

Attachment 1: Email from the Seaport Foundation to City of Alexandria City Council (2024.03.29)

Sent: Friday, March 29, 2024 5:59:45 PM

Subject: [EXTERNAL]Seawall and Seaport

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council,

We are providing this input to the City Council on behalf of the Alexandria Seaport Foundation regarding the construction funding for the Waterfront Small Area Plan. The proposed FY 2025 CIP contains no additional funding to augment the \$125 million that has been accumulated in prior appropriations for construction to address waterfront flood mitigation, seawall repair/replacement, and other projects identified during the current design/build process. We understand from City staff that the existing funding level is insufficient to address the serious seawall deficiencies in front of our Seaport Center that were identified in a recent conditions analysis. We encourage the Council to include construction funding sufficient to remediate the seawall in the FY 2025 CIP budget, or at the latest in the FY 2026 budget.

Separately, as a near-term, mitigating measure, we request that the two agitators/de-icers near the Seaport Center that help to keep debris, which damages the seawall, docks, and boats, away from the seawall and prevent freezing be replaced. Equipment and installation for these devices would total about \$2,000.

We recognize that replacement of or significant repairs to the seawall adjacent to the Seaport Center could pose material disruptions to Seaport Foundation's operations. It is essential to the continued smooth operation of our programs that we receive substantial advance notice of when construction will involve that area. If the construction requires that the Seaport Center relocate during that period, we ask that the City identify the temporary relocation site and pay the associated costs.

The Seaport Foundation is currently designing a second Seaport Center, which would be located directly north of the current center. The new facility, which will enable us to expand our programs and serve a greater number of at-risk youth, is currently projected to be completed in 2025. We will need to know in the near term if the timing for the new center should change to accommodate the construction schedule at our location.