City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 30, 2009

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: BUDGET MEMO #47: ADULT RECREATION ACTIVITES AND

POTENTIAL FOR A CITY-WIDE RECREATION PASS

This memorandum is written in response to Councilman Krupicka's request for additional information on Adult Recreation Activities and a City-Wide Recreation Pass. This memo specifically provides information on cost recovery for adult recreation activities, the potential for a City-Wide Recreation Pass, and additional financial assistance programs.

Adult Recreation programs included in the Adult Activities budget activity are adult sports, adult classes, and funding for Adult related use of the John Adams Recreation Center. Adult sports and classes are 100% self supporting through General Fund user fees. The John Adams Center Adult drop-in program is currently free of charge, but is proposed to be eliminated in Fiscal Year 2010.

In addition to expenditures in the Adult Activities budget, all residents, including adults, have free access to all neighborhood recreation centers which offer space for adult classes. Activities for Seniors, which are accounted for in the Neighborhood Recreation Centers budget activity, currently have no fee. The Recreation Department is moving towards cost-recovery for some of these activities such as senior art, square dance, and exercise classes. The admission fee for use of Municipal Pools and the Warwick Pool is \$2/day for adults. This amount does not cover the total cost of operation for the large outdoor pools.

The Recreation Department requires additional time to complete a full evaluation of a City-Wide Recreation Pass. Currently, the Recreation Department uses the RecTrac system which uses a Pass, Activity, and Facility Module for management of Recreation centers and program users. The neighborhood recreation centers issue a recreation ID card to all residents. This ID card could be linked to a pass at each center. Most residents use one center as a home base, but City residents could then use all neighborhood centers for free. Recreation program and activity fees are discounted for low-income residents. The Department is currently in the process of developing guidelines to provide additional financial assistance when needed.