City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 20, 2005

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: BUDGET MEMO # 88 : POLICE DEPARTMENT PISTOL RANGE

This memorandum is in response to Councilman Macdonald's request for additional information on funding for improvements at the Police Department Pistol Range including: How can the City insure that the $377,850 budgeted for the pistol range is paid for by developers as suggested in the CIP plan? Why is this work so expensive? And can't it be done for less?

A total of $377,850 is budgeted in FY 2008 of the Proposed FY 2006 - FY 2011 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for noise containment measures at the Police Department Pistol Range. It is anticipated at this time that the costs to construct these measures possibly may be offset by the West End developers contributions, and the budget assumes this to be the case. However, it is not guaranteed that developer contributions will materialize. The pistol range is currently an open air facility where the noise from the firing of weapons (pistols, rifles, etc.) carries out of the facility and is heard on neighboring properties (including in Cameron Station).

This noise containment project is in response to citizen's concerns related to the noise generated from the pistol range, as well as the Police Department's desire to enclose the open areas of the range. The total footprint of the range is approximately 14,350 square feet, of which more than 8,000 square feet is currently under roof. The project proposes to demolish the existing roof structure and construct a new full roof with a sound deadening system. In addition, the approximately 6,000 square feet of turf area that is currently beneath the unroofed sections will be replaced with a four inch concrete slab consistent with the existing floor areas at the range now under roof. The facility will need additional lighting, and, due to the introduction of additional impervious surfaces to the site (concrete slab), some environmental concerns such as run-off, will need to be addressed. With all of these items along with design services and the rapidly rising cost of construction to be considered, staff feels that the current estimate in the CIP of $377,850 may not be sufficient. Staff will, of course, do everything possible to minimize final costs.