

Subject: DES- Publicity Related to Extension of Parking Meter Hours

**FY 2019 Proposed Budget
Budget Work Session Follow-up**

4/19/2018

The following information is provided in response to a request made by John Vihstadt over email on 4/16/2018, regarding the following question:

For the rollout of extended parking meter hours, describe the publicity that was involved.

Budget Related Outreach and Engagement

The parking-related revenue proposals were highlighted during the Budget related public information and communication materials originating from the County Manager's Office:

- [Budget presentations to the County Board](#) on February 22 and 24, posted to the [FY19 Budget page](#)
- [County Manager's Budget Message](#), which was posted to the budget page and linked to in the County news release
- [County news release](#) distributed to 60+ area reporters and media outlets and posted to the County newsroom, resulting in stories in the [Washington Post](#) and on [ARLnow](#) on Feb. 22, and again on [ARLnow](#) on Mar. 27, mentioning the parking proposals
- [Front-page article in the March/April edition of The Citizen newsletter](#) mailed to every Arlington household
- [Advertised in weekly email INSIDE ARLINGTON newsletter](#) --distributed 5 different times over a period of 6 weeks
- [Regularly posted on social media](#) (Twitter, Facebook, etc.) throughout the comment period

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The County Manager's Office also helped promote two different **public engagement opportunities**:

- Online web-based feedback form. In all, more than 800 individuals provided input on the FY19 budget proposal via the online public feedback form. More than 600 individuals responded to questions about the parking revenue proposals, which were included in a specific question about the revenue proposals (see attached document for an overview of these responses).
- Public Hearing: The Board hosted public hearing on April 5th focused on revenues, fees, and taxes, yielded few participants.

Engagement specific to Parking Meter Rates and hours:

In addition to budget specific outreach, parking meter rates and hours of operation were discussed during the Residential Parking Working Group process, which took place from September 2016 to November 2017. Central to this process was an 11-member, County Manager-appointed advisory committee with representatives from:

- Planning Commission
- Transportation Commission
- Citizens Advisory Commission on Housing
- Economic Development Commission
- Environment and Energy Conservation Commission
- NVBIA/NAIOP
- Arlington Chamber of Commerce
- Arlington Civic Federation

The Working Group's charge was "to work with staff to create a clear and consistent methodology to evaluate site-specific, off-street parking ratios for multi-family, residential buildings proposed under the special exception (Site Plan or Use Permit) review process in the Rosslyn – Ballston and Jefferson Davis corridors." However, on-street parking management—including Residential Permit Parking and parking meters—were mentioned in the group's final report to the County Manager. Specifically, the Working Group "[recommended] that Arlington County evaluate on-street parking meter hours of operation to make sure that the meters are operating when needed to ensure parking availability for visitors, customers, and guests," noting that "the County relies, in part, on parking meters to control [residential] spillover effects that will be made worse if we build less parking," as allowed under the Working Group's recommended guidelines.

The County Board adopted guidelines based on those proposed by the Working Group at its November 17, 2017 meeting. At that meeting, the Board also directed the County Manager to review the County's on-street parking meter fees and hours of operation as they relate to effective on-street parking management.

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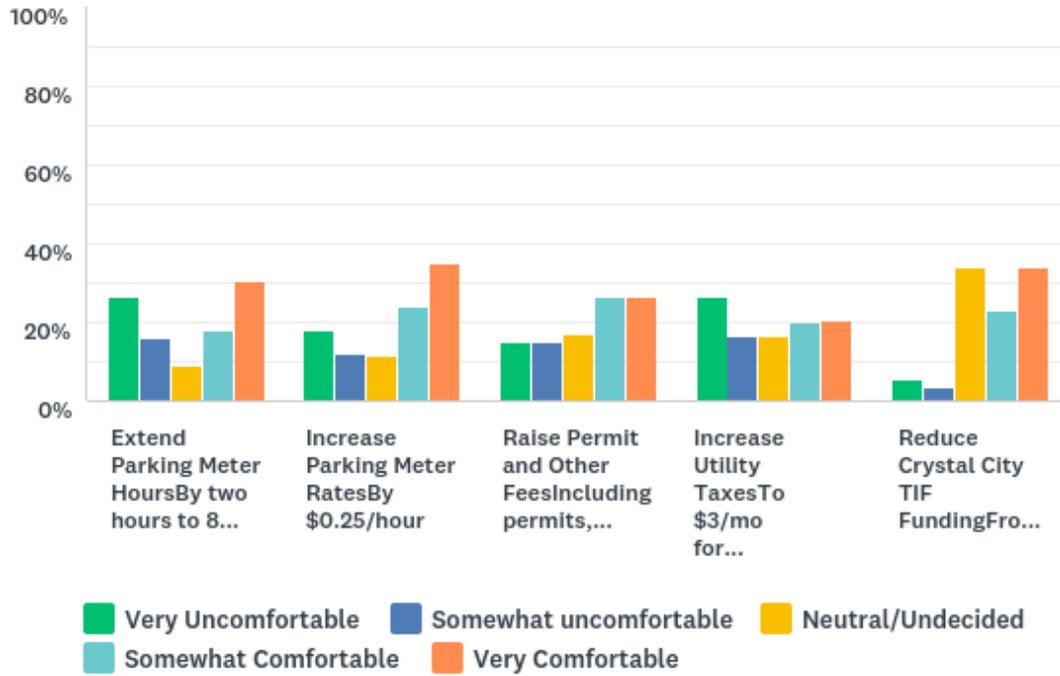
Prior to the County Manager's presentation of the FY 2019 budget on February 22, staff contacted representatives from various stakeholder groups to discuss the budget proposal, and highlighted the parking meter changes. These stakeholder groups included:

