

New Survey Shows Alexandria Voters Overwhelmingly Oppose Proposed Zoning Changes for Housing

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(Alexandria, VA) – The Coalition for a Livable Alexandria, a grassroots volunteer advocacy group formed by Alexandria residents, has released the results of a new survey showing that a clear majority of city voters oppose the Zoning for Housing initiative and believe it will have negative impacts if approved.

Partnering with the Alexandria-based national opinion polling firm Bellwether Research, the CLA-commissioned survey is the first scientific measurement of public opinion on the Zoning for Housing legislation, a sweeping reform package with nine separate initiatives aimed at increasing the city's housing supply by nearly 3,000 net units over the next decade. A sampling of 1,059 city voters was used, with balancing for key factors such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, and educational background.

Key survey findings include:

- The majority of voters (58%) oppose the Zoning for Housing legislation, while just 26% favor it.
- Voters say the following impacts will result from adoption of the Zoning for Housing legislation: traffic will worsen (72%), increased population will make it difficult to live in Alexandria (58%), developers will build expensive but not affordable housing (56%), and infrastructure will be inadequate to sustain new development (55%).
- Only 25% of voters believe that Zoning for Housing will allow for more people to buy a home in Alexandria, while just 19% say it will result in more equitable access to housing for minorities.
- The majority of voters (80%) want the city to slow down and give residents more time to understand the potential impact of Zoning for Housing changes and to study more data before rushing to adoption.
- The majority of voters (57%) are not satisfied that the Alexandria City Council listens to resident input when making decisions.

“The survey results couldn't be more clear on how voters feel about this misguided proposal to address the housing shortage in Northern Virginia,” said CLA Chair Roy Byrd, a resident of Cameron Station. “The majority does not support what the council and mayor are pushing in the Zoning for Housing legislation.”

CLA plans to submit the survey findings to City Council for review prior to a planned November 28 vote.

For more on the survey and its methodology, visit this [SURVEY LINK](#).

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ABOUT THE COALITION FOR A LIVABLE ALEXANDRIA: Incorporated by the Commonwealth as a nonprofit corporation under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, CLA is a grassroots volunteer organization focused on encouraging full and open dissemination of all sides of major issues that affect the welfare of residents in the City of Alexandria. To learn more, including how to volunteer or to make a donation, please visit our website: www.livablealexandria.org.