

**Transportation Commission  
Annual Report  
July 2023 – June 2024**

**Summary of Accomplishments**

**The mission of the Transportation Commission includes to advocate and promote development of balanced transportation systems for the City of Alexandria, through oversight of the implementation of the Transportation Chapter of the City's adopted Master Plan. Within these guidelines, the Transportation Commission membership completed the following activities during its 2023/24 session.**

**Transportation Commission Policy and Membership**

- While a few positions turned over during the year, and a few new members joined, membership remained steady with a quorum achieved at all scheduled meetings.
- Additionally, the former Chair and Vice-Chair resigned last August, so an interim Chair volunteered in September and new elections were held in October.
- The Commission held eight in-person meetings and one all-virtual meeting per state guidance. In addition, some commissioners participated virtually at in-person meetings, as this was allowed per new state legislation.

**Coordination with Other Boards**

- The Transportation Commission includes membership from the Planning Commission, the Traffic and Parking Board, the Environmental Policy Commission, the DASH Board of Directors and the Eisenhower West/Landmark/Van Dorn Advisory Group. The DASH Board Liaison resigned in February and that position has remained vacant.
- At every Transportation Commission meeting, the Transportation Commission receives updates and reports back on Transportation Commission topics to their respective boards.
- The Transportation Commission provided a letter of feedback on the FY25 WMATA Budget to the WMATA Board of Directors.
- Members of the Transportation Commission provided letters of support for projects previously endorsed by the Commission to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation in April 2024.

**Transportation Commission Member Activities**

- Casey Kane is serving on the Eisenhower West/Landmark/Van Dorn Advisory Group.

**2023-2024 Accomplishments**

- See Attachment 2

**Goals for 2024-2025**

- Provide input on City consideration of transportation grants.
- Consider endorsements for transportation grants and weigh in on transportation components of other plans and the city budget.

- Continue to hold primarily in-person meetings and up to three all-virtual meetings (per the adopted Updated Electronic Meeting Policy) to ensure convenient participation for the Commissioners and the public.

### **Leadership**

- The council appointed new members to the Commission including Tim Lovain, Leslie Catherwood and Dan Beattie. Melissa McMahan was voted as Chair, and Matthew McManus was voted as Vice Chair. In February, Murat Omay resigned from the Commission, and in November, Oleksandr Faryga resigned from the Commission.
- List term expirations and new members, with month they were appointed.
  - Dan Beattie – December 31, 2026
  - Leslie Catherwood – September 12, 2026
  - Casey Kane – May 31, 2027
  - Tim Lovain – September 30, 2026
  - Jody Manor – January 31, 2025
  - Jim Maslanka – October 31, 2024
  - Melissa McMahan – October 31, 2026
  - Matthew McManus – January 31, 2025
- During the course of the year, membership included the following individuals:
  - Councilman John Chapman (non-voting)
  - Councilman Kirk McPike (non-voting)
  - Dan Beattie
  - Leslie Catherwood
  - Oleksandr Faryga
  - Casey Kane
  - Tim Lovain
  - Jody Manor
  - Jim Maslanka
  - Melissa McMahan
  - Matthew McManus
  - Murat Omay
- Megan Oleynik and Christopher Ziemann, Transportation & Environmental Services, acted as the staff liaisons to Transportation Commission during the 2023/2024 year. Emilie Wolfson will serve as liaison for the 2024/2025 year.

Attachment 1: Annual Attendance Report

Attachment 2: FY23 Accomplishments Summary

Attachment 3: Notable Letters

**ATTACHMENT 1  
ADVISORY GROUP ANNUAL ATTENDANCE REPORT**

**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA  
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
MEETING ATTENDANCE REPORT**

**JULY 1, 2023, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024**

<b>MEMBER'S NAME</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>
COUNCILMAN JOHN CHAPMAN (NON-VOTING) OR CHARLES SUMPTER			X					X				
COUNCILMAN KIRK MCPIKE (NON-VOTING) OR KARL BACH			X	X	X		X	X			X	
MELISSA MCMAHON (CHAIR)			X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
MATTHEW MCMANUS			X	X	X		X	X	X	E	X	X
JODY MANOR			X	V	E (V)		V	X	U	X	X	V
OLEKSANDR FARYGA			U	U								
JAMES MASLANKA			X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
CASEY KANE			X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
TIM LOVAIN			X	X	X		V	X	U	X	X	X
LESLIE CATHERWOOD			X	X	V		X	X	X	X	X	X
MURAT OMA Y			X	X	E		E					
DAN BEATTIE							V	U	V	X	E	X

