



Transportation Commission Meeting

**September 16, 2026
7:00 PM
2900B Business Center Drive**

AGENDA

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| 1. Public Comment (Not to exceed 10 min) | 7:00 – 7:10 |
| 2. Minutes of the May and June meetings. | 7:00 – 7:10 |
| 3. Public Hearing Item: FY 2027 GO Alex Fund Budget and Work Plan | 7:10 – 7:15 |
| 4. Discussion Item: Paratransit Program Update | 7:15 – 7:30 |
| 5. Discussion Item: Parking and Curbside Management Program Update | 7:30 – 7:45 |
| 6. Discussion Item: State Legislative Process | 7:45 – 8:15 |
| 7. Commissioner Updates | 8:15 – 8:20 |
| 8. Written Items | 8:20 – 8:25 |
| a. Capital Projects Update | |
| b. SmartScale Applications | |
| c. West End Open House | |
| d. WMATA Funding | |
| e. T&ES Staffing Updates | |
| 9. Other Business: | 8:25 – 8:30 |
| a. Transportation Commission Annual Report | |
| b. Thank you Commissioner Catherwood | |
| c. Commission Membership Update | |
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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, OCTOBER 21, 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://alexandriava.zoom.us/j/95714787959>

Webinar ID: 957 1478 7959

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At this meeting, the Commission will hold a public hearing to consider and approve the FY 2027 GO Alex Fund Budget as required by the 2023 TMP Policy.

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 TransportationCommission@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
May 20, 2026
7:00 p.m.

Deferred for approval to the September 16, 2026 Transportation Commission meeting.

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Chair Tim Lovain, Vice Chair Dan Beattie, Commissioner Leslie Catherwood, Commissioner Casey Kane, Commissioner Jim Maslanka, Commissioner Melissa McMahon, Commissioner Matthew McManus; Councilman John Chapman.

Staff Present: Christopher Ziemann - Transportation Planning Division Chief; Sara Brandt-Vorel – Capital Project Manager; Max Devilliers – Urban Planner, Transportation & Environmental Services; Michael D’Orazio – Urban Planner, Planning & Zoning.

Audio/Visual presentation is available online:

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

1. Public Comment

00:04:34

Public comment focused on cut-through traffic in Old Town and the possibility of studying new approaches to distinguish local destination traffic from regional pass-through traffic.

- **Carl Fisher**, a resident of Old Town, noted he’d submitted written comments and a memorandum to the Commission and requested that staff continue exploring innovative, data-driven ways to address cut-through commuter traffic affecting Old Town streets such as Henry, Patrick, Duke, Washington, and Braddock. He noted that prior City studies have shown that a substantial share of traffic in the Duke Street corridor consisted of trips that neither began nor ended in Alexandria, and said the resulting congestion, noise, and safety impacts continue to affect residents daily.
- Commissioner discussion following the comment noted that congestion pricing or similar approaches would require state authorization before the City could act, but that the concept may still be worth future exploration, including possible legislative action or a discussion with outside experts.

2. April Minutes

00:09:13

Motion to approve minutes for the April 15, 2026 meeting: Commissioner Catherwood

Second: Commissioner McMahon

Motion carries 7-0

3. Discussion Item: Duke Street Land Use Plan

00:10:40

Michael D’Orazio from the Department of Planning & Zoning presented an update on the Duke Street Land Use Plan. Key points included:

- The plan area spans roughly four miles from the West End/Former Landmark Mall area to the King Street Metro area and is intended to guide future land use, mobility, public realm, parks and open space, and building form along the corridor.
- Staff reported extensive public engagement since the process began in 2025, including more than 50 pop-ups, workshops, community meetings, and online engagement tools intended to reach residents, businesses, and corridor users.

