City of Alexandria, Virginia
FY 2023 Proposed Operating Budget & CIP
Budget Questions & Answers

March 31, 2022

Question: What are the ideal staffing needs to implement more multi-modal transportation and Vision Zero projects, and what would the budgetary impact of increased staffing be? What specific Vision Zero initiatives are planned to be undertaken during FY 2023 and 2024 and how could these be accelerated or expanded if another position was added?

Response:

Complete Streets-Vision Zero is a specific project in the city's Capital Improvement Program, but multiple projects and programs contribute to the City's Vision Zero and Complete Streets goals. The Complete Streets-Vision Zero project includes \$9 million (FY 2023-32) for educational initiatives, neighborhood sidewalks, traffic calming and spot improvements/community requests. However, the City also has 11 active, non-motorized capital projects such as the Beauregard Street Multi Use Trail (\$3.6 million prior year), South Patrick Street Median Improvements (\$3.4 million), Access Improvements at Landmark (\$6.8 million), and a proposed citywide Safe Routes to School (\$4.75 million) program. Other projects in the CIP also contribute to the City's Complete Streets-Vision Zero goals, such as LED streetlighting, increased Sidewalk Capital Maintenance (\$8.2 million) and transit access and amenities.

In FY 2023 and 2024, some specific Complete Streets-Vision Zero projects will include the installation of safety improvements for at least two priority uncontrolled crossing locations, speed management measures for at least three corridors, safety audits at high crash and school locations, and the City's first neighborhood slow zone. If another position were added (1 Civil Engineer III/\$150,000 per year for salary and benefits), the city could improve project capital delivery by focusing on the 11 dedicated non-motorized projects identified in the CIP. These projects include the Beauregard St. Multi-Use Trail and the Lower King Street Closure, among others. Currently, two staff manage the Complete Streets and Vision Zero programs while also serving as project managers for the capital projects. Additional staffing would facilitate the capital project delivery while enabling current staff to more effectively manage the programs, which involve smaller projects and resident requests as well as programming identified in the FY 2023 Vision Zero Work Plan.