- Arlington Chamber of Commerce
- Rosslyn Business Improvement District (BID)
- Ballston BID
- Crystal City BID
- Transportation Commission

FY19 BUDGET FEEDBACK FORM
Responses and Comments Pertaining
to Parking Revenue Proposals

Summary produced:
April 17, 2018

Q14: What is your level of comfort with the revenue proposals below?



	VERY UNCOMFORTABLE	SOMEWHAT UNCOMFORTABLE	NEUTRAL/UNDECIDED	SOMEWHAT COMFORTABLE	VERY COMFORTABLE	TOTAL
Extend Parking Meter Hours By two hours to 8 p.m.	26.30% 167	16.22% 103	8.98% 57	17.80% 113	30.71% 195	635
Increase Parking Meter Rates By \$0.25/hour	17.82% 113	11.83% 75	11.51% 73	23.82% 151	35.02% 222	634
Raise Permit and Other Fees Including permits, Fire, parks	14.76% 93	14.92% 94	17.14% 108	26.67% 168	26.51% 167	630
Increase Utility Taxes To \$3/mo for residential, by 5% for commercial	26.42% 167	16.61% 105	16.61% 105	20.09% 127	20.25% 128	632
Reduce Crystal City TIF Funding From 30% to 25%	5.74% 36	3.35% 21	34.13% 214	22.81% 143	33.97% 213	627

Q15: What alternative revenue options might you suggest, if any?

61 of 335 Comments Mentioned "Parking" (most pertain to the revenue proposal)

Regarding parking fees and extending parking meter hours to 8 p.m.: Increase per-hour charges MORE than proposed, but do not extend enforcement hours to 8:00 p.m. 1. Costs will rise due to having to pay parking enforcement for two more hours. 2. To avoid having to pay (even more for even longer) for parking for two more hours, drivers are likely to park in residential neighborhoods whenever possible (e.g., where their own car parking permit matches the permit for the residential area nearest their destination), or they will otherwise avoid paying parking so late into the evening (or alter their plans to avoid paying the additional two hours). Regarding eliminating once-monthly shredding services for citizens (with limits on no. of boxes permitted to be shredded): Despite existence of commercial "pay by the pound" shredding facilities, many people cannot afford to pay and many others will not pay for such services (paper is extremely heavy, so even \$1.00 per pound for just one typical box of paper could easily cost the citizen \$25 or \$30 per box). I know the county is trying to trim the budget in as many ways as possible, but I feel this is not a good option, compared to the benefit to the community and ESPECIALLY considering this will remove an important security option for people who want to protect their sensitive information but can't afford to use commercial shredding facility.

4/9/2018 6:24 PM

Pay for parking on Sunday in places where there is high demand (Clarendon). Charge for parking in high-demand lots (LIKE SCHOOLS). I can't even get a spot in the 15-min parking spaces to return a library book at Columbia Pike Library during the day. Would happily pay for parking to get a spot. Maybe even paid parking in small lots at nature centers when there is high demand.

3/2/2018 9:07 AM

If you are going to increase parking meters and increase the number of hours we have to pay for parking could you at least change all of the two hour limit parking to four hour limit parking? I know a lot of people in Arlington that his friends come to visit on a regular basis and being able to pay for parking more than two hours would help tremendously.

4/5/2018 1:42 PM

Reduce parking services attendants who prey on anyone who parks in Arlington. Couldn't this be handled by a drone of some sort/I would rather see that money appropriated to EMS/Fire Department/Police so that they can police real issues other than someone parked in a parking spot for more than 1:30 minutes

3/22/2018 2:00 PM

Establish/increase residential parking permit fees for 2nd or 3rd vehicle at an address. Allow residents within zone to purchase parking permits even if they do not live on restricted street. This will offer flexibility for neighborhoods and not force all parking for neighborhood residents parking near transit onto non-zoned streets. Also will raise revenue.