**INDICATE: X - FOR PRESENT      E - FOR EXCUSED      U - FOR UNEXCUSED**  
**V - FOR VIRTUAL                  Light grey shade - not a commissioner**  
**Dark grey shade - no meeting held**

**LIST OF THOSE WHO DID NOT ATTEND 75% OF MEETINGS: NA**

**FORM MUST BE SIGNED BY CHAIRPERSON**  
**(APPROVED) \_\_\_\_\_**  
**CHAIRPERSON: MELISSA MCMAHON**

**ATTACHMENT 2**  
**TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MAJOR INITIATIVES IN FY 2024**

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>SCHEDULE</b>
Grant Endorsements	<p>The Transportation Commission regularly reviewed and endorsed grant applications for Council approval as being consistent with the Alexandria Mobility Plan and Vision Zero Action Plan, including for the following programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Grant</b></li> <li>- <b>Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (VHSIP) Systemic Safety Funding Program</b></li> <li>- <b>USDOT TOD Planning Grant Program Application</b></li> <li>- <b>DRPT FY 2024 Mid-Cycle Transportation Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP) New Passenger Amenities Category</b></li> <li>- <b>Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvements (CMAQ) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Project Funding Requests for FY30</b></li> <li>- <b>RAISE Grant Application for Safety Improvements along Seminary Road</b></li> <li>- <b>DRPT Operating and Capital Assistance State Aid Applications, Commuter Assistance Program Operations Grant Applications, and Transit Rider Incentive Program, and Approval of a Required Matching Funds</b></li> <li>- <b>MWCOG Grant Applications</b></li> <li>- <b>Alexandria Transit Strategic Plan</b></li> <li>- <b>FY25-30 Six Year Improvement Program (SYIP)</b></li> <li>- <b>AlexWest SAP</b></li> <li>- <b>Charing and Fueling Infrastructure Round 2 Discretionary Grant Application</b></li> <li>- <b>Consideration of FY2030 SMART SCALE Funding Requests</b></li> <li>- <b>FY2030 SMART Scale Funding Requests</b></li> <li>- <b>FY2024 Safe Streets and Road for All Grant Program</b></li> <li>- <b>SMART Grant Application for Detection Technology</b></li> </ul> <p>These grant applications included funding for, electric bus and vehicle conversion, roadway improvements around high crash intersections, Transportation Demand Management, Safe Streets and Roads, and other pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure improvements.</p>	Ongoing

Transportation Updates	Throughout the year, the Commission received updates on the progress of plan implementation and other major events impacting transportation in the City including Complete Streets and Vision Zero Program, AlexWest Small Area Plan, Electric Vehicle Planning, WMATA budget, WMATA Better Bus Network, Maintenance of Traffic Plans, AlexMoves 2023 Transportation Survey, Transportation Long Range Plan Scoring, the Transportation Management Plan, Eisenhower Transportation Study Update, Trails Maintenance and Planning, Smart Mobility Capital Bikeshare and Dockless Mobility, DASH ridership, and other topics related to transportation.	Ongoing
FY25 City Operating Budget and FY25-34 Capital Improvement Program	The Transportation Commission provided input to the City Manager on the proposed transportation related budget items in the City Manager’s budget. The Commission also provided input to City Council after the City Manager’s budget was submitted.	October 2023 and March 2024
Complete Streets	Staff presented their annual report to the Commission on the activities of the Complete Streets Program, including Safe Routes to School, trails and Vision Zero	October 2023
Capital Bikeshare and Micromobility	Staff provided an update to the Commission on the City’s Capital Bikeshare program and the micromobility program (dockless scooters, etc.)	February 2024
AlexWest Small Area Plan	Staff provided updates to the Commission on the AlexWest Small Area Plan and the Commission provided feedback. The Commission also provided input on the draft Transportation Chapter of the AlexWest Small Area Plan.	November 2023, May 2023, June 2024
Transportation Commission Retreat	During May of 2024, the Commission held their bi-annual retreat where the commission’s purpose, processes, goals, and priorities were discussed.	May 2024

