

# ATTACHMENT A

## Mayor and Council Budget Public Hearing FY 2015 Operating and CIP Budgets

### March 31, 2014 - Public Hearing #1

Speaker	Resident / Organization	Comment / Request
Ann Wallas	President, Association of Administrative Municipal Employees (AAME)	See Exhibit No. 3

### April 7, 2014 - Public Hearing #2

Speaker	Resident / Organization	Comment / Request
David Thomas	Resident	See Exhibit No. 8
Eric Ledbetter	Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation	Thanked the Mayor and Council for their support over the years and shared a few of the things Peerless was able to achieve through the investment.

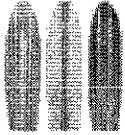
### April 21, 2014 - Public Hearing #3

Speaker	Resident / Organization	Comment / Request
Agnes Saenz, Coordinator	Rockville Caregiver's Coalition	See Exhibit No. 9
Dr. Ji-Young Cho, Executive Director	Korean Community Service Center of Greater Washington	See Exhibit No. 10
Monica Barberis-Young, Director of Family Services	Interfaith Works, Friends in Action Program	Requested the Mayor and Council reconsider the elimination of funding for the Friends in Action Program.
Shahira Gallaway	Resident / Participant of Friends In Action Program	Explained to the Mayor and Council how she personally benefitted from the Friends in Action Program, and asked the Mayor and Council to fund the program.
Lynn Arndt, CMR Deputy Director.	CMR Women's Housing Project	Requested the Mayor and Council fund the Women's Housing Project.
Cecilia Rojas, Director	Language Outreach Program	See Exhibit No. 11
Thanya Castro	Former participant and current Teacher of the Language Outreach Program	See Exhibit No. 15
Leann Sherman, Director	Elderly Ministries	See Exhibit No. 16
Jim Marrinan, Board Chair	Kaseman Health Clinic	Requested the Mayor and Council fully fund the \$112,848 request.
Michael Eskandary	Resident	See Exhibit No. 12
Scott Robins, Chair	Human Services Advisory Committee	See Exhibit No. 13

**Written Public Testimony  
FY 2015 Operating and CIP Budgets**

**Testimony Received through April 21, 2014**

<b>Exhibit</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Resident or Organization</b>	<b>Main Topic</b>
1	Seth Marcus	Resident	Utility rates
2	Kevin Kane	Rockville business owner	Fund police step increases
3	Ann Wallas	Association of Administrative Municipal Employees (AAME)	Fund the City's official merit system and pay-for-performance standards
4	Jessica Anderson	Rockville Housing Enterprises	FY 2015 PILOT waiver request for Fireside Park Apartments
5	Andrea Jolly	Rockville Chamber of Commerce	\$20,000 to continue Rockville Rewards
6	Gabrielle Jefferson	Resident	Utility rates
7	Elizabeth Tuel	Resident	Affordability of living in Rockville on fixed incomes
8	David Thomas	Resident	Utility rates
9	Agnes Saenz	Rockville Caregiver's Coalition	Caregiver funding
10	Dr. Ji-Young Cho	Executive Director, Korean Community Service Center of Greater Washington	Caregiver funding
11	Cecilia Rojas	Director, Language Outreach Program	Caregiver funding
12	Michael Eskandary	Resident	Requesting alley access near MD-28
13	Scott Robins	Chair, Human Services Advisory Commission	Caregiver funding
14	Robert Wright	Resident	175 Watts Branch Parkway
15	Thanya Castro	Former participant and current Teacher of the Language Outreach Program	Caregiver funding
16	Leann Sherman	Director, Elderly Ministries	Caregiver funding



To:  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Fw: Skyrockering water and sewer rates  
From: Brenda Bean/RKV - Friday 03/21/2014 10:18 AM

From: S Marcus <sethmarcus@yahoo.com>  
To: "LATkins@rockvillemd.gov" <LATkins@rockvillemd.gov>  
Date: 03/20/2014 10:00 PM  
Subject: Re: Skyrockering water and sewer rates

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Dear Ms. Atkins,

Thank you for your reply. I appreciate you sharing this with the Mayor and Council. I read the city's budget presentation and am very concerned to hear there could be an additional 8% water/sewer rate increase over the 18% increase passed last year. I have some thoughts I'd like to share, and I apologize if this email is long. Based on the information in the presentation, I have identified some options the Mayor and Council should consider to avoid the Water/Sewer rate increase.

I understand the challenges of an aging infrastructure, particularly water/sewer lines, and in general support the proper maintenance/replacement to prevent costly water main breaks and disruptions to service. I understand there is a \$3m to \$5m deficit in these funds, and that is extremely troubling. It is clear the city must do a better job managing these services. The fact that there is so much "carryover" funds is more evidence of major issues in this city department. It is unfair that homeowners absorb more and more of the costs due to improper management and planning.

Here are some ideas:

First, water and sewer are foundational, essential service to citizens, and MUST take priority over non-essential projects. That is why I am completely opposed to investing \$1.5 million for the low-priority, highly unpopular Horizon Hill Park project. Stopping this project will get the city halfway to filling the budget gap. I happen to live in Horizon Hill, and think this project is not a wise use of taxpayer funds. The project will create a dangerous water pond on a steep hill that puts the many children in the neighborhood at risk for accidental drowning. It also creates a major breeding ground for mosquitoes/west Nile virus and ticks/Lyme disease. Additionally, a year of bulldozer noise and diesel pollution could cause asthma and other health issues and severely disrupt wildlife in the area. Finally, the children who live in Horizon Hill would think it unfair that their favorite park and playground would be closed for an entire year. So I am proposing stopping this project and instead moving the \$1.5m into the water/sewer pipe replacement projects.

Second, I am very troubled to hear that certain property owners are behind in paying their Stormwater Management Fee. It is unfair that some get off scott-free and everyone else shoulder a higher tax burden. I propose you cut water service off or impose some other penalty until these folks pay up. I pay my taxes and fees, and think everyone should.

Third, I understand that the city is required to maintain a 15% operating reserve. The budget calls for an 18% reserve, higher than the minimum. I suggest you reduce that to 15%, and put the remainder (approx. \$2.1 million) towards the water/sewer capital improvement program. Infrastructure maintenance has to be done now to avoid long-term costs.

Fourth, I suggest the City explore additional bond revenue to finance more of the long-term pipe replacement projects. The \$2m bond issue for stormwater management should be increased to cover additional water/sewer capital improvement projects.

Making these changes to the budget will minimize the need for another massive increase in water/sewer rates. I really don't think my family can absorb another \$200 annual increase in water/sewer rates. I really appreciate if the Mayor and Council could consider my ideas or brainstorm some others to avoid another huge increase in water/sewer fees.

I would like to attend one of the budget hearings. I am aware of the dates, but the website did not identify the time, the address/room number, and what is required to get on the speaking agenda (do I need to pre-register)? Please reply with this information. Thank you.

Thank you again for your attention to this issue.

Seth Marcus

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"Everything seems impossible until it is done."

- Nelson Mandela

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**From:** "LAtkins@rockvillemd.gov" <LAtkins@rockvillemd.gov>

**To:** S Marcus <sethmarcus@yahoo.com>

**Cc:** "mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov" <mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 30, 2014 9:07 AM

**Subject:** Re: Skyrockering water and sewer rates

Dear Mr. Marcus:

Thank you for contacting the City of Rockville in regards to the City's water and sewer rates. I am responding on behalf of the Mayor and Council, each of whom have received a copy of your email.

We appreciate all the financial pressures facing families during these challenging economic times. The City is faced with large investments in its water and sewer infrastructure which is why the rates have increased in recent years. The City is currently reviewing its water and sewer rates and rate structures with an independent firm of national experts that will provide the Mayor and Council with options for the best approach to sustainable future rates, while being able to adequately maintain both systems safely in compliance with federal regulations.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts and concerns regarding this matter with the Mayor and Council. I am attaching a link to the FY2015 budget calendar on the City's website. We hope you will attend the public hearings and participate in the budget process.