4/7/2018 10:46 AM

Increase enforcement of parking violations. Extending parking meter hours would create even higher demand on limited off-street parking for residents living nearby and whose RPP protection ends at 5 pm. Only extend parking meter hours if the RPP in the corresponding areas are also extended.

4/9/2018 10:59 AM

Allow paid parking in empty lots belonging to businesses closed at night. Stop predatory towing practices! Restaurants etc. go out of business due to lack of available parking, meanwhile towing companies profit at their expense. More parking = more customers = more profits = more tax revenue. Forbid businesses closed at night from contracting with predatory towing co's. Raise taxes on upper income earners.

3/2/2018 12:27 PM

I think that the parking meter time extension will hurt business (decreasing their tax contribution).

If parking space turnover is an issue, limit parking to 1 or 2 hours, but do not charge. It seems that the increase in the Residential Utility Taxes is very hefty and the fee was increased this year (FY 2018)

according to notes. How about saving funds by not replacing perfectly good street signs, adding "speed bumps" which are hard on cars (just add more stop signs), delay rebuilding intersections with bumped out street corners.

3/7/2018 1:22 PM

Reviewing avenues to partner with local military installations to share resources and offset costs? Alternative sources to offset urban parks . Arlington is VERY dog friendly and (with the right PR campaign) this could go over well. <https://nextcity.org/daily/entry/cities-money-parks-funding-ideas> Offering companies the chance to sponsor a park , highway, building and/or bridge? You could offer free marketing to taxpayers for this service in exchange? Increasing or creating a tax on plastic bottles and increasing the bag fee to offset trash collection.

4/5/2018 1:42 PM

Extend parking meter hours to Sunday. Free Sunday parking is a massive subsidy to a demographic that doesn't, in general, need it. We don't make buses or the metro free on Sunday, yet people who own cars are typically wealthier. It's a bad legacy that should be reformed to provide revenue to higher priorities than giving free parking to those who don't need the subsidies.

4/5/2018 9:36 PM

I indicated that I was somewhat uncomfortable with the changes to the parking meter rates because I would increase parking meter rates more than the County Manager has proposed. I would increase metered rates to \$2 per hour (or even \$2.50 per hour) but would not charge for parking after 6 pm.

4/8/2018 3:09 PM

Opposed to extending parking meter hours as it would create even higher demand on limited off-street parking for residents living nearby and whose RPP protection ends at 5 p.m. weekdays. Support raising the parking rates more to cover needed revenue vs. extending the hours

4/9/2018 6:12 PM

I am comfortable with a larger increase in parks & rec fees, trash & recycling fees, and hourly parking rate.

3/1/2018 12:33 PM

Cut funding for Taj Mahal schools, Taj Mahal community, Taj Mahal affordable housing that's not affordable, converting neighborhood parks into Taj Mahal regional parks on Arlington's borders paid for by Arlington's taxpayers. Stop "growth for the sake of growth". Rescind whatever offer County Government made to Amazon. Do not fund any more extravagant vanity projects (gondolas).

3/2/2018 12:36 PM

Raise parking fees for bus parking by Pentagon city mall; start charging nominal fee to turn on lights for basketball courts/tennis courts/etc at night instead of just having them on an as needed timer; install a red light camera at N. Lynn St and Wilson Blvd (where cops are working every weekday morning) to make money off people who block the box and free up the cops

3/5/2018 10:52 AM

Revisit fees in the county code. Raise dog licensing fee from \$10 to \$50. All these dogs cost us money in police and animal control, park clean up, water quality treatment. Increase Dangerous Dog fee from \$50 to \$300. Increase fines in section § 2-22. Penalties for Violations from \$100 to \$200 and for Section 2.12C from \$300 to \$500. Then enforce the tag law and the on-leash law. In 9 years here, I have seen more dogs off leash in county parks and trails than on leash. Also, consider allowing backyard poultry (hens only) for fees of \$100 per year per bird, with a reasonable limit on number and space and housing requirements.

3/17/2018 9:16 PM

Increase your budget reductions to balance the budget, do not raise parking fees (and increase the number of parking enforcement officers required) You also ruin the atmosphere during evenings in Arlington by punishing consumers that eat / shop 6pm to 8pm.

4/5/2018 1:25 PM

continue with cost cutting, not increasing revenue via taxes and parking . If you increase parking meters - you will impact businesses, which then impacts the arlington commercial economy.

4/5/2018 1:50 PM

If parking fees need to be increased to by for more enforcement, why wouldn't you just stop enforcement all together and make parkingfree? Then you wouldn't need to increase the fees or hours just to pay for more enforcement.