**ATTACHMENT 3**  
**NOTABLE LETTERS**

1. Any notable letters to City Council, date, subject
  1. Endorsed Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside Program Grant- September 2023
  2. Endorsed Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (VHSIP) Systemic Safety Funding Program- September 2023
  3. Endorsed USDOT Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Planning Grant Program Application- September 2023
  4. Endorsed Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) FY 2024 Mid-Cycle Transportation Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP) New Passenger Amenities Category- October2023
  5. Endorsed Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvements (CMAQ) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Project Funding Request for FY30- November 2023
  6. Endorsed RAISE Grant Application for Safety Improvements along Seminary Road- January 2024
  7. Endorsed FY2025 DRPT Operating and Capital Assistance State Aid Applications, the Commuter Assistance Program Operations Grant Applications, and the Transit Rider Incentive Program, and Approval of Required Matching Funds- January 2024
  8. Endorsed FY2025 Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) Grant Applications- January 2024
  9. Endorsed FY25-FY34 Alexandria Transit Strategic Plan (ATSP)- March 20, 2024
  10. Endorsed FY25-30 Six Year Improvement Program (SYIP)- April 17, 2024
  11. Endorsed AlexWest SAP – June 2024
  12. Endorsed Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Round 2 Discretionary Grant Application- June 2024
  13. Endorsed Consideration of FY2030 SMART SCALE Funding Requests- June 2024
  14. Endorsed FY2024 Safe Streets and Road for All Grant Program- June 2024

15. Endorsed SMART Grant Application for Detection Technology- June 2024
2. Any letters to other Advisory Groups, date, subject
  16. Provided Letter of Feedback on the FY25 WMATA Budget to the WMATA Board of Directors- February 21, 2024
  17. Provided Letters of Support for Projects Previously Endorsed by the Commission to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation- April 2024
3. Any completed reports or relevant documents
  - N/A



Alexandria Transportation Commission  
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Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: 703.746.4025

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Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
City Hall  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

September 21, 2023

Re: **Endorsement of Grant Application for the FY 2025-2026 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA) Program**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its September 20 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse two grant applications for cumulative funding of up to \$4,000,000 through the FY 2025-2026 Transportation Alternatives Set-Side (TA) Program.

The Transportation Commission supports staff's proposal to request funding for two projects. The first project would be the design and construction of several crossing improvements identified in prior Safe Routes to School (SRTS) walk audits. The second project would be the design and construction of safety improvements on Slaters Lane between the intersection of Richmond Highway (Route 1) and Powhatan Street. Commissioners noted that they would like specifically like to see bicycle accommodations considered in the improvements on Slaters Lane, in addition to the pedestrian ones thus far envisioned.

Both projects support the Vision Zero Action Plan strategy to build safer streets for everyone and to accelerate safety improvements as part of the City's Safe Routes to School Program.

The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff's proposal and to provide its endorsement to Council.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Melissa McMahon  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission



cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
Jim Parajon, City Manager  
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager  
Adriana Castaneda, Director, T&ES  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES  
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, T&ES  
Philippe Simon, Grants Coordinator, T&ES



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Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
City Hall  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

September 21, 2023

Re: **Endorsement of Grant Application for the FY 2025 Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (VHSIP) Systemic Safety Funding Program**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its September 20 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse a grant application for funding of \$2,000,000 through the FY 2025 VHSIP Systemic Safety Funding Program from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to support systemic safety measures at all of the City's signalized T-intersections.

T-intersections are particularly challenging for pedestrians because all crossings with a vehicle present include a turning vehicle movement which is inherently more dangerous. The Transportation Commission supports staff's proposal to request funding for these signage and signal systems upgrades to improve safety for all users at these locations.

This project supports the Vision Zero Action Plan strategy to implement systemic safety improvements. It also supports the following strategies in the Alexandria Mobility Plan:

- Implement the Vision Zero Action Plan to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries by 2028.
- Create a safe, well-maintained, and comfortable walking and biking environment.

The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff's proposal and to provide its endorsement to Council.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Melissa McMahon  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
Jim Parajon, City Manager  
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager  
Adriana Castaneda, Director, T&ES  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES  
Bob Garbacz, Division Chief, T&ES  
Maha Gilini, Civil Engineer, T&ES  
Philippe Simon, Grants Coordinator, T&ES



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Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
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September 21, 2023

Re: **Endorsement of Grant Application for the FY 2023 U.S. Department of Transportation's Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Planning Grant Program**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its September 20 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse the City of Alexandria's 2023 U.S. Department of Transportation's Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Planning Grant Program application. Consistent with the goals of the Alexandria Mobility Plan, the proposed application will help us advance transit-oriented development planning in the Duke Street Corridor of Alexandria.

