

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 28, 2006

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: BUDGET MEMO #34: COST SHARING FOR RESIDENTIAL SIGN PROGRAM

This memorandum is in response to Councilman Krupicka's question regarding what cost sharing is anticipated for funding (\$24,000) allocated for the residential sign program.

In the FY 2007 Proposed Capital Improvements Program, there is \$24,000 in unallocated prior year money designated for the residential sign program to be used in FY 2006 and FY 2007. These funds are intended for a residential sign pilot program that will provide up to two signs for four neighborhoods. The anticipated cost is \$6,000 per community and includes all fabrication and installation.

Currently, there is no cost sharing anticipated for the residential sign program. It was modeled after the sign program in Arlington County, which provides funding for the full cost of the signs. The City's proposed program, however, has not been developed in detail, and as a result cost-sharing may be considered.

While a required cost share may create some disparities as some neighborhoods have more money than others, staff recognize that a cost share program (perhaps two-thirds City/one-third neighborhood) may be beneficial in offsetting future cost increases for labor and materials, and/or allow more neighborhoods to participate in a shorter time frame.