4/5/2018 2:50 PM

Higher parking meter rates; the proposed rate is not high enough. Slightly higher fees to use our parks and county amenities is not the answer. Let's try to raise taxes on commercial buildings and give impose more penalties on illegal activities, (OSHA dumping, noise violations)

4/5/2018 3:51 PM

Almost any alternative to the parking meter hours increase - it will serve to make Arlington more exclusive and less accessible to those working individuals who cannot afford either to live near Metro or to pay excessive fees to shop and dine in Arlington after work. Restaurants in Clarendon are turning over quickly already - adding a huge deterrent to visiting Arlington for dinner is going to make matters worse! If you need to extend hours, do it only in areas like Shirlington, where it's a true issue; for most of the County, I do not believe and have not seen convincing evidence that this is needed to encourage turnover of parking spaces.

4/5/2018 5:18 PM

increasing awareness of what materials the county does / does not recycle as cost avoidance (e.g. food soiled pizza boxes) and having public recycling bins for high-value material, such as aluminum and steel increase county car tax rate and incentivize public transit increase number of metered parking spaces vs free parking , and increase meter rate further

4/7/2018 3:16 PM

I am uncomfortable with new credit card fees levied on those using parks and recreation. I understand that it is passed along to consumers, but the cost savings is insignificant in the scheme of things and the county should prioritize participation of recreational fitness activities. This creates a slippery slope attacking parks and rec programs. I would suggest a \$.50 (fifty cent) per household increase in property tax to offset the proposal.

4/9/2018 11:20 AM

While I dislike the idea of increase in property taxes, spending a few extra dollars per year to keep the Cable Administrator seems very worthwhile. I might also suggest that the county delay construction or any further expenses on the aquatic center until we have everything else we need in good shape such as our existing parks . I am not against the aquatic center. I just feel that we need to maintain what we have before taking on new responsibilities unless those responsibilities are crucial and I don't see the aquatic center as crucial.

3/1/2018 10:35 AM

Raise parking FINES for violations to the maximum permitted by state law, increase DPR activity and other fees for non-Arlington residents, eliminate the vehicle property tax decal itself but keep the fee (thus eliminating whatever amount the county pays for the actual stickers and instead retaining the entirety of it via the \$33? fee)

3/1/2018 5:39 PM

do not build long branch aquatic park . it is too expensive to fund and will be too expensive to maintain.
3/2/2018 8:43 PM

Raise parking rates 50 cents, reduce TIFs even more in those 3 areas
3/2/2018 11:44 PM

Stop the swimming pool project in Longbridge Park . Once it opens, it will still continue to be a huge annual budget buster for the County.
3/2/2018 11:29 PM

Write more parking tickets. See how this is done in other jurisdictions. Tickets can generate a lot of revenue.
3/3/2018 11:38 AM

Higher fines More frequent parking enforcement Better code enforcement
3/7/2018 1:09 PM

Increase zip car and car 2 go parking costs. Add sales tax for services offered, like exercise and gym classes. Legalize and highly tax marijuana. Increase tax on alcohol and tobacco products.
3/7/2018 9:18 PM

raise the meter rates but maintain free parking after 6pm and on weekends
3/14/2018 8:58 PM

increase cost of neighborhood parking stickers. Also increase business tax from 30\$ to say \$50 per year, even \$60, this is not a large dent even in small businesses, which we can afford.
4/3/2018 12:38 AM

Departments like Parks & Rec could stop using the cost recovery model. For example, the county charges enough for summer camps to cover the costs of running the camps. Why not add \$3-5 per camper and make a small enough profit that county residents don't revolt but big enough to have an increased revenue stream for the department. I say that knowing that summer camp, like everything else in the county, will probably get outsourced to contractors even though it is really popular with residents.
4/3/2018 1:26 PM

Parking revenue looks like it is only projected to rise by 15k, I think extending the hours and raising the rate will hurt local establishments AND hurt low income workers who have to drive here to work at our restaurants and bars.
4/4/2018 2:23 PM

Increase in parking fees and enforcement
4/5/2018 1:14 PM

Additional tax/fee on property used for commercial parking facilities for office buildings (increase revenue, reduce vehicles commuting into Arlington). Institute an annual assessment/fee on any residential/commercial property designed to house people at a rate of more that 40% of the County population density as of the latest Census (and not designated as low income housing or a hotel or military barracks). The County is the most densely populated in Virginia and increasing, which is why our schools are overloaded and infrastructure is so expensive to maintain. We should make sure that we are able to support our current population before we drive to grow further.
4/5/2018 1:40 PM