- The recently released framework plans establish an early corridor vision for mobility, land use, redevelopment opportunity areas, affordability retention, and public realm improvements.
- The mobility framework identifies proposed bicycle facilities, pedestrian connections, and new streets that could be realized as redevelopment occurs, while also building on previously adopted transportation planning work such as the Duke Street Transitway and the Alexandria Mobility Plan.
- Staff emphasized that the current mobility map is still conceptual and does not yet classify the specific type of bicycle facility proposed in each location.
- On May 28th, a Community meeting will be held to look specifically at Housing and Health; additional public meetings are being planned for June. More detailed recommendations are expected in early summer; the draft full plan will be released in September and public hearings anticipated in December.

Questions/Discussion

Commissioner and Staff discussion regarding the **Duke Street Land Use Plan** focused on:

- The need to avoid scheduling future Duke Street transportation meetings at the same time as Transportation Commission meetings.
- Questions about whether the online engagement map is generating enough public feedback and how residents can add location-specific comments.
- The importance of more visible and proactive outreach to non-English-speaking communities, including direct engagement rather than relying only on translation by request.
- Suggestions to better illustrate how the corridor plan connects to surrounding neighborhoods, trails, other small area plans, and the broader bicycle and pedestrian network beyond the formal plan boundary.
- The importance of showing how this land use planning effort builds on, rather than restarts, prior transportation work such as Duke Street in Motion and the Duke Street Transitway.
- Support for identifying and planning future parallel routes, new internal streets, and redevelopment block structures that can improve circulation for people walking, biking, taking transit, and driving.
- Concerns about relying on shared lane markings as a meaningful bicycle facility and interest in identifying safer, more durable connections instead.
- Interest in utility placement and sidewalk obstructions, with comments that future corridor improvements should account for poles, signs, and other barriers that reduce sidewalk usability.
- Specific concern about the difficult connection between the Van Dorn area, the future West End redevelopment, and the Holmes Run Trail system, including grade changes, narrow sidewalks, and the need to at least identify a future connection strategy in the plan.
- Commissioners also commended staff for the scale and variety of public engagement undertaken to date.

4. Action Item: FY 2033-2034 Smart Scale Grant Applications

00:43:58

Sara Brandt-Vorel presented two proposed Smart Scale applications for the upcoming cycle and requested Commission endorsement of a letter to City Council supporting the applications. Key points included:

- The City plans to request up to \$27 million for the King Street/Bradlee Safety and Mobility Enhancements Project and up to \$8 million for the Mount Vernon Avenue North Intersection Improvements Project, for a total request of up to \$35 million.
- The King Street/Bradlee project would fund implementation of previously approved improvements including a dedicated bus lane, sidewalks, a protected two-way cycle track, stormwater treatment, and other transit and pedestrian improvements.
- Staff noted that the King Street/Bradlee project had previously been submitted in an earlier Smart Scale round but was not selected, and that design work has since advanced to strengthen the application.
- The Mount Vernon Avenue North project would fund safety improvements at the intersections of Mount Vernon Avenue with Executive Avenue and Russell Road, building on work identified through the Arlandria-Chirilagua Small Area Plan and subsequent concept development.
- City Council is expected to consider authorizing the applications in June, with materials due to the state by August 1 and preliminary recommendations expected in January.

Questions/Discussion

Commissioner and Staff discussion regarding the **FY2033-2034 Smart Scale Grant Applications** focused on:

- Questions about why the earlier King Street/Bradlee application was not selected and whether more feedback from VDOT would help improve future grant submissions.
- The challenge that Smart Scale is highly quantitative, but the criteria and weighting are themselves policy choices that can affect Northern Virginia projects differently from projects elsewhere in the Commonwealth.
- Interest in whether future City legislative priorities should include advocacy for better applicant feedback and review of Smart Scale criteria and weighting.
- The view that the lack of Northern Virginia awards in the previous round did not necessarily reflect weak Alexandria projects, but rather broader statewide outcomes and scoring dynamics.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: that the Commission endorse the FY 2033-2034 Smart Scale grant applications for the King Street/Bradlee Safety and Mobility Enhancements Project and the Mount Vernon Avenue North Intersection Improvements Project and support a letter to City Council reflecting the Commission's broader concerns about Smart Scale competitiveness and feedback.

