



Transportation Commission Meeting

May 20, 2026

7:00 PM

2900B Business Center Drive

AGENDA

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Public Comment (Not to exceed 10 min) | 7:00 – 7:10 |
| 2. Minutes of the April meeting | 7:10-7:15 |
| 3. Discussion Item: Duke Street Land Use Plan | 7:15 – 7:45 |
| 4. Action Item: SMART SCALE application | 7:45 – 8:00 |
| 5. Commissioner Updates | 8:10 – 8:20 |
| 6. Written Items | 8:20 – 8:30 |
| A. Holland Lane and Reinekers Lane | |
| B. West Alexandria Transit Center Bus Shelters | |
| C. Commonwealth Transportation Board Meeting | |
| D. Talking Transit Webinar with Sister Cities | |
| E. Capital Projects Update | |
| 7. Other Business | 8:30 – 8:40 |

Public hearing items are so noted on the agenda. The Commission may receive public comments on other agenda items at its discretion.

Next Meeting: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2026

This meeting of the Transportation Commission is being held electronically. Members of the Transportation Commission and staff are participating either from a remote locations through video conference call on Zoom. The meeting can be accessed via Zoom by registering at the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/95028234542>

Meeting ID: 950 2823 4542

Passcode: 947959

One tap mobile

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Public comment will be received at the meeting. There will be a public comment period at the beginning of the meeting and written testimony can be provided until 3PM on the day of the Commission meeting to Christopher.Ziemann@alexandriava.gov.

The City of Alexandria complies with the terms of ADA. An individual with a disability who wishes to request accommodation may contact the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services at 703-746-4083 or TTY/TTD 703-838-5056.



City of Alexandria
Transportation Commission
April 15, 2026
7:45 p.m.

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Vice Chair Leslie Catherwood, Commissioner Dan Beattie, Commissioner Casey Kane, Commissioner Tim Lovain, Commissioner Melissa McMahon.

Staff Present: Christopher Ziemann - Transportation Planning Division Chief; Katy North - Mobility Services Division Chief.

Audio/Visual presentation is available online:

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/TransportationCommission>

1. Public Comment

00:08:04

No public comment was received.

Motion to close the Public Comment Period: Commissioner McMahon

Second: Commissioner Lovain

Motion carries 5-0

2. March Minutes

00:08:52

Motion to approve minutes for the March 18, 2026 meeting: Commissioner Beattie

Second: Commissioner Lovain

Motion carries 5-0

3. Action Item: GO Alex Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2027-2031

00:10:29

Katy North presented on the GO Alex Strategic Plan for FY 2027-2031. (The April 7, 2026 draft of the plan can be found [here](#)). Key points included:

- The GO Alex Strategic plan is required by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) and is intended to guide GO Alex programs, services, grant applications, and funding priorities over the next five years.
- The Go Alex Team also administers and guides the Transportation Management Plan (TMP).
- The GO Alex Strategic Plan is organized around a live-work-visit framework and focuses on three goals:
 - 1) **Inform and Educate** the public about transportation choices,
 - 2) **Enhance and Invest** funding to maximize impact, and
 - 3) **Prove and Celebrate** to evaluate effectiveness and broadcast the successful impact of GO Alex projects and programs.
- Target audiences include residents, students, employers and employees, new residents near transit, and visitors to Alexandria.
- Program strategies include education and training, incentives, events and engagement, pilot programs, marketing, and better use of performance measures and customer relationship management tools.
- Potential future initiatives include expanded transit education, youth transportation programming, an e-bike incentive program, bike valet at events, an e-bike lending library, and study work related to water taxi service.