The City is a leader in advancing and expanding equitable transportation access and providing new methods for guideway and transit project corridors. This grant would provide funding to better integrate land use and transportation planning in the planning process for this area. In June 2023, City Council approved the concept design for the Duke Street Transitway. That same month, the City approved the FY 2024-2025 Long-Range Planning Work Program, identifying the Duke Street Corridor Plan as the next Comprehensive Plan the City will undertake, scheduled to begin mid-2024. This planning effort represents an opportunity to promote equity and sustainability through the creation and retention of affordable housing and mixed-use development near transit and increased street, sidewalk, and bicycle-network connections. The funding opportunity aligns well to timing and need.

The proposed planning effort will comprehensively analyze and update land use for the areas adjacent to the planned Duke Street bus rapid transit (BRT) corridor to reflect current City policy and priorities related to housing affordability, equity, sustainability, and mobility while leveraging transit-oriented development principles, such as walkability, variety of uses, and transit-supportive density, among others. The planning effort will continue to integrate recommendations from the recently completed transit planning process for the corridor.

The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff's proposal and to provide its endorsement to Council.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Melissa McMahon  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

CC: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
Jim Parajon, City Manager  
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager  
Jeffrey Farmer, Deputy Director, Department of Planning & Zoning  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES  
Carrie Beach, Division Chief of Neighborhood Planning, Dept. of Planning & Zoning  
Andra Schmitt, Urban Planner 1, Department of Planning & Zoning  
Megan Oleynik, Transportation Planning, T&ES



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Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
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October 23, 2023

Re: **Endorsement of Grant Application for the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) FY 2024 Mid-Cycle Transportation Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP) New Passenger Amenities Category**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its October 18 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse a grant application for funding of up to \$544,000 through the DRPT FY 2024 Mid-Cycle TRIP New Passenger Amenities category.

The Transportation Commission supports staff's proposal to request funding to provide passenger amenities at Landmark/West End until the facility funded through SMART SCALE can be constructed, at which point the amenities can be relocated to other high need areas in the City.

This project supports the Alexandria Mobility Plan strategy to improve the rider experience and will ensure that appropriate amenities are available for this major transfer facility at the opening of Duke Street and West End Transitways. It also provides the opportunity to potentially leverage the new developer-funded Transportation Management Plan GoAlex Fund for the local match for these amenities.

The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff's proposal and to provide its endorsement to Council.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Melissa McMahon  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
Jim Parajon, City Manager  
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager  
Adriana Castaneda, Director, T&ES  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES  
Philippe Simon, Grants Coordinator, T&ES



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Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
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November 20, 2023

Re: Endorsement of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Project Funding Requests for FY 2030

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its November 15 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse the CMAQ and RSTP Project Funding Request for FY30 for up to \$5 million. We enthusiastically support funding for multi-modal transportation projects which have many goals, including reducing air pollutants in nonattainment areas such as the Washington region. The City's request for FY30 includes funding for Mt. Vernon Avenue North Safety Improvements, DASH Technology (Computer-Aided Dispatch/Automated Vehicle Location (CAD/AVL) system), DASH electric charging infrastructure, Safe Routes to School identified improvements, and a Multimodal Access Study for the Landmark/Van Dorn neighborhood including locations for a pedestrian and bicycle bridge over 395, bridges over Cameron Run, and connections over the rail tracks and Backlick Run to the Eisenhower Metrorail station.

**FY 2030 CMAQ/RSTP Proposed Program**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>FY30</b>
DASH Technology	\$1,000,000
Mt. Vernon Avenue North	\$1,000,000
Multimodal Access Study	\$500,000
Safe Routes to School	\$1,500,000
DASH Charging Equipment	\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>



Thank you as always for your support for these important grant program funding requests, which provide long-term support for many elements of the Alexandria Mobility Plan.

Sincerely,



Melissa McMahon  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
City Manager James F. Parajon  
Adriana Castañeda, Director, T&ES  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES



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Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
City Hall  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

January 17, 2024

Re: Endorsement of RAISE Grant Application for Safety Improvements along Seminary Road

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its January 17 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted unanimously to endorse the City's application for the RAISE grant program to fund safety improvements along Seminary Road between Library Lane and North Beauregard Street. This is a dangerous and confusing section of road for all road users, but critical to our transit infrastructure, walk and bike connectivity, and to the support of residents on the west end.