<http://www.rockvillemd.gov/documentcenter/view/6599>

Sincerely,

Louise Atkins  
Council Support Specialist  
City Manager's Office  
City of Rockville  
111 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850  
Phone: 240-314-8106  
E-mail: [latkins@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:latkins@rockvillemd.gov)  
[www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov)

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**From:** S Marcus <sethmarcus@yahoo.com>

**To:** "mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov" <mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>

**Date:** 01/29/2014 10:21 PM

**Subject:** Skyrockering water and sewer rates

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Dear Mayor Newton and City Council members,

I love living in Rockville, but have been struggling with skyrocketing utility rates. The rates increased 18% this July, compared to July 2012. This translates to an increase of approximately \$400 per year per family. We are a 1-income household with 2 kids. I am a Federal employee who has suffered through long pay freezes, sequestration, and a shutdown. I also am trying to keep up with increased county property taxes, increased METRO fares, increased PEPCO rates, increasing auto insurance rates, increasing Federal payroll taxes, and high gasoline prices. Frankly, I am having difficulty finding an extra \$400 in my family budget to pay for WATER. We have low-flow shower heads and toilets. We have a front-load washer and an energy-star dishwasher. Our family's use of water has actually decreased over the last few years, yet our bill has gone through the roof. Why is this happening, and what options does the City have for controlling the runaway utility rates?

Thank you.

Seth Marcus  
sethmarcus@yahoo.com

"Everything seems impossible until it is done."  
- Nelson Mandela

Mayor Newton, Members of the City Counsel, and fellow Rockvillians:

My name is Kevin Kane and I stand before you today as the owner of two small businesses in the City of Rockville – a law firm and a Laundromat (but not together) – and as an owner of the Twinbrook Shopping Center on Viers Mill Road. ~~I only mention these three items because they evince that I have proverbial skin-in-the-game and am not speaking off the cuff regarding matters that do not directly affect me and my fellow citizens of Rockville.~~ Through my businesses and real property interests, I contribute a <sup>MY FAIR SHARE</sup> healthy sum to the annual tax revenues collected by the City of Rockville. And as such, I wanted to bring to your attention a thrice passed over budget item that I believe deserves your attention for this fiscal year. That budget item concerns the salaries of the men and women of the Rockville City Police who protect and serve us citizens with diligence and bravery.

For the past three years, the City Police force has been denied their <sup>3.5%</sup> step salary increases in favor of much smaller Cost Of Living Adjustments. The fact that the police officers were given some positive salary adjustment is not unremarkable; however, the “cost” to the men and women of the police force in actual retirement dollars IS remarkable. For example, a salaried member of the force making \$40,000/yr that earns a 1.75% COLA in 2012 versus the 3.5% step increase will have

\$15k less dollars for retirement 15 years later (assuming a compounding interest rate of a modest 5%). And that gap only widens and worsens the longer the police force is denied their step increases.

As a small business owner, I am keenly aware of the need to control costs. I am also cognizant of the need to retain employees that excel at their jobs, because when you find people that are good at what they do, you get a bargain in additional productivity, positive influence on peers, and people that are, generally speaking, assets to your enterprise. You do whatever is necessary and within reason to keep such people.

One such person that I have been fortunate enough to work with is Corporal Javier Baquero. Corporal Baquero reached out to me several years ago to ask for my cooperation with a City Police endeavor to eradicate petty crime in the Twinbrook corridor. Corporal Baquero, his peers and their charges focused their efforts on eliminating loitering on City streets and private shopping centers, like Twinbrook Shopping Center. The result was a drop in petty crime, nuisance pan handling, public drunkenness, and other unsightly behaviors and misdemeanor crimes that lead to more serious criminal activity. Corporal Baquero's enthusiasm for this common sense approach to policing the public, focusing on the small issues before the fester into larger ones, was contagious and my partners and I were very pleased to help. Over the past five years or so, I have signed numerous trespass notices at the

request of Corporal Baquero to assist him and his peers in their continuing efforts of community policing. I and many others have been to court with the City Police officers to give teeth to their efforts to control small criminal behaviors...and it is working.

A skeptic would argue that the anecdotal evidence that I just offered was simply police officers doing what they are paid to do. And to some degree they would be correct. But there is a significant difference between an employee that punches a time card and stares at a clock versus one that starts each work day with enthusiasm, a plan of action, who then implements that plan consistently, and that plan then benefits the community as a whole. That type of work ethic warrants our attention. That type of employee deserves recognition. And that police officer and officers are entitled to compensation commensurate with their skills and passion. They are entitled to their step increases.

I would respectfully request that, this year, your Honor and the members of the City Counsel give due consideration to the salaries of the men and women of the City of Rockville Police force and to adjust their compensation with specific regard to the step increases that they have been denied the last three years. It's good business to keep and to keep happy those that keep all of us safe and happy.

Thank you for your time and for listening.

*AAME*

Association of Administrative Municipal Employees  
City of Rockville, Maryland

Testimony for Proposed FY2015 Budget Public Hearing: March 31, 2014

Good evening. My name is Ann Wallas and I'm here in my role as President of the Association of Administrative Municipal Employees or AAME. Membership in AAME is voluntary and is open to staff who are not covered by AFSME or the FOP. AAME requests that you fund the High Performance Organization Pay System.

The Civil Service Merit System is established by Article VIII of the City Charter and Chapter 15 of the City Code, with more particular details outlined in the City's Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual.

We have communicated our requests for reinstating in-grade increment pay increases via a memo to City management on January 16, with a follow up on March 7, as well as held a meeting with the City Manager and the Director of Human Resources on December 20 last year. To date, we have not received a response, or justification as to why funding the Civil Service Merit System is not recommended, nor presented to the Council for discussion.

The agenda item on March 17 mentioned a "fiscally responsible compensation structure". This statement is disconcerting and AAME does not understand why the City's approved merit system included in the City Code and detailed in the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual is not fiscally responsible. The idea that management views the merit system as fiscally irresponsible is disappointing to staff, especially since, as part of the FY2015 budget preview, management reported that the City now has a positive economic outlook.

The current system, known as the High Performance Organization Pay System (aka Pay-for-Performance) has been in effect since 2005, and replaced a more generous automatic step system. Employees who began working with Rockville after 2010 have not received in-grade increment pay increases. These employees, as well as all other employees who received merit increases before 2010, when they were funded, should be compensated in accordance with the Pay-for-Performance criteria.

At the 2013 Employee Recognition Awards Ceremony Mayor Newton told the employees, "What you do is important; it matters a great deal. The commitment and dedication of employees is the driving force behind any organization. And Rockville remains one of the best City's in the nation because of you; because you go the extra mile and provide world class service every single day."

We appreciate Mayor Newton's recognition of the employees.

AAME requests that the Mayor and Council recognize employees' commitment and dedication by compensating us in accordance with the City's official Merit System and the Pay-for-Performance standards.

We are joining with our colleagues to request the Council fund the merit system.

Thank you.

CHARTER:

**Section 4. Merit System.**

The Council may provide by ordinance for appointments and promotions in the classified civil service on the basis of merit and fitness. To carry out this purpose, the Council shall have the power to adopt such rules and regulations governing the operation of a merit system as it deems desirable or necessary. Among other things, these rules and regulations may provide for competitive examinations, the use of eligible lists, a classification plan, a compensation plan, a probation period, appeals by employees included within the classified service from dismissal or other disciplinary action, and vacation and sick leave regulations. The City may request and avail itself of the facilities of the State for the administration of its merit system, as provided in State law.

**Section 5. Civil Service.**

*a. Civil Service Divided Into Nonmerit and Merit Services.* The Civil Service of the City shall be divided into nonmerit and merit, which shall also be known as the classified civil service.

*b. Nonmerit Service.* The nonmerit service shall be established by ordinance of the Mayor and Council and may include the following offices and positions:

1. Heads of all departments;
2. The Administrative Assistant to the City Manager;
3. Assistant City Manager;
4. Any new position authorized and approved by the Mayor and Council; [and]
5. Part-time, temporary and unpaid offices and positions.

