

FY2026 AlexRenew Budget Comments Received



Comments organized by date – newest comments on top.

Date Received	Comment
Friday, May 16, 2025	<p>To whom this may concern,</p> <p>This increase is absolutely ridiculous to do to Alexandria residents. The sewer charges are already high as it is and you want to raise them over 10% in the next 2 years??! Our economy is doing horrible, people are losing their jobs and you want to raise prices even more?? Stop the nonsense! This is not fair to Alexandria residents.</p>
Wednesday, May 14, 2025	<p>Dear Ms. Huff,</p> <p>I am writing to formally submit my concern in response to the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Budget and two-year rate adjustment recently posted for public notice by AlexRenew.</p> <p>While I understand the necessity of maintaining and improving infrastructure, I am concerned by the proposed rate increases of 5.0% in 2025 and 5.7% in 2026. These increases place an added burden on residents who are already navigating a high cost of living in today's economy. In my household, we are currently relying on a single income—on the lower end of the middle-class spectrum—due to my current unemployment, which makes additional utility costs especially difficult to absorb.</p> <p>A rate increase of this magnitude—especially over two consecutive years—warrants a more thorough exploration of alternative funding strategies that do not place the burden solely on residents, particularly given the current economic climate.</p> <p>I appreciate the opportunity to submit this comment and respectfully request that the Board reconsider the proposed rate structure ahead of its adoption.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Masooma Munir Mason at Van Dorn Apartment</p>
Wednesday, May 14, 2025	<p>We really participated this darkest increase debit,sewer price already high, now Alexandria city want to increase again that's unbelievable ,we expected decrease not increase. I want participated this is coming Saturday</p>
Friday, May 9, 2025	<p>Dear Ms. Huff,</p> <p>I am writing to express my deep frustration and opposition to AlexRenew's proposed sewer rate increases. This plan is not only unreasonable but outright harmful to the residents of Alexandria, particularly those in low-income households who already struggle with the city's high cost of living.</p> <p>Alexandria's Affordability Crisis</p> <p>Alexandria, VA is one of the most expensive places to live in the country, making any additional financial burden—such as your proposed sewer rate increase—completely unacceptable. Consider these statistics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall Cost of Living: 45.3% higher than the national average. • Housing Costs: 134.7% more expensive than the national average. • Average Rent: \$2,049 per month, which is 26.1% higher than the national average. • Average Home Price: \$1,182,284, which is 137.4% higher than the national average.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilities: 6.4% higher than the national average. • Transportation: 6.8% higher than the national average. • Groceries: 5.7% higher than the national average. • Healthcare: 13.5% higher than the national average. • Minimum Salary to Live Comfortably: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Single Adult: \$76,400 per year. ○ Family of Four: \$113,040 per year. <p>A significant portion of Alexandria's population relies on government assistance programs such as subsidized housing. Many families are barely making ends meet, and an increase in sewer rates will only push more residents toward financial instability or even displacement.</p> <p>The Economic Reality</p> <p>Furthermore, this proposal comes at a time when the economy is on the brink of a recession, exacerbated by escalating tariffs and global conflicts. The 2025 U.S. trade war has already triggered contractions in trade and disrupted supply chains. The IMF forecasts global growth at just 3.3%, with Europe struggling and China facing a slowdown. These economic pressures will inevitably impact Alexandria's residents, making any additional financial burden unacceptable.</p> <p>AlexRenew claims to uphold values of sustainability and community service, yet this proposal contradicts those principles. How can a company that serves the public justify pricing out the very people it claims to support? If AlexRenew truly values the well-being of Alexandria's residents, it must reconsider this plan and seek alternative solutions that do not disproportionately harm low-income families.</p> <p>I urge you to listen to the voices of the community and reject this proposal. Residents deserve better than being forced to shoulder yet another financial burden in an already challenging economic climate.</p> <p>Sincerely, Mary Tholley</p>
Friday, April 25, 2025	<p>Dear Ms. Huff,</p> <p>I understand you are taking comments on the proposed rate increases by Alexandria Renew. I have several comments to share for the board's consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alexandria Renew has issues with delivery of bills and receipts of payments. I have spoken at length with Alexandria Renew and they point to business decisions by the company that impact delivery. Specifically, they state that all mail is forwarded to a company that processes payments. My bill is often late in coming to me and my payments take longer, sometimes days longer, to reach Alexandria Renew versus other utilities. I suggest as a condition of this rate increase they identify ways to reduce the delays in billing and receipt of payments and extend the due date for bills until they get this resolved. 2. I had difficulty in getting credit for water usage due to a leak in my water line. I had two rather large bills, one of which was adjusted by Virginia Water. It seems that when a large water bill can be traced to a water main break, Alexandria Renew should not profit of it. Clearly the water that leaked did not go into the sewer system - Most in fact was absorbed by the ground as it occurred during a drought. There is

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	<p>no credible method to adjust the sewer bill other than Alexandria Renew getting information on adjustments by Virginia Water. Virginia Water in my case somehow failed to notify Alexandria Renew of the reduction, but even if they had, it only covered a portion of the excess water used. As a condition of getting this rate increase, could your board look into methods to reduce sewer bills when there is a water main break?</p> <p>Thank you, Fred Underwood</p>