We enthusiastically support funding for these safety and multi-modal transportation projects which have many benefits, including helping us achieve Vision Zero by 2028.

Should you have any questions about this endorsement, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Melissa McMahon  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
City Manager James F. Parajon  
Adriana Castañeda, Director, T&ES  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES



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Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
City Hall  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
January 17, 2024

Re: Endorsement of the FY 2025 DRPT Operating and Capital Assistance State Aid Applications, the Commuter Assistance Program Operations Grant Applications, and the Transit Rider Incentive Program, and Approval of Required Matching Funds.

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its January 17 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse the staff recommended funded requests through six DRPT grant programs:

**DRPT Operating Assistance**

- Up to \$37 million to offset the City's operating expenses for FY 2024 and provide greater support for DASH

**DRPT Capital Assistance**

- Up to \$400,000 to submit for reimbursement for the purchase and replacement of batteries and powertrain Components for hybrid and electric buses. Reimbursements are typically funded between 60% and 68%.

**Commuter Assistance Program**

- Up to \$350,000 to fund two staff and programming.
  - This requires a \$70,000 local match

**Demonstration Project Assistance Program**

- Up to \$200,000 for a DASH Onboard Passenger Information Screen Pilot
  - This requires a \$40,000 local match
- Up to \$100,000 for a DASH Thru Vision Blindspot Camera Pilot

- This requires a \$20,000 local match

**Public Transportation Workforce Development Program**

- Up to \$110,000 to fund DASH professional development program.
  - This requires a \$22,000 local match

**Transit Rider Incentive Program**

- Up to \$500,000 for bus stop amenities
  - This requires a \$160,000 local match

These requests support goals in the Alexandria Mobility Plan including supporting multimodal transportation and reducing single occupancy vehicle trips. The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff recommendations for the FY 2025 DRPT Grant requests.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Melissa McMahon

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
City Manager James Parajon  
Adriana Castañeda, Director, T&ES  
Josh Baker, General Manager, DASH  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director of Transportation, T&ES



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Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
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January 17, 2024

Re: Endorsement of the FY 2025 Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) Grant Applications

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its January 17, 2024 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse the following staff-recommended technical assistance grant applications to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Transportation and Land Use Connections Program and Regional Roadway Safety Program:

*Transportation and Land Use Connections Program:*

- Up to \$80,000 to perform planning, community engagement, and preliminary design for corridor improvements on Edsall Road between South Pickett Street and the City line

*Regional Roadway Safety Program:*

- Up to \$80,000 to study safety improvements on Seminary Road between North Beauregard Street and the City line

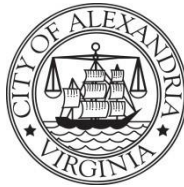
The requests support the goals of the Alexandria Mobility Plan, the Vision Zero Action Plan, and community concerns brought forth during the AlexWest planning efforts. The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff recommendations for the FY 2025 Transportation and Land Use Connections and Regional Roadway Safety Programs and heartily supports these grant applications.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Melissa McMahon  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
James Parajon, City Manager  
Adriana Castañeda, Director, T&ES  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES



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Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
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March 20, 2024

Re: **Endorsement of the FY25-FY34 Alexandria Transit Strategic Plan (ATSP)**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its March 20 meeting, the Transportation Commission received an update from DASH on the FY25 – FY34 Alexandria Transit Strategic Plan (ATSP). The presentation outlined potential service changes to DASH routes, including the potential reduction to Line 104 service.

The Commission recognizes that there are many competing budgetary priorities and is grateful that draft City Manager's budget for FY 2025 includes an increase in the DASH subsidy to cover additional costs related to a new collective bargaining agreement (CBA) and the DASH Free Fares program; however, the proposed reduction to Line 104 would have a severe negative impact on DASH riders traveling between Alexandria and the Pentagon and runs counter to the goals and objectives of the Alexandria Transit Vision (ATV) Plan and the Alexandria Mobility Plan.