Tax people who use services like parks and recreation.
4/5/2018 1:40 PM

It's okay to raise the parking by another \$0.25
4/5/2018 1:47 PM

We pay \$600/month in taxes to the County. We pay plenty for our water, personal property, PARKING PASSES, etc., etc. Quit doing things that don't need to be done before you start raising our taxes even more. We won't be able to deduct them from our taxes next year. You are going to drive out the long-timers who will no longer be able to afford this high-priced spread,
4/5/2018 2:21 PM

If most of the revenue from increasing parking rates and hours goes to enforcement, what is the point? The extended hours will make it more difficult for residents to do business in the early evening and will have a negative impact on both residents and restaurants/shops
4/5/2018 2:43 PM

Smaller increase in parking meter fees but do not change the time limit.
4/5/2018 3:06 PM

I believe Arlington needs to take a closer look at how they are appropriating funds. We currently have a situation where there is a sinkhole in front of our building on Arlington property and the county will not fix and replace with the same material that was used and therefore our residents are footing the bill for this project. We pay a significant amount of taxes and this money seems to be disappearing. It is disappointing to see the proposal where the county is essentially trying to obtain even more money from the tax paying citizens of Arlington by increasing parking rates, utility taxes, increasing costs of fire inspections, etc. Perhaps Arlington can raise additional funds from all of the builders that have recently been granted permits to build in our area instead of penalizing the long-standing residents of the community.
4/5/2018 3:29 PM

Stop spending...It is not your money. Per student cost the highest. Trailer use the highest. Reduce perks for employees..cars, parking , excessive high pay and benefits.
4/5/2018 3:45 PM

Collect compost and sell the soil; grow food on school property and parks
4/5/2018 3:45 PM

Either raise the price for parking or extend the hours. Do not do both.
4/5/2018 4:02 PM

I suggest cutting expenses. As an Arlington county resident, I am paying an enormous amount of tax for every asset that I own. It feels crushing and I don't feel the money is always spent wisely on important projects. I also pay a permit to park in front of my house. And, Arlington has paid a lot of money to make roads one lane and many drivers on the road aggressive. I think prioritizing projects, rather than increasing revenue is better.
4/5/2018 7:00 PM

Extending parking meter fees to 8PM can negatively impact restaurants for dinner and hanging out.
4/5/2018 9:07 PM

Have Arlington PD strongly enforce basic driving laws. Aggressively issue tickets for standard infractions such as failure to yield to pedestrians, failure to use a turn signal, failure to park within the lines. This should generate a sizeable amount of revenue for the county as well as make the roads safer. Also, find a way to levy a sizeable tax on all non-Arlington registered vehicles in this area - to include out of state as well as "down state" vehicles. Too many people get away with registering their vehicles elsewhere and paying lower taxes/fees.
4/5/2018 10:10 PM

Good question. Are car sharing services like ZipCar and Car2Go paying Arlington to park ?
4/6/2018 10:48 AM

Income tax. Also, you claim parking enforcement doesn't make money - that it is a net loss. So how does extending hours increase revenue? You're have to pay the meter people twenty percent more hours. Also, it's profoundly unfair, targeting only certain neighborhoods.
4/6/2018 8:56 PM

Feel free to raise parking time limit violations by more than \$5. Same for other similar violations.
4/7/2018 4:29 PM

free parking after 6 encourages shopping and dining
4/7/2018 10:03 PM

This is ridiculous. Raising and extending meter hours is bullshit, respectively. Legalize pot and sell that, then parking can be free and we will be rich, beotch!
4/8/2018 10:50 AM

raising parking meter cost and times could hurt businesses near those areas as people decide to frequent restaurants/businesses where there are no meters (that is a choice I make when going out).
4/8/2018 11:26 AM

Extend parking meter hours to Sunday afternoons.
4/8/2018 11:22 AM

Raise parking to \$2 an hour across the the board rather than extend hours.
4/8/2018 2:03 PM

Do not raise parking ticket costs! \$25 is high enough!
4/8/2018 9:52 PM

Increase non-resident fees for Parks and Recreation classes.
4/8/2018 9:53 PM

Raise parking to \$2/hr
4/9/2018 7:12 AM

I would suggest a decal and/or hang tag for people living in the urbanized parts of Arlington. We use the metered parking places after hours for neighborhood purposes and guests.
4/9/2018 12:40 PM

Q16: Please share any additional suggestions you have regarding funding priorities, budget reductions, and/or revenue options for the FY 2019 budget or future County budgets.

