

Hi Alan,

Thanks again for your time. Letter we discussed is attached; thanks so much for printing and giving it to the members.

Additionally, wanted to flag something else I just discovered - there is apparently (according to our City Attorney's office) not anything in the law that allows for the redaction of personal/contact information (like home address) for normal residents. (There are provisions regarding the address of customers of a public utility, people who have applied for a VHDA loan, retailers of the lottery, etc.)

I'm curious if this has come up before/if there is some rationale behind it.

We recently had a very controversial vote with many strong opinions on both sides of the issue. I met with multiple groups of residents and in one case was sent a follow-up email from one of the individuals with the names, emails, and home addresses of all of the people at that meeting. (Their addresses were relevant because of their proximity to the subject of the decision.) We just received a FOIA request from a resident on the other side of this issue who will now have these individuals' home addresses. There has been a lot of anger, hostility, and vitriol online over this decision with personal attacks of residents who supported this decision. I do not want to suggest a negative intent on the part of the FOIA requester, but they will be getting a lot of documents and will have the ability to post all of the documents digitally for anyone to see (without even perhaps realizing it includes personal contact information).

It does not seem right that contact information like home addresses are not able to be redacted.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information.

Warmly,
Elizabeth

Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Vice Mayor
City of Alexandria