To this end, the Commission encourages City Council to reconsider the Line 104 reduction to determine if additional funding can be identified to offset the \$180,000 annual operating cost. With its continued historic ridership growth, DASH has become a viable travel option for more and more of the city's residents, workers and visitors. Based on these trends, Alexandria should be investing more in transit service improvements like those proposed for Lines 32, 34 and 31, and not less, with the proposed reduction to Line 104. On a broader scale, the Commission considers the minimum acceptable level of service as having half-hour headways, and urges the Council to move forward with implementing the Transit Vision Plan's service expansion.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Melissa McMahon  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Jim Parajon, City Manager  
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager  
Tarrence Moorer, Interim Director, T&ES  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES  
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, Transportation Planning





Alexandria Transportation Commission  
301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

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**703.746.4025**

Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation  
1725 Duke Street, Suite 675  
Alexandria, VA 22314

April 17, 2024

**Re: Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2030 Six Year Improvement Program (SYIP)**

Dear Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation,

At its April 2024 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to approve this letter of support for the following project applications from the City of Alexandria:

- \$37,000,000 in eligible expenses for State Aid Transit Operating Assistance
- \$400,000 for State Aid Capital Assistance
- \$350,000 for the Commuter Assistance Program (CAP)
- \$110,000 for the Public Transportation Workforce Development Program
- \$315,000 for the Demonstration Project Assistance Program
- \$500,000 for the Transit Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP)

The Commission considers these projects high priorities for the City to promote transit ridership, service innovation, and public safety by building more convenient and accessible bus stops, supporting workforce development, and encouraging multimodal travel benefiting the entire region. We thank you for your consideration of these priority areas to help the City advance its strategic goals.

Sincerely,

Melissa McMahon  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
Adriana Castañeda, Director, T&ES  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES  
Christopher Ziemann, Chief of Transportation Planning Division, T&ES  
Philippe Simon, Grants Coordinator, T&ES



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Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
City Hall  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

June 20, 2024

Re: Transportation Elements of Alexandria West Small Area Plan Update

Dear Mayor Wilson, Members of City Council, and Members of the Planning Commission:

At its June 20, 2024, meeting, the Alexandria Transportation Commission reviewed the Alexandria West Small Area Plan's draft transportation recommendations. The Commission moved to **endorse the recommendations in the plan as consistent with the Alexandria Mobility Plan (AMP).**

The Transportation Commission:

- Supports the enhanced, interconnected, and gridded multimodal street and path network depicted in the Plan, but also
  - suggests that some refinement to drawings would ensure consistency in the networks depicted across the plan area, helping to avoid confusion or misunderstanding during implementation.
- Supports the Plan's commitment to safety studies at critical intersections and corridors in the Plan area, but also
  - suggests that the Plan be more explicit about how street and transit access design will improve the lived experience of residents, making their options safer and more convenient. Comparison between current access conditions and the future proposed condition could be helpful in this regard.
- Applauds how the Plan builds upon the West End Transitway by promoting density along the alignment of the route, but also
  - suggests the final document should unequivocally describe an effective West End Transitway as critical to the Plan's success.

The Transportation Commission was created by Council to advocate and promote the development of balanced transportation systems in the City through oversight of the implementation of the Transportation Chapter of the City's adopted Master Plan. Our endorsement action is conducted in fulfillment of this oversight obligation.

The Commission appreciates your consideration of its input on this project, and we look forward to the implementation of the Alexandria West Small Area Plan Update.

Sincerely,



Melissa McMahon  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
City Manager James Parajon  
Adriana Castañeda, Director, T&ES  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES  
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, T&ES



Alexandria Transportation Commission  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

[www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov)

Phone: 703.746.4025

Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
City Hall  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

June 20, 2024

Re: **Endorsement of Grant Application for Round 2 of the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its June 20 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse a grant application for Round 2 of the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT). The proposed application will bring critical charging infrastructure to support the growing adoption of electric vehicles.

The City is a leader in advancing transportation electrification in the region. The City has developed an Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Readiness Strategy (EVRS) to act as a roadmap to meet the electric vehicle charging infrastructure and technical needs of City residents, workforce members, and visitors as electric vehicle adoption increases. The EVRS includes 31 recommendations that will build an effective, innovative, and sustainable electric vehicle ecosystem. The EVRS includes recommendations around meeting the charging demand of the community, workforce development, and equity, which can be accelerated by the CFI Program.

The Transportation Commission supports staff's proposal to request funding to implement the EVRS recommendations through the installation of publicly accessible electric vehicle chargers at multiple sites across the City, such as public parks, libraries, and recreation centers. The chargers will be located in areas that will benefit disadvantaged communities and serve areas with a high concentration of multi-unit dwellings and limited off-street parking. The City of Alexandria residents are adopting electric vehicles at a rate faster than the national average, and this project will help meet the needs of the community.

