

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 2, 2007

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: BUDGET MEMO # 27: PROPOSED STATE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING FOR FY 2008 – FY 2013

As Council is aware, transportation funding is an issue of current concern and debate in the Commonwealth. This memorandum provides a summary of the Commonwealth Transportation Board's (CTB) estimated funding for transportation projects in Alexandria in its FY 2008-2013 Six-Year Improvement Program. The attached table summarizes the City's funding request that was approved by Council in November 2006 and the CTB's estimate of Alexandria's funding allocation based on current State revenue projections.

In previous years, the City has been allocated funding in amounts of approximately \$5 million per year in the Commonwealth's six-year plans. Consistent with that level of funding, the City requested similar amounts annually from FY 2008 through FY 2013 for various projects, including intersection improvements at King and Beauregard Streets, purchase of DASH buses, building the new DASH bus maintenance facility, and widening Eisenhower Avenue between Holland Lane and Stovall Street.

Earlier this month, David Ekern, Commonwealth Transportation Commissioner, advised local governments of the Board's preliminary estimates of their urban construction funding allocations. As can be seen on the attached summary, these preliminary allocation estimates are significantly lower than the funding amounts we requested. Overall, the City's request for FY 2008 through FY 2013 was funded at approximately 40 percent of the requested amount. In individual years, estimated allocations range between 63 and 26 percent of our funding requests, and range from a \$1.9 million shortfall in FY 2008 to a \$3.4 million shortfall in FY 2012. In total, these revenue estimates are \$18.4 million lower for the six-year FY 2008 – FY 2013 time period than the prior level of expected funding.

The CTB's preliminary allocation estimates were based on the December 2006 official transportation revenue forecast, which did not include any new revenues that may result from currently pending legislation, particularly the Governor's proposed amendments to the General Assembly's transportation-related budget provisions. In order for funding to

increase over the currently estimated levels, a state budget including increased transportation revenues would need to be adopted well in advance of the required six-year program adoption date of July 1, 2007. Governor Kaine is proposing to increase funding for transportation, but it is still subject to approval by by the General Assembly. The veto session scheduled for April 4th should produce a resolution regarding funding of roadway and transit projects. Staff will prepare a budget memorandum on the final passage of transportation-related items by the General Assembly.

Attachment

FY 2008 - FY 2013 Six-Year Improvement Plan
Programming Request versus Preliminary Allocation Estimates - City of Alexandria
(\$ in 000's)

Description	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	Total
King/Beauregard Intersection Improvements	631	0	0	0	0	0	631
Clermont Avenue - Four Lane	0	0	1,600	2,400	3,600	5,262	12,862
Purchase of Buses	2,660	2,660	1,900	2,700	1,600	0	11,520
DASH Bus Maintenance Facility	108	0	0	0	0	0	108
Eisenhower Avenue Widening	1,685	2,400	1,518	0	0	0	5,603
Total City of Alexandria Request	5,084	5,060	5,018	5,100	5,200	5,262	30,724
Total CTB Proposed Funding	3,206	2,156	1,325	1,846	1,802	1,988	12,323
Difference	(1,878)	(2,904)	(3,693)	(3,254)	(3,398)	(3,274)	(18,401)
Proposed Funding Level	63%	43%	26%	36%	35%	38%	40%

Note: This table does not include \$63.2 million in prior year funding, already included in the Commonwealth's Six-year Improvement Plan, which will be needed to complete these projects.