Questions/Discussion

Commissioner and Staff discussion regarding the **GO Alex FY 27-31 Strategic Plan** focused on:

- Whether GO Alex should place more emphasis on remote and hybrid workers, whose travel patterns may differ from traditional daily commuters but still create opportunities for mode shift.
- How much flexibility current and future funding sources provide for non-commute trips, and whether diversified funding is allowing the program to move beyond a narrow commuter-only focus.
- How the visit component of the plan should be framed, with commissioners encouraging coordination with Visit Alexandria and other partners rather than direct one-on-one outreach to tourists.
- Interest in the proposed water taxi effort, including whether it should be understood as a technical feasibility study that could later lead to a pilot rather than an immediate service program.
- Support for continued transit education and youth-focused programming, with discussion of helping students build familiarity with transit and other transportation options early, and a recommendation to reflect private schools in school-related transportation materials and mapping where relevant.
- Whether outreach should extend beyond new residents near transit to include a broader citywide resident audience, as many travel decisions are not limited to households living immediately adjacent to Metro.
- The usefulness of smaller, more practical printed maps and other way-finding materials for residents and visitors, rather than relying only on larger network maps.
- A handful of minor edits and wording updates in the draft plan, including agency naming and map references.

Staff noted that the plan will be presented to City Council in May for approval and then submitted to DRPT.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: that the Commission endorse the FY27-31 GO Alex Strategic Plan for City Council.

Motion to endorse the FY27-31 GO Alex Strategic Plan: Commissioner McMahon **00:52:01**
Second: Commissioner Kane
Motion carries 5-0

4. Commissioner Updates **00:52:33**

Commissioner Beattie: No updates to report.

Vice Chair Catherwood: No updates.

Commissioner Kane: Reported that the Traffic and Parking Board approved parking changes to support a Capital Bikeshare station relocation on Commonwealth Avenue and made additional parking adjustments related to DASH operations in Old Town. Discussion has also begun regarding future succession for the Commission's cross-appointment to the Traffic and Parking Board.

Commissioner Lovain: No updates.

Commissioner McMahon: No updates.

5. Written Items **00:54:50**

Item C. Maintenance of Bicycle Infrastructure

- Commissioners questioned whether the written update accurately reflected field conditions after winter weather, particularly in protected bike lanes.
- Discussion focused on debris and snow removal, damage to delineators and other bike lane elements and concern that bicycle facilities remain a low operational priority even as the network expands.
- Commissioners emphasized the need for a clearer strategy for maintaining key bicycle corridors and for developing a network-based snow clearance approach as specialized equipment becomes available.

Items F & H: Braddock Road Metro Station Redevelopment & Braddock Road Corridor Improvements

- Commissioners asked for clarification on the proposed bus circulation, pickup and drop-off arrangements, and how the Metro redevelopment concept relates to the broader Braddock Road Corridor design.
- Discussion focused on whether curbside pickup and drop-off on Braddock Road would conflict with planned bicycle and pedestrian improvements and whether Main Line Boulevard may function better for “kiss-and-ride”.
- Commissioners also discussed the location and function of public open space near the station, the importance of creating a strong pedestrian arrival experience, and whether additional pedestrian space under or around the railroad could improve access.
- Staff noted that the redevelopment concept remains preliminary and that additional public information would be provided through the upcoming Metro open house and hearing process.

6. Other Business

01:07:46

The Commission held its annual election of officers.

- **Commissioner Tim Lovain** (nominated by Commissioner Dan Beattie) was elected Chair of the Transportation Commission, **5-0**.
- **Commissioner Dan Beattie**, (nominated by Commissioner Lovain), was elected Vice Chair of the Transportation Commission, **5-0**.

At **8:54 pm**, the Transportation Commission meeting adjourned.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 20, 2026

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: MICHAEL D’ORAZIO, URBAN PLANNER, DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #3 – DUKE STREET LAND USE PLAN UPDATE

ISSUE: Draft framework plans for the future Duke Street Land Use Plan were recently released for public feedback and the draft recommendations are scheduled to be released in early Summer 2026 for community review.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive this presentation and provide feedback on the Draft Mobility Framework Plan.