The Transportation Commission understands the CFI requires a 20% local match, and that if the City's grant request is awarded, the match would be up to \$3 million. The grant terms indicate that private project partners can be required to provide the local match. If the City cannot secure

private project partner funding, the match will be funded through the Citywide Electric Vehicle Charging Station CIP project, which has over \$3 million in funds from FY 2024 through FY 2027.

The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff's proposal and to provide its endorsement to Council.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa McMahon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melissa McMahon  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

CC: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
Jim Parajon, City Manager  
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager  
Julian Gonsalves, Assistant City Manager  
Adriana Castañeda, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services  
Ryan Freed, Climate Action Officer, Office of Climate Action  
Amy Posner, Electric Vehicle Planner, Office of Climate Action  
Samantha Heitsch, Sustainability Coordinator, Office of Climate Action  
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, Transportation Planning, Transportation and Environmental Services  
Philippe Simon, Grants Coordinator, Transportation and Environmental Services



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Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
City Hall  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

June 20, 2024

Re: **Endorsement of Consideration of FY 2030 SMART SCALE Funding Requests**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its June 20 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse the staff-recommended list of four projects for pre-application for grant funding for the FY 2030 SMART SCALE program. The proposed application for the three City projects and one DASH project would include up to \$50 million for the following requests:

1. King Street-Bradlee Safety and Mobility Enhancements: Up to \$20 Million
2. Eisenhower Avenue and Van Dorn Street Improvements: Up to \$25 Million
3. Duke Street and Route 1 Intersection Improvements: Up to \$5 Million

Additionally, the Commission voted to endorse the joint application from NVTVA and Arlington County to improve the Shirlington Rotary, which would have a positive effect on Alexandria.

Transportation Commission is aware that because the timeline for submissions of pre-applications is significantly sooner than the application deadline, staff will develop more detailed cost estimates over the next several months, and that the amounts above are maximum funding requests.

The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff recommendations for SMART SCALE funding, as well as to provide its endorsement to Council.

May you have any questions; do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa McMahon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melissa McMahon  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
Jim Parajon, City Manager  
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager  
Adriana Castañeda, Director, T&ES  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES  
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, Transportation Planning



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Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
City Hall  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

June 20, 2024

Re: Endorsement of Grant Application for the FY 2024 Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its June meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse the City's application for the Safe Streets & Roads for All (SS4A) program of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) for a Planning and Demonstration grant to support Vision Zero Safety Initiatives. The City's goal of this project is to enhance safety and accessibility for all modes of transportation, aligning with the goals outlined in the Eisenhower West Small Area Plan. The Eisenhower Avenue Transportation Study, conducted jointly by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the City, identified critical safety concerns raised by the community. To implement interim improvements along the corridor the City is seeking funding from the SS4A program with a proposed budget of up to \$750,000.

The Transportation Commission understands the SS4A grant program requires a 20% local match, and that if the City's grant request is awarded, the match would be approximately \$150,000. The match would be funded through the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) 30% fund balance.

The Transportation Commission enthusiastically supports staff proposal to request funding for this planning project which supports many of the City's goals within the Vision Zero Action Plan by targeting high-injury corridors and intersections. The project will advance the goals of the Alexandria Mobility Plan while aligning with the grants objectives to promote safety on public roadways and prevent crashes resulting in death or serious injury.



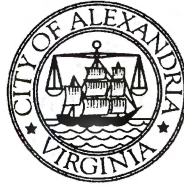
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa McMahon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melissa McMahon

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
City Manager James F. Parajon  
Adriana Castañeda, Director, T&ES  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, Transportation, T&ES  
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, Transportation Planning, T&ES



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Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
City Hall  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

June 20, 2024

Re: Endorsement of SMART Grant Application for Detection Technology

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its June meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse the City's application for the SMART grant program for the Stage 1 Planning funds for technology upgrades to assist with asset management. The City's goal of this project is to build a dynamic and real inventory of three asset areas: pavement conditions, painted roadway lines, and traffic signs. This funding will enable a more equitable process for triaging road repaving and digitizing the City's roadway lines and signs for preventative maintenance and clear communication of policies. It will also lay the groundwork for the safe future deployment of autonomous vehicles, which are dependent on well-maintained roadways, pavement markings, and traffic signs.