*c. The Merit Service.* The merit service shall comprise all positions except those placed in the nonmerit service by resolution of the Mayor and Council or those appointed positions which are established by the Charter of the City of Rockville. All offices and positions included in the merit service shall be subject to any merit system rules and regulations which may be adopted.

CODE:

**Sec. 15-1. Application and effect.**

There is hereby established a City Civil Service, consisting of both a merit and nonmerit system, for the City. All offices, employments and positions now existing and hereafter created within the City service (except those filled by election of the people, the positions of City Manager, City Clerk, City Attorney and such other appointments as may be required by statute) are hereby placed under Civil Service and shall be subject to such rules and procedures as may be included within, or established pursuant to, this chapter or as provided by resolution of the Council. Where such rules and procedures conflict with provisions of a written agreement between the City and any employee or employee

organization, the provisions of the written agreement shall apply and take precedence over City rules and procedures, but only to the extent of any conflict.

### **Sec. 15-32. Anniversary dates for increment purposes.**

For the purpose of granting increments, anniversary dates shall be as established by the City Manager or by contractual agreement.

#### **Chapter 15-33:**

An in-grade salary increase may be granted new merit system appointees after completion of the employee's probationary service if the Director of Personnel determines that the quality of performance is satisfactory. In the event an in-grade salary increase is granted after the probationary service period, the employee will not be eligible for regular in-grade increment for one (1) full year from the date thereof.

#### **Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual**

##### **40-10:**

The Human Resources Director is responsible for making sure all evaluation forms are completed and returned and that employees receive the appropriate increases based on the High Performance Organization Pay System.

~~**Regular Non-probationary Employees Represented and Non-represented:** Regular non-probationary employees, both represented and non-represented, are to receive a performance evaluation rating semiannually in the sixth and prior to the end of the twelfth month, or as close thereto as practicable, following the completion of the employee's probationary period. The twelfth month evaluation will represent an evaluation of the employee's performance for the entire year. The twelfth month or final evaluation will be an evaluation of the entire twelve~~

**Regular Non-probationary Employees Represented and Non-represented:** Regular non-probationary employees, both represented and non-represented, are to receive a performance evaluation rating semiannually in the sixth and prior to the end of the twelfth month, or as close thereto as practicable, following the completion of the employee's probationary period. The twelfth month evaluation will represent an evaluation of the employee's performance for the entire year. The twelfth month or final evaluation will be an evaluation of the entire twelve months and will provide the basis for determining the salary increment, if any, an eligible employee is granted.

##### **60-00**

Eligible represented and non-represented salary-graded employees may receive salary increments annually until the top of their salary grade is reached. Employees who are receiving longevity increases may be treated differently. Eligible employees receive their first salary increment after successfully completing their probationary period. They may then receive a salary increment on an annual basis from this date if performance warrants. Non-represented employees will receive pay increases in accordance with the High Performance Organization Pay System. Payment of salary increments is dependent upon employee performance and the availability of funding.

##### **60-20**

Salary increments are salary increases based upon criteria established in the Performance Planning and Evaluation System and within the grade established for each class. Increments will be granted to eligible employees provided the City's fiscal position allows. Salary increments will be effective on the first day of the pay period in which their anniversary date falls, assuming approval. (PPP# 60-00.)

### High Performance Organization Pay System

Percentage Increase	Employee Performance Minimum Standards	Top of Pay Band
3.5% plus 2.5% lump sum or equal % of Annual Leave	All successful or better ratings with a Minimum of 11 Highly Successful Ratings	2.5% of base salary - Lump Sum or equal % of Annual Leave
3.5% plus 1.25% lump sum or equal % of Annual Leave	All successful or better ratings with a Minimum of 8 Highly Successful Ratings	1.25% of base salary - Lump Sum or equal % of Annual Leave
3.5%	All acceptable or better ratings with a Minimum of 10 Successful/Highly Successful Ratings	N/A
2.25%	All acceptable or better ratings	N/A
1%	1 Unsatisfactory Rating	N/A
0%	2 or more Unsatisfactory Ratings	N/A

*AAME*  
**Association of Administrative Municipal Employees  
City of Rockville, Maryland**

DATE: March 7, 2014  
FROM: Association of Administrative Municipal Employees (AAME)  
TO: Barbara B Matthews, City Manager  
THOUGH: Colette Anthony and Karen Marshall, Human Resources Department  
SUBJECT: Follow up to AAME FY2015 Budget Proposals

This memo is in reference to AAME's January 16th memo regarding the FY2015 Budget Proposal for staff compensation. Our request was for continued support of a 2% COLA and reinstatement of the City's Merit/Pay for Performance system. Although the 2% COLA is being proposed, we have not seen any correspondence relating to the merit system reinstatement, nor have we received any response to our request. Additionally, AAME has been following the budget discussions at the Mayor and Council meetings. We are disappointed that these budget briefings have not identified a basis or justification as to why the merit system is not included in the proposed FY2015 budget.

We share similar concerns to those expressed by the Fraternal Order of Police about the lack of response relating to budget requests. We look forward to your report on the merit system issue and to a response to this memo.

***AAME***  
**Association of Administrative Municipal Employees**  
**City of Rockville, Maryland**

DATE: January 16, 2014  
 FROM: Association of Administrative Municipal Employees (AAME)  
 TO: Barbara B Matthews, City Manager  
 THOUGH: Colette Anthony and Karen Marshall, Human Resources Department  
 SUBJECT: AAME FY2015 Budget Proposals

AAME has the following proposals for inclusion in the FY2015 Budget:

- Provide funding to reinstate salary increases based on the "High Performance Pay System".
- Fund the proposed 2% COLA

Background Information:

Provide funding to reinstate salary increases based on the "High Performance Pay System"

The City's Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual (PPPM), Section PPP#60-00 lays out the policy on salary increments, which, once the employee has completed their probationary period, may be received annually until the top of their salary grade is reached. Non-represented employees are to receive pay increases in accordance with the High Performance Organization Pay (HPO) System. The chart below, taken from I-Rock, outlines the HPO pay system which is in line with the performance metrics included in the City's personnel evaluation system.

High Performance Organization Pay System		
Percentage Increase	Employee Performance Minimum Standards	Top of Pay Band
3.5% plus 2.5% lump sum or equal % of Annual Leave	All successful or better ratings with a Minimum of 11 Highly Successful Ratings	2.5% of base salary – Lump Sum or equal % of Annual Leave
3.5% plus 1.25% lump sum or equal % of Annual Leave	All successful or better ratings with a Minimum of 8 Highly Successful Ratings	1.25% of base salary – Lump Sum or equal % of Annual Leave
3.5%	All acceptable or better ratings with a Minimum of 10 Successful/Highly Successful Ratings	N/A
2.25%	All acceptable or better ratings	N/A
1%	1 Unsatisfactory Rating	N/A
0%	2 or more Unsatisfactory Ratings	N/A

The PPP#60-00 further states that payment of salary increments is dependent upon employee performance and the availability of funding.

Near the beginning of the recent economic downturn the Mayor and Council took the decision to freeze merit increases: as stated in the Finance Department's October 15, 2012 Mayor and Council Agenda Item for City Employee Compensation, "The City has frozen merit increases since FY 2010 due to budgetary constraints." Staff understood that there was a severe economic downturn and were prepared to do their part to help the City. However, as the economy has improved, and as the City's revenue position has improved with it, funding for the merit system has not been reinstated. Staff feels misled, and that their goodwill has been taken for granted. This is particularly acute for staff who were hired during the first year or two of the economic downturn: their letters of employment indicated that, after they had completed their probationary period, they would be eligible for merit increases; they were told that the system was not currently funded but that it would be in the future. This has not happened, and there are a number of staff members who have never received a merit increase, through no fault of their own. Morale has suffered.

During the downturn regular full time positions were also reduced – the regular FTE count for all funds decreased by 1.5% from 535.0 positions in FY2008 to 526.8 positions in FY2013. However, during this time the City population has continued to grow. The decennial census in 2010 noted the City's population as 61,285; the US Census 2012 estimate was 63,244 – an increase of 3.2% in just two years. This indicates that City staff productivity levels have increased: staff has endeavored to provide a high level of service, in accordance with the "Rockville Way", to a greater number of citizens, with fewer staff.