BACKGROUND: As part of City Council’s FY 2026 Long Range Planning Work Program, the Duke Street Land Use Plan community process launched in June 2025. Since that time, more than 3,500 stakeholders have participated through over 45+ pop-up events, 5 community meetings, 1 open house, 4 workshops, and numerous discussions with civic organizations, businesses, ACHS students, and property owners.

Over the first few phases of the planning process, Staff worked with the community to develop the essential building blocks of the future Plan, each step building upon previous discussions to reflect the community’s vision for the future.

First, the Draft Plan Principles were finalized in October, 2025 to establish the Plan’s foundation, upon which all recommendations will be aligned. Next, the Draft Land Use Themes were shared with the public in December and January as a geographic organization of the Draft Plan Principles. Most recently, the Draft Framework Plan was shared at a virtual community meeting in April. The Framework Plan is a set of four maps (Land Use, Heights, Open Space, and Mobility) that will become the key elements of the Plan and will help guide how development can occur along the corridor.

Additional community engagement is planned for May and June, with the intent of releasing draft Plan recommendations in July and the full draft Plan for public comment in September, with public hearings on the final plan anticipated in late 2025 or early 2026.

DISCUSSION: Staff will present an overview and timeline of the Duke Street Land Use Plan planning effort, with a focus on the recently released Draft Mobility Framework Plan.

The Mobility Framework Plan encourages a transportation network that improves access and connectivity for all users, including pedestrians, cyclists, transit users, and drivers. The framework shows the following proposed infrastructure, which supplements the existing mobility network:

- Proposed bike facilities, which include proposed bike lanes, sharrows, or multi-use trails, including facilities previously approved in the Alexandria Mobility Plan and other City plans;
- Proposed pedestrian connections, which include proposed trails or paths that connect to other existing trails, paths, or sidewalks;
- Proposed street typologies, which include multiple street categories, such as park, retail, and residential streets, that will correspond in the future to street layouts with unique streetscapes; and
- The planned Duke Street Transitway with proposed stops.

Community members are encouraged to submit feedback on the framework plans by visiting the [community engagement hub](#). They may also watch this [video](#) that provides a recap of the planning process so far.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 20, 2026

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: HILLARY ORR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, TRANSPORTATION

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #4 – CONSIDERATION OF ENDORSEMENT OF THE FY 2033 – FY 2034 SMART SCALE GRANT APPLICATION

ISSUE: Consideration of a letter of endorsement to City Council to support Grant Applications to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for FY 2033 – FY 2034 SMART SCALE projects.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Transportation Commission endorse a letter to City Council in support of the FY 2033 – FY 2034 SMART SCALE applications.

BACKGROUND: In 2014, HB2 was signed into law, and in June 2016, the program was renamed SMART SCALE. SMART stands for System Management Allocation of Resources for Transportation and SCALE stands for the six-road project scoring attributes: Safety, Congestion Mitigation, Accessibility, Land Use, Environmental and Economic development. State law assigns different weights to factors based on a project's location within a region of the state. Within Northern Virginia, the recently updated factors are as follows: congestion mitigation is the highest weighted factor at 45%; accessibility at 25%, environmental quality at 10%, safety is 15% and economic development at 5% each. The goal of SMART SCALE is to ensure the state invests limited tax dollars into projects that meet critical transportation needs. The state will make awards in June 2027 for projects scheduled for implementation in FY 2033 - FY 2034. To date, the City and DASH have been awarded approximately \$154 million in SMART SCALE funding for projects (Attachment 2).

DISCUSSION: Based on the guidelines and criteria outlined in the SMART SCALE process, staff assess previously approved unfunded or underfunded projects that align with the timing of SMART SCALE funding and criteria. Staff identified two City projects as viable and competitive candidates for this round of funding. Full project submissions are due on August 1, 2026. Staff will develop more detailed cost estimates over the next several months and in coordination with VDOT staff. The City is requesting approval to apply for up to the maximum amounts noted for each project.