27 of 338 Comments Mentioned "Parking" (not all pertain to revenue proposal)

Why is out of state car license fees a concern re a burden on immigrants? Why are people from out of state **parking** here unless they have to work here or live here? I've seen people drop off cars and get rides with someone else and I have no idea who they are. We fought this in Douglas **Park** and forced the development of Residential **Parking** permits because we couldn't **park** on our own streets. And the term "immigrants" needs to be defined very specifically because a lot of the cars in Arlington are suspected to belong to illegal aliens, not US citizens or legally permitted immigrants (who are welcomed). This also impacts the school's soaring enrollment and associated costs. This directly effects our taxes which are becoming a burden on us older folks. Also, if there is a nearly 20% vacancy rate in commercial buildings, then something is wrong with their location, county taxes and associated expenses, etc. All this drives away potential tenants who will take their business/money elsewhere, along with any taxes they might have paid and their clientele. Also raising traffic fines is just plain punitive, an old and occasionally illegal way of raising money. I put one town's speed trap out of business a number of years ago and they suffered tremendous losses in entrapment fines, plus a loss of out of state visitors etc. I know how the game is played and refuse to play it. I should. I was taught law enforcement by some of Arlington's best cops from the 70's. And don't keep raising the home appraisal valued and then tell us you're not going to raise taxes. An increased assessment is a tax raise no matter how you try to cover it up. With the underground water damage I have suffered over the years, and had to pay over \$25,000 in damage repair costs, the county should be dropping my land value assessments, not increasing them. I have long ago tried to figure out what the hell the county is doing to traffic on Arlington Mill Road and Walter Reed Drive. Two left turn lanes are now one, so unless it is a safety issue, it doesn't make any sense. We need a safety warning sign there if that is the problem. And why is the feed-in road from King Street as you head West onto Walter Reed Dr, closed off to traffic.? It creates a danger for those who have to make a 90 degree right turn from King onto Walter Reed. And the streets are in terrible shape and I blame Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax and even Falls Church for failing to work in unison to make Rt 7 safe. I haven't seen any badly needed repairs at the Walter Reed/King Street area in over 10 years (I know that the new construction is preventing any major repairs right now, but the parts of King on either side of the construction haven't been properly fixed at all, only patchwork. Oh, and there is no direct overhead light on Arlington Mill Road at the crosswalks between Cameron Rd and the turn lane to Harris Teeter. People cross at the crosswalk but at night you can't see them if they are wearing dark clothes because some idiot put the overhead lights too far away to light up the crosswalk area. Somebody is going to get hurt or killed there. It's not "if", but when. Max Friedman

4/9/2018 2:53

I am extremely opposed to extending the **parking** meter hours as it would create even higher demand on limited off-street **parking** for residents living nearby and whose Residential **Parking** Program (RPP) protection ends at 5 p.m. on weekdays, with no protection on weekends. Given that there is a moratorium on the RPP, along with the County's desire to reduce cars, the County should raise the **parking** rates more to cover needed revenue vs. extending the hours.

4/9/2018 11:27 PM

Opposed to extending **parking** meter hours as it would create even higher demand on limited off-street **parking** for residents living nearby and whose RPP protection ends at 5 p.m. weekdays. Given there is a moratorium on the latter along with the County's desire to reduce cars, raise the **parking** rates more to cover needed revenue vs. extending the hours.

4/8/2018 6:10 PM

I know it is the way of this entire area, but would look at the extreme busing in Arlington and reconsider - use ART more where possible or even expand the areas where kids are expected to walk/bike to school. I'm 42 and I grew up in an upper middle class district in PA where there were no buses and I had to walk

to/from high school 2 miles each day. It was good for me. Kids in Arlington are soft - it would be good for them to not be whisked door to door so easily. Also, instead of focusing so much on subsidized housing, which is essentially a lottery, I would also consider a strategy of subsidized employment. BTW, any subsidized housing should include bicycle parking . I know a family of 6 - the parents spend their days using 2 cars to run 4 kids around, but none of the kids have bikes because there is no place to put the bikes. That is insane in a community like this one. Finally, are schools providing free parking for staff? Also insane.

3/2/2018 9:15 AM

Simply put, stop pursuing vanity projects. Arlington used to have pragmatic govt. But in recent years, the Board is awash with reckless spenders. Require any county official who has any say in spending live in Arlington; all officials need to eat their own cooking. It is appalling we have a County Manager who makes major decisions and then goes home every night to DC. As stated before, aggressively enforce the car tax. And enforce the parking zones--issue tickets for the violators. A county board member lives in a zoned neighborhood but trucks from his business during the day just happen to be parked in front of his home--all without the permit sticker on their bumpers. Why is that?