For FY 2015 a one-time pay award for eligible staff has been recommended, indicating that sufficient funds are available to reinstate the merit system.

Fund the proposed 2% COLA

COLAs are necessary to mitigate rising costs of living and giving them, in addition to merit increases, is common practice at all levels of government in the Washington DC region. As is well understood, Montgomery County and the surrounding areas have one of the highest costs of living in the country. The costs for housing and transportation are especially high and these affect every staff member in one way or another.

We look forward to a productive dialogue and a positive response to our requests.

Thank you.

# ROCKVILLE HOUSING ENTERPRISE

Exhibit No. 4  
FY15 Budget Public

621-A Southlawn Lane  
(301) 424-6265

Fax (301) 217-5857

Rockville, Maryland 20850  
TDD (301) 424-1078

January 31, 2014

Mayor and Council  
City of Rockville  
111 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, Maryland 20850-2364

~~1~~ Council  
~~1~~ City Clerk  
 City Manager

~~1~~ City Attorney  
~~1~~ Council Support Specialist  
~~1~~ Other *Susan Swift*  
*Grain Cohen*  
*Erin Wilson*

2014 FEB -4 PM 4:41

CITY CLERK

Re: Fireside Park Apartments PILOT Forgiveness request

Dear Mayor and Council:

This correspondence transmits the PILOT payment waiver request for FY2015 for Fireside Park Apartments. This request is made pursuant to the "Agreement for Payment in Lieu of Taxes Between the City of Rockville and RHE Fireside Park, Inc."

Fireside Park Apartments is eligible for a waiver of up to 40 percent of the PILOT payment based on the percentage of affordable units leased. As of December 2013, Fireside Park leased 67 of the available 94 affordable units to families at or below 60 percent of the Area Median Income for an affordable unit leasing percentage of 71.27. The Affordable Units Leased Certification, as provided by the Fireside property manager is enclosed. As such, the allowable percentage of the PILOT waiver should be based on 71.27 percent of the available 40 percent.

The expenditures that will be made with the amount of money forgiven will include costs related to the ongoing maintenance and operations of the Fireside Park Apartments such as: replacement of aging appliances, HVAC and other interior unit improvements.

The table below outlines the PILOT payment calculation.

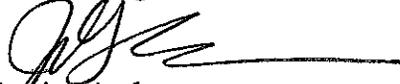
	Total Estimated Rockville Property Tax Bill (estimate based on current tax bill)	% of Total LMI Units Leased	Total % PILOT Forgiveness Eligibility	Total Estimated PILOT Forgiveness	Total Estimated Amount PILOT due City of Rockville
FY15 (estimated)	\$63,373.34	71.27%	28.39%	\$17,991.58	\$45,381.76



Rockville Housing Enterprises is grateful for the PILOT forgiveness granted by the City of Rockville to Fireside Park Apartments. This collaborative effort allows for the continued ability of the City of Rockville to provide affordable housing options to the citizens of the City Rockville.

If you have any questions regarding this payment, please contact me at (301) 424-6265 ext 101.

Kindest Regards,



Jessica Anderson  
Executive Director  
Rockville Housing Enterprises

Cc: Mr. Gavin Cohen  
Chief Financial Officer  
City of Rockville

Ms. Erin Wilson  
Housing Planner  
Department of Community Planning  
and Development Services

## FIRESIDE PARK APARTMENTS MONTHLY COMPLIANCE REPORT

As the authorized representative of the Fireside Park Apartments, hereby certifies that for the month recorded, (i) the following number of units in the Development were occupied by Lower Income Tenants and (ii) the following number and percentages of dwelling units in the Development were either occupied Very Low Income Tenants or were held vacant and available to such occupancy for all or part of such period:

MONTH: December YEAR: 2013

	Affordable @ 50% AMI (10)	Affordable @ 60% AMI (84)	Affordable @ 80% AMI (24)	Market (118)	Total (235) *
Last Month	27	41	5	142	215
# Move-Ins	0	2	1	2 (transferred)	5
# Move-Outs	2	1	0	4	7
Total Units Occupied	25	42	6	140	213
# Units Vacant	*	*	*	*	26
<b>% of Total Units Occupied</b>					<b>87.29%</b>
Renewals	0	0	0	6	6

- ***One unit currently used as leasing office (Total Units – 236)***

***\* Vacant units are not designated by percentage.***

RECEIVED  
 CITY CLERK'S OFFICE  
 2014 FEB -4 PM 4:41



*Received 3/3/14*

Mayor Newton and Members of the Rockville City Council  
111 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Mayor Newton and Members of the City Council:

The Rockville Chamber of Commerce requests \$20,000 in FY15 to continue the Rockville Rewards program. We are proud of what we have accomplished thus far and feel strongly that the program should continue. We have made improvements to the program this year and have reinstated weekly hot deals. We have heard from many nonprofits about how this program is helping them to raise money to accomplish their missions. We have also heard anecdotally from many businesses that the program is driving business to them. Twenty-seven nonprofit organizations and schools are participating in the program and during the first three months of this year, they have raised more than \$20,000.

In addition to the number of nonprofit organizations that are participating, 101 businesses are currently enrolled in the program.

Thank you for considering this request. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have. I can be reached at [Rockville@rockvillechamber.org](mailto:Rockville@rockvillechamber.org) or on my cell phone at 301-807-3766.

Sincerely,

Andrea Jolly  
President and CEO



budget  
Gabe Jefferson  
to:  
mayorcouncil  
04/02/2014 10:35 AM  
Hide Details  
From: "Gabe Jefferson" <gjefferson@headinjuryrehab.org>

To: <mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>

History: This message has been replied to.

Dear Council,

Please provide a detailed explanation and justification for raising rates on sewer, water, refuse, storm water mgmt. when you are reporting the taxable assessed value for FY15 equals \$11.7 BILLION. Also please give the dollar amount the city of Rockville must pay to the Blue Plain water treatment and how that is determined.  
Thanks.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Jefferson

Routed To:  
 Council  
 City Clerk  
 City Manager

City Attorney  
 Council Support Specialist  
 Other Garin, Mary Sue, Stacey

March 29, 2014

Ladies & Gentlemen:

My husband & I are part of the settlement group - we have lived here 50 plus years and both are fast approaching our 80's.

We've read lately <sup>that</sup> our age group is one of the biggest growing groups in the U.S. and have been told to age in place as long as possible. We want to do that as long as we can afford to live here.

We both live on Social Sec. & small pensions & wonder continually if we're still going to be able to stay here through ~~the~~ each new increase. We hope you'll keep all of this in mind while you're figuring the budget for the new year.

We love Rockville. It's so nice and if at all possible we would like to live here the rest of our lives. Please help us do that.

Sincerely, Elizabeth Tuel

Tel. (301) 262-5981



Elizabeth Tuel  
307 Carr Ave  
Rockville, MD 20850-1805

RECEIVED  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE  
APR - 3 2014

David Thomas Public Hearing Statement April 7 2014  
**Statement of David Thomas, 818 Brice Rd, Rockville MD 20852**  
**ON: City of Rockville FY2015 Proposed Operating Budget, Water, Sewer and Refuse fees and infrastructure expenses**

Beginning in 2009, my solid waste charges and my storm water fees on the property tax bill have gone up every year. The storm water fee has more than doubled in that time. By the way, Montgomery County, which also appears on my property tax bill, has exceeded the constant yield rate in 7 out of the past 10 years, and 3 out of the last 5.

Examination of Sections 3 and 13 of your Budgets over the past several years indicates that your infrastructure expenses suffer from three hemorrhages: consultants, contractors, and Blue Plains. You do not need another consultant's report to tell you that. Your performance measures do not enable complete evaluation of the outcomes, to tell whether the projects completed came in at the A, B or C levels of performance. Some, e.g. Horizon Hill, did not make the A grade. Horizon Hill was first funded in FY 2012, and the bugs were not worked out until citizen protest forced them to be dealt with, in FY 2014. You need to undertake a thorough evaluation of what you have gotten for your infrastructure money, not just workload indicators but actual evaluation of outcomes. If you have undertaken specific evaluation of project outcomes, in objective terms, those need to be referenced in your performance measures.