Project 1: King Street-Bradlee Safety and Mobility Enhancements: Up to \$27 Million – This project will construct improvements to the access road and intersections along King Street between Quaker Lane and Menokin Drive. The design will include wider sidewalks,

a separate path for people biking, e-biking, and scooting, safety improvements at intersections, and accessible and enhanced transit stops. This project currently has funding available for design. Staff began working with the community in Fall 2023 to understand concerns with the roadway and undertook extensive community engagement through the concept design phase to identify a preferred design. The project was approved by the Traffic and Parking Board on June 24, 2024 and City Council on October 8, 2024. Staff previously submitted this project for an earlier round of SMART SCALE funding for FY2030-FY2031 but the project was not awarded funds. More information on the engagement process and recommended design concepts can be found on the project website at www.alexandriava.gov/go/4769.

Project 2: Mount Vernon Avenue North Intersection Improvements: Up to \$8 Million –

This project will improve safety benefits for pedestrians, cyclists and bus riders while minimizing impacts to traffic operations and parking. The project includes realignment of the intersections of Executive Avenue and Russell Road as they intersect Mount Vernon Avenue to reduce crashes, improve sight lines, reduce vehicle speeds and create safer space for all roadway users. The project includes wider sidewalks, additional crosswalks, improved bus stops, shorter crossing distances and increased greenspace. This project is the result of a case study in 2016 which recommended opportunities to improve the safety of all roadway users along Mount Vernon Avenue, which was incorporated into the 2021 Arlandria-Chirilagua Small Area Plan. At the plan's completion, Transportation Staff undertook a multi-year planning process called the Mount Vernon Avenue North Complete Streets Project, seeking design improvements at four intersections on Mount Vernon Avenue, including Executive Avenue and Russell Avenue. At each location, city staff solicited feedback from residents, coordinated with property owners and assessed benefits of each design option before selecting a preferred design alternative for the intersection. The final preferred design alternative was approved by the City's Traffic and Parking board in April 2024. More information on the engagement process and recommended design concepts can be found on the project website at www.alexandriava.gov/go/7865.

FISCAL IMPACT: The total grant request is for up to \$35 Million for the two City applications. SMART SCALE grants do not require a local match.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: DRAFT Transportation Commission Letter of Endorsement

Attachment 2: Previous SMART SCALE Project Awards



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

www.alexandriava.gov

Phone: 703.746.4025

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

May 20, 2026

Re: **Endorsement of FY 2033 – FY 2034 SMART SCALE Funding Requests**

Dear Mayor Gaskins and Members of City Council:

At its May 20 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse the staff-recommended list of two projects for pre-application for grant funding for the FY 2033 SMART SCALE program. The proposed application for the two City projects would include up to \$35 million for the following requests:

1. King Street-Bradlee Safety and Mobility Enhancements: Up to \$27 Million
2. Mount Vernon Avenue North Intersection Improvements: Up to \$8 Million