Motion to endorse the FY 2033-34 Smart Scale grant applications and support a letter to Council speaking to concerns about competitiveness and feedback: Commissioner McMahon **01:00:48**

Second: Commissioner Kane

Motion carries 7-0

5. Commissioner Updates

01:01:52

Vice Chair Beattie: No updates to report.

Commissioner Catherwood: No updates.

Commissioner Kane: Reported that the Traffic and Parking Board selected Kursten Phelps as its new representative to the Transportation Commission, pending City Council approval. He also summarized recent Traffic and Parking Board actions, including approval of valet parking on North Lee Street, discussion of nearby loading, bike corral, and enforcement issues, approval of food truck vending changes, and an extended discussion of proposed changes to residential parking permits for certain non-resident household-related users. Kane also noted recent grant awards supporting the Citywide Bicycle Network Gap Analysis, the Mount Vernon Avenue corridor study, and regional work related to pedestrian hybrid beacons, and commended staff for continued success in securing outside funding.

Commissioner Maslanka: No updates.

Commissioner McMahon: Reported on Planning Commission discussion of upcoming text amendments related to substandard lots and lots without frontage, noting that the topic raised broader questions about frontage, access, emergency response, parking, and how the City evaluates development in its horizontal and vertical built environments.

Commissioner McManus: Reported that the DASH Advisory Committee continues to engage the public through a series of spring and summer community events and praised DASH marketing and public engagement efforts.

Councilman Chapman: Reported that Councilmember Sandy Marks is expected to join the Transportation Commission as an additional Council representative.

Chair Lovain: Gave testimony this week before the Commonwealth Transportation Board (along with Hillary Orr and Jim Durham) in support of Alexandria transportation projects, including Safe Routes to School, highlighted the City's improved project-delivery performance and progress on the VDOT dashboard.

Commission discussion also highlighted the need to better communicate and celebrate the City's transportation funding and delivery successes, including through more user-friendly public-facing project and funding information.

6. Written Items

01:29:54

Item A. ADA Bus Stop Improvements (pulled by Commissioner Kane)

Commissioners praised the Holland Lane and Reinekers Lane bicycle improvements, noting that the projects have improved comfort, reduced gaps in the bicycle network, and made those corridors more functional and intuitive for bicycle travel.

Item E: Eisenhower-Landmark-Van Dorn Newsletter

- Commissioners discussed the Landmark/Van Dorn sidewalk project and used it as an example of the long timeline between grant application, funding award, and construction delivery.
- It was reiterated that the City's funding dashboard could do more to show the history, timing, and significance of successful grant-funded projects in a more user-friendly format.

6. Other Business

01:34:49

The Commission briefly discussed upcoming membership transitions and thanked Commissioner for his service, noting that he would still attend one additional meeting before stepping away.

At **8:33 pm**, the Transportation Commission meeting adjourned.



City of Alexandria
Transportation Commission
June 17, 2026
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Chair Tim Lovain, Commissioner Leslie Catherwood, Commissioner Casey Kane, Commissioner Jim Maslanka, Commissioner Melissa McMahon, Commissioner Matthew McManus.

Staff Present: Christopher Ziemann - Transportation Planning Division Chief; Hillary Orr - Deputy Director, Transportation; Joshua Etim - GO Alex Program Manager; Sara Brandt-Vorel - Transportation Capital Project Manager.

Audio/Visual presentation is available online:
<https://www.alexandriava.gov/TransportationCommission>

1. Public Comment

00:03:55

No public comment was received.

2. May Minutes

00:04:23

Because a quorum was not present, the Commission did not vote to approve the May 20, 2026 meeting minutes. Commissioner Kane requested a correction. Formal approval of the minutes was deferred to a future meeting.