Rate comparison for water and sewer can be done via the Web fairly quickly. Preliminary comparisons with WSSC are included, ~~as well as for other utilities and services~~, in Appendix B. Right now, in March 2014, you are about 11 percent more than WSSC given a roughly standard household with 5000 gallons per month usage. This means that, given your proposed increases, you will be on the order of 12 or more percent more expensive than WSSC, even if they raise their rates by 6 percent as is proposed.

You should simply flat line your rates for the upcoming year. That way you might allow WSSC to catch up with you. Over the long term, you may have no other choice but to sell out to WSSC and deal with the consolidation.

**Appendix A: City of Rockville Adopted Operating Budgets, FY 2009 -2014, and FY Operating Actuals, FY 2009-2013 (In current dollars)**

Adopted:

FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
102,727,640	101,833,935	104,933,936	107,209,430	107,120,582	113,938,480

Actuals:

FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
94,560,090	97,281,908	94,193,193	109,786,949	109,104,570	

**Appendix B: Water and Sewer Rates and Cost Comparison with WSSC, and attached local rate charts from other jurisdictions.**

Water and sewer usage: 5000 gallons per month, 15,000 gallons per quarter.

Rockville Monthly charges:

Ready charge = 3.24

Sewer  $93.75/3 = 31.25$

Water  $82.41/3 = 27.47$

Total 61.96 per month

WSSC usage monthly: 5000 gallons per month/30 days = 166.7 gallons per day

Rate per 1000 gallons for water and sewer combined = 10.42 per 1000 gallons

$5000/1000 = 5$

$5 \times 10.42 = 52.10$

Acct fee  $11.00/3 = 3.67$

Total 55.77 per month

61.96 Rockville versus 55.77 WSSC  $61.96/55.77 = 1.11$  or **11 percent more for Rockville than for WSSC**

### WSSC Water and Sewer Rate Schedule - Effective July 1, 2013

Average Daily Consumption by Customer Unit During Billing Period (Gallons Per Day)	July 1, 2013 Water Rate Per 1,000 Gallons	July 1, 2013 Sewer Rate Per 1,000 Gallons	July 1, 2013 Combined Rate Per 1,000 Gallons
0 - 49	\$2.95	\$4.06	\$7.01
50 - 99	3.29	4.74	8.03
100 - 149	3.61	5.53	9.14
150 - 199	4.05	6.37	10.42
200 - 249	4.73	6.96	11.69
250 - 299	5.13	7.53	12.66
300 - 349	5.42	8.04	13.46
350 - 399	5.66	8.42	14.08
400 - 449	5.88	8.61	14.49
450 - 499	6.03	8.89	14.92
500 - 749	6.14	9.07	15.21
750 - 999	6.29	9.27	15.56
1,000 - 3,999	6.41	9.67	16.08
4,000 - 6,999	6.56	9.89	16.45
7,000 - 8,999	6.64	10.03	16.67
9,000 - Greater	6.76	10.29	17.05

April 21, 2014

Good Evening Mayor Newton and Members of the Rockville City Council.

My name is Agnes Saenz, Executive Director of Community Ministries of Rockville (CMR); but this evening I am speaking as the Coordinator of the Rockville Caregiver's Coalition. We have a good number of people from the Caregiver's tonight that I ask you to stand or waive and be recognized.

I want to start by thanking the Mayor and Council and the City of Rockville for its support to Human Services throughout the years. Rockville cares for the most vulnerable and we appreciate and need your ongoing support.

The Rockville Caregiver's Coalition was formed over 30+ years ago by CMR in partnership with the City of Rockville Community Services Division with the purpose of bringing all the groups providing Human Services in Rockville together. We have continued to meet throughout the years and today we have a group of over 25+ programs providing housing, healthcare, cultural diversity, emergency assistance, food, clothing and youth and family services.

The proposed budget for Caregivers in FY15 is \$580,000. This amount is \$26,000 less than the adopted FY14 budget of \$606,000; and is also \$15,240 less than the adopted FY13 budget of \$595,240.

On behalf of the Caregiver's Coalition, we truly believe this is a step backwards to providing help and assistance to the most vulnerable to the community.

\$580,000 represents a 0.8% (not even a 1%) of the City's total operating budget of \$69,000,000.

Although I appreciate the city stepping up during hard economic times and for its on-going support to Human Services; the fact that economy is doing better is not a reason to cut funding.

Overall requests from Caregiver's groups in this year's budget totaled \$717,076; \$137,076 more than the \$580,000 currently being recommended.

My requests to you this evening are two:

- 1) At a minimum, please restore the \$26,000 in the Caregiver's budget to make it at least the level funding of FY14 in the amount of \$606,000.
- 2) Help us to make the Caregiver's budget 1% of the city's operating budget or \$690,000. Support additional increases to Caregiver's program to reach as close as the 1% goal.

After me you will hear from several speakers (board members, staff members, program participants) that belong to programs of the Caregiver's Coalition who are sharing their testimony tonight.

Thanks so much for the opportunity to speak before you this evening.

Good evening, Mayor Newton and council members of City of Rockville. My name is Ji-Young Cho, executive director of Korean Community Service Center. I am here today because the community is in need of your support to recognize the need in securing the fund to maintain our social services in the City of Rockville. Recently, we learned that the funding we have been receiving from the city since 2005 has been cut. I am here to ask that you would reconsider that decision because what we do is important to those restricted by limited English skills and cultural barriers who wish to become self-sufficient within our community. Immigrants go through frustration and anxiety on a daily basis because of these language and cultural barriers and having someone to go to for help makes a huge difference for them.

During this fiscal year, we have started providing new programs and services as well as the partnership with the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange programs to not only Korean but also Chinese American residents of the City of Rockville. We are the only Asian American agency in this region approved as the partnering agency for MHBE services. Since October 2013, the number of resident visiting our office has increased by 147% from last year.

Let me share a story of one of our clients, Mr. C. Last year, C suffered from a sudden brain damage at his work. At the time of the incident, he was uninsured and was left with a very high amount of hospital bills that he couldn't pay. KCSC spent long hours with him to reduce the medical bills through social benefits including Medicaid, financial aids from the hospital, and others. Mr. C was approved by Medicaid and other benefits, which enabled him to receive \$ 300,000 of retroactive coverage for the past three months of his medical bills. He didn't know about any available assistances and benefits until he stopped by KCSC one day and was very glad that KCSC was able to help him out.

Mr. C may not be from the City of Rockville but the services we provided would be the same to the residents of the City of Rockville. Your support makes this possible. And we need continuing support from the city council to make a better and healthier community. We understand that it is not an easy job to plan the budget. Again, I would like to urge you to reconsider maintaining our social service fund in your budget plan so that we can continue serving our community with the same level of care. We sincerely appreciate all of your hard work and the commitment that you make to the community. Thank you very much.

Good Evening Mayor Newton and City Council Members

My name is Cecilia Rojas. I am the Program Director of the Language Outreach Program of Community Ministries of Rockville, which you all have known as the Latino Outreach Program.

LOP celebrated an important Anniversary this past year. It was begun twenty years ago by CMR's Executive Director Agnes Saenz to address concerns within the Latino Community. While our program continues to serve immigrants within our community, the community has become more and more diverse and our name change was intended to reflect that diversity.

During these past twenty years, with the City's support, LOP has provided English as a Second Language, Literacy and Citizenship Classes to over 6,500 Adult Immigrants. They turn to us because they "want a better life for their children". But to achieve that, they need to be able to communicate. LOP classes serve a basic need in a diverse community such as ours.

We have also served those children as well; providing infant care and child tutoring to the school age children of our Adult Students. Over 3,500 children have received care, tutoring and mentoring by our staff and volunteers. Those first children are now adults. Due to the impact our program has had in the lives of their parents and families they are giving back to the community by helping the very program that helped improve their lives.

During this fiscal year 14, the Language Outreach Program, has enrolled 435 individuals of whom 184 or 42% are Rockville residents. Classes are provided at five different locations, all are located in Rockville, giving residents easy access.