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,

Tim Lovain
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

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

DRAFT

Attachment 2: Previous SMART SCALE Project Awards

SMART Scale Funding FY2024-- FY2029								
Project Name	Prior Years	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	Project Total
Old Cameron Run Trail	\$ 2,732,000		\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,273,000	\$ 2,541,000			\$ 7,546,000
Safety & Capacity Enhancements (Duke St. and West Taylor Run)	\$ 1,581,000	\$ 3,700,000				\$ 618,000	\$ 1,390,000	\$ 7,289,000
Broadband Link for Eisenhower Avenue	\$ 1,000,000							\$ 1,000,000
Traffic Adaptive Signal Control	\$ 14,686,000							\$ 14,686,000
West End Transitway	\$ 11,468,000							\$ 11,468,000
DASH Bus Service and Facility Expansion	\$ 13,357,000	\$ 1,281,000						\$ 14,638,000
Access Improvements to the Landmark Transit Hub		\$ 3,950,000	\$ 2,384,000					\$ 6,334,000
Citywide TSP on Major Corridors		\$ 374,000	\$ 1,736,000					\$ 2,110,000
West End Transitway Corridor Investments		\$ 23,610,000	\$ 33,590,000					\$ 57,200,000
DASH Zero Emission Fleet Expansion		\$ 4,960,000	\$ 7,040,000					\$ 12,000,000
Route 1 and Glebe				\$ 3,113,000				\$ 3,113,000
Route 1 South Median	\$ 2,235,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,046,000					\$ 4,281,000
Landmark Mall Transit Center	\$ 5,257,000				\$ 2,993,000		\$ 4,747,000	\$ 12,997,000
SMART Scale Total	\$ 52,316,000	\$ 38,875,000	\$ 46,796,000	\$ 4,386,000	\$ 5,534,000	\$ 618,000	\$ 6,137,000	\$ 154,662,000

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 20, 2026
TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
FROM: HILLARY ORR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, TRANSPORTATION
SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #9 – WRITTEN ITEMS

ISSUE: Staff update to Transportation Commission on various projects.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive the written items.

A. Holland Lane and Reinekers Lane

Construction is underway for the Holland Lane Corridor Improvements Project. This project is providing streetscape and safety improvements in conjunction with street resurfacing, including new pedestrian crossings, medians, trees, and protected bicycle lanes. The project will be completed this spring.

Holland Lane Photos:





Additionally, the City recently adding bicycle connectivity improvements on Reinekers Lane, including a protected contraflow bicycle lane, to improve bicycle access to the King Street-Old Town Metro Station and surrounding area. Additional improvements are being installed this spring on Diagonal Road to connect the bicycle lane on Reinekers to Commonwealth Avenue.

Reinekers Lane Photos:



Bicycle Improvements Map:



B. West Alexandria Transit Center

12 new bus shelters were installed at the West Alexandria Transit Center in April 2026. The addition of these bus shelters improves safety and comfort in the interim for transit riders while progress continues on the design of the innovative, future [West Alexandria Transit Center](#). Upon completion of the permanent transit center, the 12 bus shelters will be relocated to other priority bus stop locations around the City. Funding for the bus shelters was provided by a TRIP grant from the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation. The West Alexandria Transit Center replaces the former Landmark Mall Transit Center, which permanently closed in November 2025 as part of the West End Alexandria Redevelopment Project.





C. Commonwealth Transportation Board Monthly Meeting and VDOT Six Year Program Public Hearing in Alexandria

On May 19 and May 20, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will meet in Alexandria. This will be a good opportunity for local leaders to meet and speak with CTB members in advance of the finalization of the Six Year Improvement Plan. Additionally, VDOT will hold its public meeting to discuss the Six Year Improvement Program (SYIP). The projects for discussion in Alexandria include the TA Grant for School Crossing Improvements Phase 2, and several State of Good Repair projects.

D. Talking Transit Webinar with Sister Cities

On May 12, staff hosted a webinar with transportation counterparts in two of Alexandria's Sister Cities (Dundee, Scotland and Helsingborg, Sweden). Dundee representative John Berry talked about operating transit in the UK's private ownership model. Traffic Planners from Helsingborg discussed their BRT Project in comparison to other systems in Europe. And Alexandria staff discussed fare free transit and lessons learned.

E. Capital Projects Update – Christina

Several capital projects are currently in the design and construction phases. For design phase milestones, the Access to Landmark sidewalk project is entering the public engagement phase beginning in May 2026, while the West Taylor Run project completed its public engagement phase in April 2026. Regarding construction phase milestones, the Route 1 Median Improvements project is scheduled to begin construction in May 2026. The Beauregard Trail project is currently out for bid, with construction anticipated to begin in late Summer 2026, and the Bus Shelter project is also out for bid, with construction expected to start in Fall 2026.