3/2/2018 10:14 AM

PLEASE DO NOT SLICE THIS CRITICAL Office of Community Wellness budget...for a community nationally known as healthy and fit (in many regards): The below, to name a few, have mattered greatly and any reduction will be detrimental to the overall 'fitness' of our community: * Healthy vending in APS and Parks and Recreation * Senior Adult nutrition education classes * Smoke free parks /open spaces * Countywide Community Garden initiative * Countywide Active recess initiative * This office provides all the health and wellness training to the staff that runs extended day, County Preschools and Arlington summer camps *Therapeutic Rec (TR) services at Langston will also be eliminated (i.e. family night, Super Sibs, summer camps, SPARC

3/13/2018 2:32 PM

Please consider a program providing funds to encourage HOAs and similar entities to install LED bulbs and lighting in common areas, including lamp posts, entrance ways, etc. This will help Arlington become more protective of our environment. Also, funding should be provided so County can reseed or sod the numerous unsightly bare areas between curbs and County sidewalks. If not addressed, commercial trucks should not be allowed to park on the park -side of streets in residential neighborhoods, particularly those with no commercial entities anywhere in or near the neighborhood.

4/3/2018 10:34 AM

For affordable housing, please consider significant upzoning and reducing (or eliminating) parking minimums. Also consider expediting the permitting process to reduce the cost of housing. Restraining the supply of housing drives up prices, and Arlington can use its zoning powers to make housing more affordable without even spending money on subsidies - although I also strongly think Arlington should increase its subsidies to affordable housing and adopt a housing first policy toward homelessness. Upzoning (especially near transit) and reducing parking minimums does impact the budget - more dense development means more property taxes and greater use of public transit.

4/5/2018 9:40 PM

County failed to take into account projected loss of RE Tax deductions in Federal Tax Bill in planning new projects...many will be paying increased Federal tax when previous deductions on state and County taxes exceeded \$10,000. Take care of what you have now (roads, parks , senior services) before engaging in new projects.

3/1/2018 10:21 AM

Overall, i think the county does an amazing job juggling priorities. As the president of an HOA, I do much the same on a much smaller scale. I have found that people don't mind paying taxes (HOA dues) when they feel their money is well spent. For us, that means making sure the roads are in good shape (paved and plowed), our infrastructure is maintained and enhanced (sidewalks, lights, grass, etc.), and that

resident concerns are addressed quickly by our management company. We have increased our HOA fees dramatically over the last 10 years with very few complaints because we are very clear about where the money is being spent and when an owner has an issue, we address it immediately. Arlington County operates very similarly. Our county employees are generally very good and our services are among the best in the area so we have the basics covered. I would hate to see short term budget issues cause citizens to question where tax money is going because they can't get help when they need it (such as with cable companies). We also need to make sure infrastructure is not ignored such as parks , roads, and sidewalks. While you will hear grumbling from some folks regarding a tax increase, if it is very small and services are maintained (and costly projects that may not be wanted by everyone such as the aquatic center are put on hold), most people will accept the increase without complaint.

3/1/2018 10:43 AM

Recommend only the minimum required investments be made for school/ parks /public buildings/infrastructure rather paying for high end designs. We need to invest in the things we absolutely need like police/fire compensation, smaller class sizes, and critical infrastructure. All departments budgets should be zero-based so that anything we can live without, does not get funded and those funds are used to fund higher priority needs.

3/3/2018 3:12 PM

Need to increase funding to hire more Park Rangers. Code enforcement needs to be increased as this can bring more revenue. Far too much waste in the contracting process as there is no oversight nor transparency. Hundreds of millions of dollars have been lost in just past few years from unfavorable contracts and no oversight.

3/4/2018 4:58 PM

I have not read the entire budget proposal. However, I feel that the proposed credit card convenience fee of 2.5% is pretty steep. If one must be instituted, a flat rate would be much better, and the county should absorb any overage. For the parks and recreation courses and classes, you must pay at the time of registration if you register online so there isn't another option besides paying with a credit card.

3/14/2018 2:21 PM

One revenue option would be to have departments stop using the cost recovery model. For example, parks & recreation could raise the costs of summer camps by \$3-5. So instead of just charging enough money to pay for the costs of running the camp, they could make a modest profit that could be used for other budget priorities in that department. I imagine that someday services like that will be contracted out since that seems to be where everything is heading in the county., so this might only be a short term solution. But it will raise additional revenue and people won't scream and yell about modest price increases.

4/4/2018 11:22 AM

Personal propert taxes on vehicles is unique to most new residents. Better enforcement of garaged vehicles that do not have a county permit for overnight parking may lead to an increase in revenue stream.

4/5/2018 1:26 PM

The county needs to start thinking about additional cuts because of the Federal limit on property tax deductions. I hope that someone has been thinking about how this is going to change the "Arlington way" of voting in every single tax/ park /etc. bonds. Homeowners are going to be much more diligent than they ever have been before and start refusing to increase their taxes. Also, I hope you all are seriously trying to get Amazon into the county.