We take pride in the quality of the services we provide, working hard to incorporate best teaching practices and standards in all we do. Proof of that quality is that we have 70% students' retention rate. Students finish one session and move to the next level. We offer 14 different English classes at five different levels from literacy in English to Advanced. If a student reaches the highest level of class, they are eligible for non-credit college courses. For an immigrant, learning English is a long journey. It takes seven years, for a non-English speaker to master the English language. Seven years. So you all can see that our program's retention rate is critical for the greatest success of our students. Each class, each level of instruction, incorporates life skills that are key to quality of life. From reading a grocery label or prescription to getting a library card or completing a job application. Our newest effort is to incorporate computer literacy and technology into our programs.

\$84,180 was requested for LOP's funding. \$70,000 was recommended. This reflects a \$5,000 cut from last year's funding. I ask that you reconsider and increase the funds recommended in light of the quality of services provided to Rockville residents and the positive impact we have in the community.

I would like to invite you all to join us at Living Faith Lutheran Church on June 12<sup>th</sup> for our Program's Graduation Service. You will be able to see proud students receiving their certificates of achievement.

April 21, 2014

Dear Mayor Newton and Councilmembers,

My name is Mehrdad Eskandary. My friends and neighbors know me by Michael. I live at 715 W. Montgomery Ave, Rockville, MD 20850.

I have a totally disabled 5 ½ year old child requiring 24/7 nursing.

I live very close to the exit of 270 from W. Montgomery Ave. There are tremendous amount of traffic on both directions on W. Montgomery Ave.

As a result of significant amount of development and construction around the Court House district, it is almost impossible to get in and out of my driveway. My son's nurses come and go at different times of the day and night. They have expressed their deep concerns about not being able to safely enter and exit my driveway.

I have obtained necessary signatures from the neighbors around my property and written to the city of Rockville, Department of Public Works to clear the trees and vegetation from the alley behind rear my property and pave it for rear access to our properties. The alley is currently used by my neighbors up to my property, but it is unpassable from the boundary of my property on.

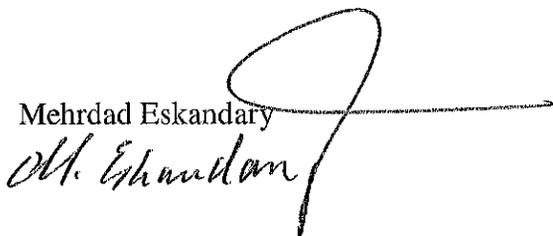
The Rockville City Public Works Office did send a team to review options on the extension of the alley and wrote to the residents in the neighborhood. I even offered an easement if the city decided to put a barricade beyond my property for the cars to turn around at my future driveway access to the property.

I received an e-mail from the Public Works office (copy attached) that the required funding for the required work has not been included in the 2015 budget.

I am before you to ask because of the urgency of the need for safety of the all involved in this situation, to please allow the funding to be included in the FY15 budget.

Sincerely,

Mehrdad Eskandary



*M. Eskandary*

Attachments: Supporting City e-mail correspondences

## **Eskandary, Mike - RD, Washington, DC**

---

**From:** mikeeshome@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Monday, April 21, 2014 11:12 AM  
**To:** Eskandary, Mike - RD, Washington, DC  
**Subject:** Fwd: Alley Pavement

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [EEIshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:EEIshafei@rockvillemd.gov)  
**Date:** February 12, 2014 at 3:36:52 PM EST  
**To:** [mikeeshome@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeeshome@yahoo.com)  
**Cc:** [GLyons@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:GLyons@rockvillemd.gov)  
**Subject: Re: Alley Pavement**

Dear Mr. Eskandary,

I am following up with you on your request to pave the alley behind your property at 715 W. Montgomery Avenue. As you know, City staff sent notices to the alley residents to gather feedback about the project. Since we did not receive objections, staff proposed the project to the City Manager. However, due to financial limitations, the project was not approved to be included in the FY15 proposed budget. Staff will follow up with a notice to the residents to provide them with this update.

The proposed budget will be available for the public around March 17, 2014 and the Mayor and Council will have 3 sessions available for public hearing on 3/31, 4/7, and 4/21/2014 at City Hall (address below). If you wish to provide input and request the Mayor and Council to consider funding this project, please feel free to attend one of these three sessions and voice your request and concerns to the Mayor and Council.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me or Greg Lyons from my staff, who is copied on this e-mail.

Regards,

---

Emad Elshafei, Ph.D., P.E., PTOE  
Chief of Traffic and Transportation  
Department of Public Works - City of Rockville  
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850  
e-mail: [eelshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:eelshafei@rockvillemd.gov)  
Tel: (240) 314-8508 (desk); (240) 314-8500 (main)  
Fax: (240) 314-8539  
[www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) (website)

☞ Emad Elshafei---11/05/2013 04:13:34 PM---Thank you for the quick response. By additional land, I just meant the need for an easement so we ca

From: Emad Elshafei/RKV  
To: [mikeeshome@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeeshome@yahoo.com)  
Cc: Gregory Lyons/RKV@RKV  
Date: 11/05/2013 04:13 PM  
Subject: Re: Alley Pavement

---

Thank you for the quick response.

By additional land, I just meant the need for an easement so we can install additional pavement to allow vehicles to turn back to Mannakee. More details will prevail when we reach the design phase.

We will proceed by sending notices to residents requesting their input on this project. You and all your neighbors along this alley will receive a letter in the mail requesting feedback during this month of November.

Thanks again and I will keep you posted with the progress and the feedback we receive from the residents.

Regards,

---

Emad Elshafei, Ph.D., P.E., PTOE  
Chief - Traffic and Transportation Division  
Department of Public Works - City of Rockville  
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850  
e-mail: [eelshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:eelshafei@rockvillemd.gov)  
Tel: (240) 314-8508 (desk); (240) 314-8500 (main)  
Fax: (240) 314-8539  
[www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) (website)

☐ mikeeshome---11/05/2013 03:48:47 PM---Dear Mr. Elshafei, Good to hearing from you about the subject project. I am very much interested and

From: [mikeeshome@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeeshome@yahoo.com)  
To: "[EElshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:EElshafei@rockvillemd.gov)" <[EElshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:EElshafei@rockvillemd.gov)>  
Date: 11/05/2013 03:48 PM  
Subject: Re: Alley Pavement

---

Dear Mr. Elshafei,

Good to hearing from you about the subject project. I am very much interested and excited to do all I possibly can to see this project completed. In the event that the pavement stops at my property, I am willing to provide an easement for the vehicles to turn back. I believe my neighbor at 713 W. Montgomery might be interested for the alley to be extended to his property. Please also include him on your list for gathering feedback from my neighbors.

I have one question:

1- Please Elaborate on what do you mean by " additional land might be needed as well ." Does that mean I more land from my property in addition to easement?

Sincerely,

Mr. Eskandary  
715 W. Montgomery Ave.

Rockville, MD 20850  
Phone# 202-258-9657

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 5, 2013, at 2:49 PM, [EEIshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:EEIshafei@rockvillemd.gov) wrote:

Dear Mr. Eskandary,

I am following up with you on your request to pave the alley behind your property at 715 W. Montgomery Avenue. As I mentioned back in April, the CIP process starts in November and we are looking into this project to see if it will be feasible to include funding for its design phase in the proposed CIP budget for fiscal year 2015 (FY15).

We are still looking for answers to some questions related to the extent of pavement to be performed; will it stop at or beyond the 714/715 properties? Is there interest from your neighbors to build driveways connecting the alley to their properties to allow them to park? and finally, are there any concerns or objections to this project?

City staff is willing to contact the residents to get some feedback. However, before we do so, I would like to know if you are still interested in this request. The City also wants to know if the pavement stops at your property, will you be willing to provide an easement to allow vehicles to turn back? As you might know, the City code does not allow for streets to end abruptly, and therefore, there will be a requirement to accommodate drivers to turn back in the alley to return to Mannakee Street. If you will install a driveway, a portion of this driveway will be used to allow the turning maneuver, but additional land might be needed as well.

