other cultural venues, with exploration of cost/benefits and funding sources;

WHEREAS, a work group representing a variety of stakeholder interests can greatly assist in exploring alternatives, clarifying positions on the outstanding issues, identifying opportunities, if any, for narrowing the differences between various stakeholder positions on key issues, and balancing competing goals:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA:

1. That there is hereby established a work group known as the Waterfront Plan Work Group;
2. That the Work Group shall consist of 8 members, as follows:
 - a. One member of City Council, to act as a convener and liaison to City Council (*non-voting member of the Work Group*)
 - b. One member of the Waterfront Committee
 - c. One member of Old Town Civic Association
 - d. *Five* citizens at-large members, preferably with professional background in urban design, land-use planning, or landscape and architecture.
3. That the Mayor shall appoint the 8 members (including the non-voting member of City Council) for the Waterfront Plan Work Group for an indefinite term after appropriate consultation with other members of City Council;
4. That, in making the appointments, the Mayor shall endeavor to ensure that in aggregate, Work Group members provide:
 - a. a commitment to a Waterfront Plan that balances history, art, recreation, views, active uses, commerce, boating, parks, museums and other cultural activities, and protection of the existing neighborhoods;
 - b. are representative of the diversity of interests and uses of the waterfront;
5. That the mission and expectations of the Work Group shall be:
 - a. To identify the elements for which there is agreement and then focus attention on the remaining issues where there is not agreement. These major outstanding issues include at least on the three redevelopment sites – specifically, issues related to their potential density and land use. Issues for land use include the addition of hotels, and the possibility of more parks and cultural uses. Various considerations should be taken into account, such as neighborhood impacts, Citywide public interests (such as recreation, art and history), commercial interests, and implementation (including costs and revenues).
 - b. To clarify and define the positions on the major outstanding issues as well as which issues are of the greatest importance to stakeholders. The Work Group should identify any opportunities for narrowing the differences between differing positions on key issues if they exist and shall evaluate the potential public costs and benefits of any alternatives on the key issues identified, including the opportunities for by-right development. The Work

Group does not necessarily need to develop a consensus position, broker a compromise or take formal votes. There may still be differing opinions reported to City Council. There should be an understanding that the Work Group is not expected to develop a new small area plan document.

- c. To categorize outstanding issues into those that should be addressed in the Plan, and those issues that are important but best addressed during planning implementation.
6. That staff assistance to the Work Group shall be managed jointly by the Department of Planning and Zoning and the City Attorney's Office, with assistance from other City staff as needed;
7. That the Work Group shall meet on an ad hoc basis and will be formed for a limited but unspecified duration, with the expectation that they will report to the City Council in the fall and that the City Council anticipates a vote on the plan before the end of the calendar year; and
8. That a facilitator who is familiar with the City of Alexandria and who has not taken a position on the Waterfront Small Area Plan should be sought out to assist with the Work Group process.

Adopted: June 28, 2011

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, MMC City Clerk