3. Discussion Item: Smart Mobility Update

00:05:47

Hilary Orr presented an update on the City's Smart Mobility Program. Key points included:

- The program is structured around a layered strategy that begins with foundational infrastructure, including fiber, CCTV, and traffic management capabilities, and builds toward connected infrastructure, smart applications and cloud-based intelligence.
- Over the past decade, the City has invested more than \$20 million in grant-funded intelligent transportation systems and communications infrastructure to support future smart mobility applications.
- Current and emerging efforts include adaptive signal technology, digital curb management, digital inventories of transportation assets, sensor-based data collection and development of a real-time "digital twin" with Virginia Tech.
- The overall goal is to improve safety, reduce delay, support transit and emergency vehicle priority; the technology will also allow for a more complete real-time understanding of how people and vehicles move through the transportation network.

Questions/Discussion

Commissioner and staff discussion regarding the **Smart Mobility Program** focused on:

- How near-term projects will be phased into implementation and when residents might be likely to see tangible benefits from current smart mobility investments.
- How pavement scanning, digital inventories and other data collection tools may reveal conditions beyond potholes, including accessibility issues, curb conditions and asset maintenance needs.
- The need for stronger public communication about Alexandria's smart mobility efforts, including interest in newsletters or other tools beyond social media.

- Whether smart mobility tools can better support pedestrian crossings, off-peak signal operations and speed management in addition to vehicle throughput.
- How digital curb and parking technologies may improve garage wayfinding, curb management and coordination between on-street and off-street parking.
- How transportation staffing and skill needs may evolve as more work requires data analysis, technology management and use of artificial intelligence tools.
- The opportunities presented by automated enforcement and the concerns associated with autonomous vehicles, particularly the need for cities to retain access to operational data and avoid empty vehicle circulation.
- How more detailed parking utilization data can support corridor planning and improve transparency in project development.

4. **Public Hearing: GO Alex Transportation Management Program Annual Budget and Work Plan***

00:42:50

**Because the Commission did not have a quorum when this item was heard, a motion was passed to ensure that any formal action on this item would be deferred to a future meeting, anticipated in September.*

Josh Etim presented the GO Alex Transportation Management Program (TMP) annual budget and work plan. Key points included:

- Under the 2023 TMP policy, eligible new developments enter into agreements with the City, and GO Alex manages certain TMP obligations directly rather than relying exclusively on privately managed programs.
- Funds collected under the policy are split evenly between citywide transportation purposes and small-area-plan or neighborhood-specific transportation improvements.
- Staff reported that there are approximately 190 TMP developments citywide, including 14 GO Alex-managed TMPs, 121 privately managed TMPs; an additional 55 approved or under-construction developments that will be assigned to either the GO Alex or private management model as they move forward.
- The GO Alex Fund is projected to total approximately \$1.3 million as of July 1, 2026, with a \$570,000 balance carryover. The FY27 fund budget is \$558,000.
- Proposed citywide projects for FY 2027 expenditures include the tri-annual TMP survey and mode split verification, transportation grant matches for commuter assistance and student transit programs, enhanced mobility travel training, bus stop improvements and amenities, and bike education classes. Small area plan expenditures will include development-specific requests and neighborhood-specific Complete Streets projects.

Questions/Discussion

Commissioner and Staff questions and discussion regarding the **GO Alex TMP annual budget and work plan** focused on:

- How the budget tables relate to one another, particularly the distinction between the overall fund balance, carryover amounts, current-year contributions and small-area-plan-specific balances.
- The need to present small-area-plan totals more clearly so that annual reporting better distinguishes prior carryover from newer contributions and reduces confusion in future years.
- How development-specific requests and neighborhood complete streets projects would draw from area-specific balances as projects are identified and advanced.
- The timing for restarting bike education classes, with staff noting that implementation will depend on available staffing during FY 2027.
- Whether TMP funds are or should be used for shuttle operations; staff noted that the City is not currently using GO Alex-managed TMP funds for shuttles, although some older privately managed TMPs continue to fund shuttle service where communities choose to retain it.

5. **Commissioner Updates**

01:04:17

Chair Lovain: Noted that ACPD would be holding a safety seminar on Seminary Road on June 18.

Commissioner Catherwood: No updates.