If you are still interested in this project, and you are willing to provide such easement, the next step for us will be to gather feedback from the residents about the project to assess the possibility of proposing the project in the FY15 budget. It will be up to the Mayor and Council to fund this project during their review in March and April 2014.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Greg Lyons from my staff, who is copied on this e-mail.

Regards,

---

Emad Elshafei, Ph.D., P.E., PTOE  
Chief - Traffic and Transportation Division  
Department of Public Works - City of Rockville  
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850  
e-mail: [eeIshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:eeIshafei@rockvillemd.gov)  
Tel: (240) 314-8508 (desk); (240) 314-8500 (main)  
Fax: (240) 314-8539  
[www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) (website)

<graycol.gif>Emad Elshafei---04/23/2013 12:11:30 PM---Dear Mr. Eskandary, Thank you for the e--mail. City staff has been reviewing this matter from diffe

From: Emad Elshafei/RKV  
To: [mikeeshome@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeeshome@yahoo.com)  
Cc: Mike Wilhelm/RKV@RKV, Gabriel Kosarek/RKV@RKV, John Scabis/RKV@RKV, Brian Plymale/RKV@RKV, Susan Straus/RKV@RKV, Mark Wessel/RKV@RKV  
Date: 04/23/2013 12:11 PM  
Subject: Re: Alley Pavement

---

Dear Mr. Eskandary,

Thank you for the e--mail. City staff has been reviewing this matter from different angles. As you are aware, several divisions of the Public Works Department have been involved in this project. I checked with my colleagues this morning to confirm where we stand on the findings. We have come to the conclusion that paving the alley will need to be identified as a Capital Improvement Project (CIP). The next cycle for the CIP will be for fiscal year 2015, which will start in November 2013. The process of approval ends in May 2014. Funding is needed due to the drainage issues, extensive paving costs and how to handle a turn around or exit and possibly eliminating the western end where the paper alley exits onto Nelson due to the extreme grade. Staff will also have to consider issues related to the vehicular access that might involve the church parking lot.

Meanwhile, our Construction Management Division is moving forward with fixing some of the issues in the area already in use along Mannakee Street at the entrance. This work will be performed late this summer, pending funding availability.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me again.

Regards,

---

Emad Elshafei, Ph.D., P.E., PTOE  
Chief - Traffic and Transportation Division  
Department of Public Works - City of Rockville  
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850  
e-mail: [eelshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:eelshafei@rockvillemd.gov)  
Tel: (240) 314-8508 (desk); (240) 314-8500 (main)  
Fax: (240) 314-8539  
[www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) (website)

<graycol.gif>mikeeshome---04/23/2013 08:04:34 AM---Dear Emad, It has been a while since I petitioned the City of Rockville for access to the alley behi

From: [mikeeshome@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeeshome@yahoo.com)  
To: "[EEElshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:EEElshafei@rockvillemd.gov)" <[EEElshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:EEElshafei@rockvillemd.gov)>  
Date: 04/23/2013 08:04 AM  
Subject: Re: Alley Pavement

---

Dear Emad,

It has been a while since I petitioned the City of Rockville for access to the alley behind my property. I have not heard from you. What is the update. I noticed the alley has been resurfaced somewhat, but it does not quite reach to my property. Also the boundaries of the alley is still unclear. Please bring me up to date.

Sincerely,

Mehrdad Eskandary  
715 W. Montgomery Ave.  
Rockville, MD 20850

Phone: 202-258-9657

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 20, 2013, at 4:55 PM, [EElshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:EElshafei@rockvillemd.gov) wrote:

Dear Mr. Eskandary,

I received today your letter dated 2/11/2013 in reference to your request of paving the alley behind your property. I am interested to know if your request is to pave the portion of the alley between Mannakee and property # 714/715? Also, do you know if other residents between your property and Mannakee, and those beyond the 714/715 are interested in the same request? Finally, do any of the residents plan to have a driveway built to connect the alley to their property to allow them to park?

I can call you to further discuss, but wanted to send these questions ahead of time.

Regards,

---

Emad Elshafei, Ph.D., P.E., PTOE  
Chief - Traffic and Transportation Division  
Department of Public Works - City of Rockville  
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850  
e-mail: [eelshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:eelshafei@rockvillemd.gov)  
Tel: (240) 314-8508 (desk); (240) 314-8500 (main)  
Fax: (240) 314-8539  
[www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) (website)

Every vote counts! Rockville's Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 5. For more information go to: [www.rockvillemd.gov/election13](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/election13)

## **Eskandary, Mike - RD, Washington, DC**

---

**From:** mikeeshome@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Monday, April 21, 2014 11:08 AM  
**To:** Eskandary, Mike - RD, Washington, DC  
**Subject:** Fwd: Alley Pavement

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [EEIshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:EEIshafei@rockvillemd.gov)  
**Date:** April 23, 2013 at 12:11:30 PM EDT  
**To:** [mikeeshome@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeeshome@yahoo.com)  
**Cc:** [MWilhelm@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:MWilhelm@rockvillemd.gov), [GKosarek@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:GKosarek@rockvillemd.gov), [JScabis@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:JScabis@rockvillemd.gov), [BPlymale@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:BPlymale@rockvillemd.gov), [SStraus@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:SStraus@rockvillemd.gov), [MWessel@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:MWessel@rockvillemd.gov)  
**Subject: Re: Alley Pavement**

Dear Mr. Eskandary,

Thank you for the e--mail. City staff has been reviewing this matter from different angles. As you are aware, several divisions of the Public Works Department have been involved in this project. I checked with my colleagues this morning to confirm where we stand on the findings. We have come to the conclusion that paving the alley will need to be identified as a Capital Improvement Project (CIP). The next cycle for the CIP will be for fiscal year 2015, which will start in November 2013. The process of approval ends in May 2014. Funding is needed due to the drainage issues, extensive paving costs and how to handle a turn around or exit and possibly eliminating the western end where the paper alley exits onto Nelson due to the extreme grade. Staff will also have to consider issues related to the vehicular access that might involve the church parking lot.

Meanwhile, our Construction Management Division is moving forward with fixing some of the issues in the area already in use along Mannakee Street at the entrance. This work will be performed late this summer, pending funding availability.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me again.

Regards,

---

Emad Elshafei, Ph.D., P.E., PTOE  
Chief - Traffic and Transportation Division  
Department of Public Works - City of Rockville  
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850  
e-mail: [eelshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:eelshafei@rockvillemd.gov)  
Tel: (240) 314-8508 (desk); (240) 314-8500 (main)  
Fax: (240) 314-8539  
[www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) (website)

☐ mikeeshome---04/23/2013 08:04:34 AM---Dear Emad, It has been a while since I petitioned the City of Rockville for access to the alley behi

From: [mikeeshome@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeeshome@yahoo.com)

To: "[EEIshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:EEIshafei@rockvillemd.gov)" <[EEIshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:EEIshafei@rockvillemd.gov)>  
Date: 04/23/2013 06:04 AM  
Subject: Re: Alley Pavement

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Dear Emad,

It has been a while since I petitioned the City of Rockville for access to the alley behind my property. I have not heard from you. What is the update. I noticed the alley has been resurfaced somewhat, but it does not quite reach to my property. Also the boundaries of the alley is still unclear. Please bring me up to date.

Sincerely,

Mehrdad Eskandary  
715 W. Montgomery Ave.  
Rockville, MD 20850

Phone: 202-258-9657

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 20, 2013, at 4:55 PM, [EEIshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:EEIshafei@rockvillemd.gov) wrote:

Dear Mr. Eskandary,

I received today your letter dated 2/11/2013 in reference to your request of paving the alley behind your property. I am interested to know if your request is to pave the portion of the alley between Mannakee and property # 714/715? Also, do you know if other residents between your property and Mannakee, and those beyond the 714/715 are interested in the same request? Finally, do any of the residents plan to have a driveway built to connect the alley to their property to allow them to park?

I can call you to further discuss, but wanted to send these questions ahead of time.