4/5/2018 1:30 PM

The County needs to reevaluate how it generates its budget annually. Starting with essential government services (Police, Fire, EMS, water, sewer, trash collection, infrastructure etc), expanding to beneficial government services (parks , education, misc programming) and, if any money is left over at existing rates, the pet projects of the county board (like the laughable "affordable housing" initiatives, public

transit, etc.). The notion that all of these items are of equal weight in the budgetary equation and therefore residents must pay more is a way to drive out residents. And why I'll be leaving in the coming year.
4/5/2018 1:45 PM

Provide Arlington residents with special privileges at local shops and businesses. Increase **parking** fees on apartments and condos that put more cars on streets.
4/5/2018 1:49 PM

Parking is already an issue in the high density areas such as Ballston/Virginia Square. Raising the meter rates makes sense, but please do not increase the hours to 8pm. That discourages visitors to our neighborhood who travel by car.
4/5/2018 1:55 PM

I think your affordable housing policies are ill conceived. Until you build the infrastructure of schools, **parks**, sports fields, we need to stop stuffing affordable housing into South Arlington, and let us digest the problems that have already been caused by poor planning.
4/5/2018 1:53 PM

Arlington is extremely high in real estate taxes. I don't think you spend our tax dollars as well as you could. Arlington is a great city to live it, but the spending is much too high. Schools, pools, **parks** all cost too much to the taxpayers at current build rates. Charge the larger commercial builders and businesses more. Let the Amazons of the world pay their own with zero subsidies. There should be no subsidy to any business period.
4/5/2018 2:06 PM

Better balance the ration of revenue increase/impact between Arlington residents and Commercial customers. Why are the residents shouldering the majority of the increase? The residential rate for electricity is doubled and for gas is tripled and the commercial folks are only paying 5% more? Get rid of neighborhood funded projects and traffic calming expenditures. These are expensive and a huge hassle leading to congestion. Build utilitarian schools and pay teachers more or reduce class sizes rather than spending funds on fancy buildings and furniture. Stop subsidizing TJ high school for Arlington residents that attend that school. Arlington schools are excellent, we shouldn't pay for kids to go elsewhere. Require non-Arlington residents to pay a monthly fee/tax when their children attend an Arlington childcare facility. This would raise revenue or at least open up more spots for Arlington residents. Raise the cost differential for non-Arlington residents participating in Arlington **Parks** /Rec programs. Basically make living in Arlington more affordable and shift costs more heavily to people passing through Arlington and using Arlington services, or those making money off of Arlingtonians.
4/5/2018 2:15 PM

Please keep maintaining the **parks**. They are fantastic, although the batting cages are all pretty terrible (and could be fixed up).
4/5/2018 2:22 PM

Our streets are in terrible condition and this budget seems to reduce funds for paving. Many County vehicles are underused and take up valuable **parking** space. Affordable housing is not being given an increase despite the shortage.
4/5/2018 2:45 PM

More money to the libraries and **parks**, please!
4/5/2018 2:37 PM

My biggest concern is County Board members saying one thing at public meetings and on TV and then at the broad meeting voting for the exact opposite. This county growth is out of control. Buildings higher and wider than ever and built right to the sidewalks on all sides. Example is the building on Columbia Pike near Four Mile Run across from Goodwill. It takes up the entire block. No drop of place for loading and unloading. Near residences. Look at the other three corners and determine which building method is

better. This same over building is occurring all over Arlington, as approved by the board while the board complains of growth, traffic load, parking , school crowding. The County continues to allow for over capacity growth while they can't manage what they have now. More provided on request.

4/5/2018 3:59 PM

Charge user fees for dog parks !

4/5/2018 4:07 PM

I strongly support education, Metro and other mass transportation, libraries, parks , and appropriate salaries for all county workers. I am willing to pay taxes to support these important government services.

4/5/2018 5:23 PM

Allocate funds for pedestrian and motor vehicle safety VIA 4 way stop signs. A significant one would be the intersection of 10th st N and Kennebec st. N. This is due to the adjacent park and proximity to Swanson Middle School.

4/6/2018 12:22 AM

South Arlington needs some investment. Chill out with million dollar dog parks in Clarendon and instead invest in the 4-mile run area. Shirlington could be amazing if you put a little thought into it. Also, ease up the permitting fee's and you might see some significant investments in the S. Arlington area.

4/6/2018 10:33 AM

Consider increasing the "Arlington County Library collections line item" wait times for books have become fairly ridiculous. Would also recommend looking in to a position who can corral all of the classes and services offered by Parks and Recreation, Arlington Community Learning, and the library. There seems to be a lot of overlap.

4/6/2018 11:37 AM

A \$40 fine for a parking meter violation is egregious. It's not that much additional revenue.

4/6/2018 6:26 PM

Every year seems to be a tight year. Why is that? We need to focus on other spending that gets put off, like a liveable neighborhood and roads and parks .

4/6/2018 8:58 PM