

This has been a busy year for Duke Street in Motion, and we are happy to share the many milestones our community has reached. Over the past year, the City moved key projects from planning into design, including the Duke Street Transitway and the Duke Street at West Taylor Run intersection improvements. We also made significant progress on design of the new West Alexandria Transit Center, launched smart transportation tools like adaptive traffic signals and a bus stop program dashboard, and kicked off forward-looking efforts such as the Duke Street Land Use Plan and John Ewald Park improvements.

Looking ahead, the City is moving from planning towards implementation. In 2026, the next steps will include continued design work on major projects and the start of construction for some early improvements. The momentum is building to turn our plans into reality, and we couldn't be more excited to take these next steps together. As always, we encourage you to get involved—whether by sharing feedback, attending community meetings, or following project updates. Together, we're making Duke Street safer, more efficient, and better connected for everyone.

Access

Duke Street at West Taylor Run

The design for the Duke Street at West Taylor Run project is moving forward. The City and the design team worked together to keep the right-turn lane where it is today and remove the potential "slip" lane that would connect to the service road east of the intersection after hearing community feedback.



This project will make the intersection safer and help reduce cut-through traffic in nearby neighborhoods. It also includes building a new ramp from Duke Street onto Telegraph Road and will permanently close access to the existing ramp from West Taylor Run Parkway to Telegraph Road with a raised median, which has helped to reduce cut-through traffic in the neighborhoods.

The project is expected to be fully designed by Spring 2026, with construction starting in 2027. The design is also being coordinated with the future Duke Street Transitway, which is expected to reach final design by Fall 2027. Learn more by visiting the [project website](#).

Jordan Street Project

In response to strong community interest in traffic calming, the City approved conceptual safety improvements for the Jordan Street corridor (Holmes Run Parkway to North Howard Street) at the Traffic and Parking Board's September 15 meeting. The plan includes new crosswalks, better sightlines for pedestrians and drivers, additional stop signs, protected pedestrian crossing islands, improved facilities for people biking, and painted curb extensions to slow down traffic. Design is ongoing, with construction expected in 2026.

Transit & Streets



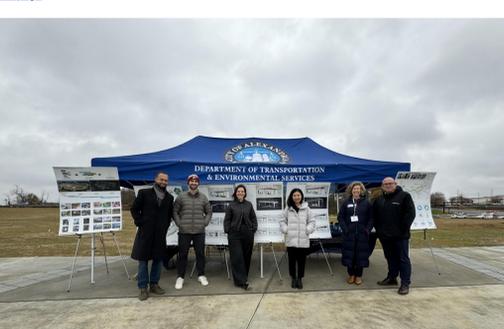
Duke Street Transitway

After City Council approved the Duke Street Transitway concept in 2024, the project has shifted from planning into design. The City assembled a project team this year—naming an Owner's Advisor in February 2025 and a lead design consultant (AECOM) in July 2025—to kick off detailed engineering. Residents may notice survey crews along Duke Street this fall as the team gathers technical data to inform the design. The design phase will continue through 2026, with final design expected by Summer 2027 and construction beginning shortly thereafter. Throughout this process, the City will provide regular updates and involve the community at key milestones to ensure the Transitway reflects residents' needs. For more information, visit the [project website](#).

West Alexandria Transit Center



At the former Landmark Mall site (now the West End Alexandria development), the City is constructing a new site-bay transit center as part of the mixed-use redevelopment. This hub will serve two future bus rapid transit (BRT) lines as well as several local DASH and Metrobus routes, becoming a major transfer point that supports the City's long-term transit network goals. As of Fall 2025, construction is well underway. The transit street infrastructure is in place, and bus service is slated to begin by Winter 2026 using temporary shelters while the permanent facility is finalized. The project team recently held a pop-up event at the transit center to capture rider input on final design. For more information, visit the [project webpage](#).



Safety



Duke Street Vision Zero & Safety Enhancements

Along Duke Street between North Jordan Street and North Ripley Street, one of Alexandria's high-injury corridors, the City implemented a series of near-term safety upgrades this year in support of its Vision Zero initiative. Since 2017, over 150 crashes have occurred on this segment, including 14 crashes involving pedestrians (all resulting in injury or worse). These recent improvements are aimed at reducing conflicts and making the corridor safer. They include:

- **No Turn on Red** restrictions at several high-risk intersections.
- **Leading Pedestrian Intervals (LPIs)** that give people walking a head start at traffic signals.
- **Painted curb extensions and hardened centerlines** to slow turning vehicles and improve pedestrian visibility.

Many of these measures will be made permanent as part of the Duke Street in Motion project, helping ensure that Duke Street becomes a safer, more comfortable corridor for everyone. Learn more on the [project webpage](#).

Technology



Smart Mobility: Adaptive Traffic Signals

As part of Alexandria's Smart Mobility Program, the City is deploying adaptive traffic signal technology along Duke Street that adjusts in real time to optimize traffic flow. These "smart" signals use sensors and a central control system to automatically modify light timings based on actual traffic demand, resulting in shorter waits and smoother trips for drivers, bus riders, and even emergency vehicles. Phase 1 of this project—installing adaptive signal control on all signals along Duke Street and Van Dorn Street—is nearly complete as of late 2025, and many travelers have already noticed more responsive green lights. Phase 2 will expand this technology to other busy corridors citywide through late 2025 and into 2026. Once fully operational, the system will continuously fine-tune signal timing every few minutes according to traffic conditions, which is expected to shorten travel times and reduce stop-and-go congestion on Duke Street.

For more information, visit the [program webpage](#).

Bus Stop Program Dashboard

In October 2025, the City launched a new [Bus Stop Dashboard](#) of all bus stops citywide and provides up-to-date data on each stop's amenities (like seating and shelters). It also tracks progress on bus stop improvements, allowing residents to see what upgrades have been completed or are planned at each location.

Planning

Duke Street Land Use Plan



The City has kicked off an 18–24 month planning initiative to shape the future land use of the Duke Street corridor—the first comprehensive update for this area since 1992. Beginning in June 2025, City planners are engaging residents, businesses, and other stakeholders on topics such as land use and zoning, housing affordability, mobility and transit connections, pedestrian safety, environmental sustainability, and parks and open space. The goal is to develop a forward-looking blueprint that aligns with community needs and City policies while guiding coordinated development as the area grows. This process is expected to result in a proposed updated plan for City Council consideration by late 2026 or early 2027.

More information is available on the [project webpage](#).

Ewald Park Improvements



John Ewald Park (3.9 acres in Alexandria's West End) is slated for major upgrades to better serve the community. Through a public process in 2025, the City developed a park improvement plan that includes a new playground, a parkour area, accessible pathways, multipurpose courts, and a relocated parking lot. The Park and Recreation Commission reviewed and approved these recommendations in mid-2025, and the project moved into the design phase in October 2025. These enhancements will provide more recreational opportunities and an improved park experience for residents. Learn more on the [project webpage](#).

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