We enthusiastically support funding for this planning project which supports many of the City's Smart Mobility Framework goals, including helping the City address current needs for better road conditions and traffic sign maintenance, but also positions the City at the forefront of technological advancements for a more livable and efficient tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Melissa McMahon  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
City Manager James F. Parajon

Adriana Castañeda, Director, T&ES

Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, Transportation, T&ES

Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, Transportation Planning, T&ES



Alexandria Transportation Commission  
301 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314  
Phone: 703.746.4025

Paul Smedberg, Chair  
WMATA Board of Directors  
300 7th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20024

February 21, 2024

Re: WMATA FY25 Budget: Consistent, Reliable, Frequent Bus and Rail Service is the Priority

Dear Chair Smedberg:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed FY2025 budget on behalf of the City of Alexandria's Transportation Commission. We applaud the proposed budget's delicate balance of aggressive cost saving proposals, targeted service reduction techniques, and reasonable fare increases.

The Commission appreciates that the revised FY2025 proposed operating budget avoids many of the draconian cuts to Metrorail and Metrobus service and frequencies called for in the General Manager's proposed budget, including that the revisions sustain critical bus services such as the 8W to parts of Alexandria which do not have access to Metrorail. It is of the utmost importance that the WMATA budget maintain **reliable service** and **convenient frequencies** that continue to serve all riders, especially at a time when transit ridership is increasing across the region. **This must remain a top priority regionwide.**

The Commission also understands the need to increase fares to keep pace with inflation, and the importance of installing new faregates system-wide to reduce fare evasion. Please remember that these measures to ensure all riders fairly pay their way must be in lockstep with increased use of Metro Lift and Senior reduced-fare programs to help our riders most in need.

WMATA's request for more subsidy funding from jurisdictional partners at the local level would normally cause concern, especially while accepting existing or reduced service levels. However, the Commission understands that the FY2025 operating budget shortfall is a regional issue which

requires a regional solution from all partners, and we have consistently championed local investment in the Metrorail and Metrobus systems during local budget deliberations.

Looking ahead, the Commission urges WMATA to pay special attention to future budgets because of the absence of dedicated funding and to continue to work closely with compact partners and jurisdictions to look at alternative funding approaches. The objective: increase budget stability and certainty to ensure that transit continues to serve the region's transportation needs. Only with that certainty can regional residents and workers truly build their lives around alternatives to driving alone, thereby realizing congestion reduction, greenhouse gas emissions reduction, and equity for all well into the future.

Sincerely,



Melissa McMahon  
Transportation Commission Chair

Cc: City Manager James F. Parajon  
Adriana Castañeda, Director, T&ES  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES  
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, T&ES  
Silas Sullivan, Urban Planner II, T&ES



Alexandria Transportation Commission  
301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

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**703.746.4025**

Ms. Phyllis Randall, Chair  
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority  
3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200  
Fairfax, VA 2203

April 17, 2024

**Re: FY2024-2029 Six Year Program (SYP)**

Dear Chair Randall:

At its April 2024 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to approve this letter of support for the project scoring of the FY2024-2029 SYP. The Commission believes that the scoring accurately reflects the Authority's and the Region's priorities. In particular, the Commission wishes to reiterate support for the following project applications from the City of Alexandria:

- Smart and Connected Vehicle Infrastructure (\$5 million, ranked #2)
- South Van Dorn Street Bridge Enhancements (\$10 million, ranked #7)
- Alexandria Metroway Enhancements (\$7 million, ranked #8)
- Safety Improvements at High Crash Intersections (\$3 million, ranked #11)

In addition, the Commission would also like to express its support for Arlington's application for the Shirlington Bus Station Expansion. This regional bus station serves not only Arlington residents, but also many Alexandria residents to access jobs and services throughout the region. It also is a major transfer point for the upcoming West End Transitway. This will lead to the implementation of NVTA's goals of expanded Bus Rapid Transit throughout the region.

The Commission considers these projects high priorities for the City to regionally reduce congestion, increase multimodal access, improve safety, and prepare for future mobility. We thank you for your consideration and your help as Alexandria works to advance its strategic goals.

Sincerely,



Melissa McMahon  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
Justin Wilson, Mayor  
Adriana Castañeda, Director, T&ES  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES  
Christopher Ziemann, Chief of Transportation Planning Division, T&ES