Regards,

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Emad Elshafei, Ph.D., P.E., PTOE  
Chief - Traffic and Transportation Division  
Department of Public Works - City of Rockville  
111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850  
e-mail: [eeIshafei@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:eeIshafei@rockvillemd.gov)  
Tel: (240) 314-8508 (desk); (240) 314-8500 (main)  
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Dear Mayor and members of the Council. My Name is Scott Robins, and I am the current Chair of the Human Services Advisory Commission. First, we would like to thank the Mayor and Council and City staff for providing a forum in which members of the community can come and state their opinions regarding the services that are provided by the City of Rockville.

The City has always prided itself on providing quality services for its residents and visitors. After reviewing the City's budget, the Human Services Advisory Commission was filled with mixed emotions. First, we would like to thank and congratulate the City Manager for recognizing the need to provide continued support to the youth and adolescents in our community. The recommendation by the City Manager to restore the Community Services Outreach Worker position to full-time will undoubtedly help provide quality services to more of the at-risk youth in our community. The Mayor and Council's focus on affordable day care, also demonstrates that the City understands that for individuals to be able to be self-sustaining, their children must have a place where they can be safe and productive while their parents are at work.

However, we would also like to state that we are disappointed with the City Manager's recommendations to the Mayor and Council regarding the Caregiver budget. The current figure of \$580,000, is \$26,000 lower than what was allocated in FY 2014. This amount represents the funding requested and denied to three specific Caregiver agencies and we strongly urge that the \$26,000 be allocated to other deserving Caregiver agencies rather than just taken out of the budget. These nonprofit programs provide necessary and important services to some of the neediest members of the community. For years, the Human Services Advisory Commission and the Caregiver's Coalition have advocated that the total Caregiver funding be set at 1% of the City's operating budget. The current proposed allocation goes in the opposite direction. The Commission strongly encourages the City staff and the Mayor and Council to look to Gaithersburg, our neighbors to the north, which provides grants to human services at a higher percentage of their overall budget, while still having its own human services staff. Most importantly, it is the opinion of the Commission that the City should continue to fund and provide human services at an effective level even though the County is primarily responsible for providing these services.

While we have stated our concerns about the current budget, we ask the Mayor and Council to also consider the longer view. Even if the proposal setting Caregiver funding at 1% of the City's operating budget on an ongoing basis not be adopted, we urge the Mayor and Council to consider the acceptance of a formula that would provide an acceptable and consistent level of funding for the Caregiver agencies. This would allow these agencies to plan for the future and know that they will be able to continue their missions. We would be happy to work with City Staff and the Mayor and Council to develop this formula.

I thank you for your time and especially your commitment to the provision of human services in our community.

April 21, 2014

Mayor and Council  
City of Rockville  
111 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850

The Honorable Bridget Donnell Newton  
The Honorable Beryl L. Feinberg  
The Honorable Tom Moore  
The Honorable Virginia D. Onley  
The Honorable Julie Palakovich Carr

One of the reasons Rockville is a great city is the amount of green space within its borders. Large parks, pocket parks and the canopy provided by street trees are gifts from prior decades of Mayors and Councils who understood how much our residents' valued green spaces. Sometimes it was an opportunity to add green spaces, but mostly it was planning and budgeting for them. I hope this Mayor and Council would continue the tradition of adding to our green spaces. You have an opportunity with regard to the property that was home to The Karma Academy, 175 Watts Branch Parkway. This parcel is owned by Montgomery County. It abuts Wootton's Mill Park. It could not be a more perfectly located parcel to add to the park. However, I don't know of a plan to so do. I don't see funds in the budget for such an acquisition. Please prepare a plan for the acquisition of this property. Don't let this parcel abutting Wotton's Mill Park slip away. You can work with the County, and the state, to make it happen.

Respectfully,



Robert Wright  
209 Watts Branch Parkway  
Rockville, MD 20850-2913  
Telephone: 301-279-8843  
Email: bobwright0130@gmail.com

April 21, 2014

Good Evening Mayor Newton and Members of the Rockville City Council.

My name is Thanya Castro; I am a resident of the City of Rockville living in Lewis Avenue in the Twinbrook neighborhood.

I am here this evening to ask for your support to increase the funding to the Language Outreach Program (LOP). LOP is a program that helps hundreds of parents and children every year. Parents learn English while the kids do homework. I am one of those kids.

Please let me share my story of how LOP and CMR have helped me and my family. I first began coming to LOP as a regular child to the Child Care area while both of my parents came to learn English. That was 14 years ago. As time went on, I went from being helped with my homework, to helping others with their homework for my Student Service Learning hours, to later becoming a Child Tutor and finally an English Teacher.

LOP has helped me grow into who I am today, and that is a young Hispanic female who enjoys doing what she does, and that is teach. Although I go to school and have my full time job, teaching English at LOP gives me a great joy and satisfaction. I want you to know that I am proud of my students who strive to come back night after night, semester after semester, eager to learn more, and who come into class with questions wanting to know answers to what they said or heard during the day.

I also want to share that I am very proud of my mom who is a graduate of LOP and who currently works at the Kaseman Clinic as the Front Desk Manager. My Mom helps many people every day for a very good service which is people's health.

I understand the LOP program is facing a cut in funding of \$5,000. I ask you to reconsider that recommendation in light of all the program accomplishes for immigrants and their children. By creating a better future for those families like mine, the Program is helping to create a better community. Thanks for the opportunity to speak this evening. I thank you in advance for your support to the Language Outreach Program

Community Ministries of Rockville Elderly Ministries Program  
Public Hearing / April 21, 2014

Good evening Mayor Newton and Members of the City Council. My name is Leann Sherman and I am here this evening on behalf of the Community Ministries of Rockville Elderly Ministries Program. A year ago, I was fortunate to relocate to Rockville, and a mere nine months ago, began my position as Director of the Elderly Ministries Program. It has been a privilege serving the City of Rockville's most vulnerable seniors.

My clients, all of whom come with rich histories, are widows and widowers, mothers and fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers. Most contributed to our community in their own careers as bookkeepers, barbers and even small business owners.

Most live alone. Most are in one-bedroom or efficiency apartments. Before long, at least two will be celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. They are all living on limited incomes.

CMR's Elderly Ministries Program provides a range of services to help these City of Rockville residents remain safely in their homes for as long as their health allows.

We have two distinct programs:

1. Our **Homecare Program** - which provides homemaker services for two-six hours a week.

Trained, supervised homemakers vacuum, wash floors, do laundry, and change bed linens. (and as most of us know, stretching a fitted sheet over a bed corner can be a challenge for the healthiest among us – let alone for a 97 year old.) Homemakers also provide friendship – and a second set of eyes and ears for any problems. In addition, we have a dedicated team of phone volunteers who call clients on a weekly basis to make sure that their homemaker service is going well and to hear about news in their lives.

Community Ministries of Rockville Elderly Ministries Program  
Public Hearing / April 21, 2014

2. Our second program is our **Safe & Habitable Housing Program** – which provides minor home repairs and modifications at little to no cost to our clients - utilizing the skills of generous volunteers and contractors .

A few examples of work performed in the past several months include:

1. A lock added to the door of a widowed woman who was afraid that her home was vulnerable to intruders
2. An outdoor railing installed to ensure that on a snowy day, an elderly woman won't fall when she walks down her front steps
3. A termite compromised shed repair to prevent further damage

These are all tasks that any one of us might do for our own elderly parent or neighbor living alone.

In addition to our Homecare and Safe & Habitable programs, we provide **Push Button Emergency Help** systems to eight of our clients. My *goal* is to one day provide life alert systems for *all* 28 of our clients so they never have to worry about falling without someone there to help them.

As our population continues to gray, and as our low-income elderly residents are required to live on fewer resources, it is critical that we strengthen our base. Our services are cost effective and allow frail, low-income elderly City of Rockville residents to remain in their homes.

We have requested \$90,000 for FY 15. While we are most grateful to have your support, I ask you this evening to reconsider that recommendation and increase the funding recommended for our services.

On behalf of the most vulnerable seniors of Rockville, I want to thank you in advance for any additional support you can provide.