Commissioner Kane: Noted that he will be stepping off the Traffic and Parking Board and, as a result, the Transportation Commission, and thanked staff and fellow commissioners for the opportunity to serve. Kursten Phelps (present at this meeting) will be the new representative from the TPB to serve on the Transportation Commission, starting in September.

Commissioner Maslanka: Noted an upcoming DASH event related to installation of a remote charger for buses at the Alexandria West Transit Center. He also highlighted recent approvals and tax increment financing support related to redevelopment of the former GenOn plant site.

Commissioner McMahon: Reported on Planning Commission review of Potomac River Generating Station redevelopment Blocks B and C, including phased open-space additions and the City's first fully shared street with no curbs. This will bring forward land improvements on the rail park of the defunct railway and future roadway connectivity to Slaters Lane.

Commissioner McManus: No updates.

6. Written Items

01:10:32

Commission discussion on pulled written items included:

- A request for more regular capital project updates so commissioners can better track implementation progress across the transportation program. (Item F)
- Appreciation for the recent Holland Lane / Street Smart event and the completed bicycle and pedestrian improvements there, along with a suggestion that boards and commissions involved in advancing projects should be notified of related public events. (Item D)
- Questions about the postponement of the long-range plan reprioritization process (Item E). Staff noted that a vacant transportation planning position was eliminated in the FY 2027 budget and that work programs are being adjusted to available staffing resource, adding that delays in updating the long-range plan can make grant pursuit and project delivery more difficult.
- Commissioners expressed concern about staffing issues slowing the implementation of adopted plans, reducing the City's ability to compete for grant funding and delay priority transportation work. It was recommended that staff communicate the service and productivity impacts of staffing shortages in future budget discussions with Council.

7. Other Business

01:17:25

Christopher Ziemann noted that this would be his last Transportation Commission meeting and updated commissioners on several staffing transitions and active recruitments within the department. Sara Brandt-Vorel will be leading the Transportation Commission meetings beginning in September.

At **8:22 pm**, the Transportation Commission meeting adjourned.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: HILLARY ORR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, TRANSPORTATION

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #4 – DOT PARATRANSIT PROGRAM UPDATE

ISSUE: Staff update to Transportation Commission on the City's DOT Paratransit Program.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive the presentation for questions and discussion.

BACKGROUND: DOT Paratransit provides curb-to-curb transportation for Alexandria residents who are unable to use fixed-route transit due to disability or age. The City-funded program supports access to medical appointments, employment, community resources, and other essential destinations while meeting federal ADA requirements and advancing mobility, independence, and equitable access for eligible residents.

DISCUSSION: In FY 2026, DOT Paratransit focused on service reliability, customer experience, technology, and stronger coordination with regional and City partners. In FY 2027, the team will continue to manage ongoing initiatives while also tackling other key priorities.

FY 2026 Major Accomplishments include:

- Expanded to 426 active riders, up from 313 in FY 2025.
- Provided approximately 44,600 passenger trips and maintained monthly on-time performance at or above 95 percent throughout FY 2026.
- Implemented an Interactive Voice Response system with bilingual trip reminders and automated call handling.
- Updated fare zones and rates.
- Strengthened coordination with Arlington County, WMATA, Washington, D.C., and City human services agencies to improve trip coordination.
- Launched a new DOT Paratransit brand.
- Secured an Enhanced Mobility Grant to establish a travel training program.

FY 2027 Major Work Objectives

- Launch a travel training program to help older adults and people with disabilities confidently use fixed-route public transit.

- Launch a mobility pass program providing eligible riders with subsidized options for transit, bikeshare, taxis, and rideshare services.
- Complete a competitive procurement for paratransit operations and manage the transition to the new service contract while maintaining uninterrupted service.
- Strengthen regional collaboration and continue outreach and communication with riders, the Commission on Persons with Disabilities, and the Commission on Aging.
- Advance coordination with City human services transportation providers, including DCHS and RPCA, and continue managing program funding and grant opportunities.

Ongoing Program Management

- Manage transportation, call center, and software contractors, including performance, budgets, training, and service quality.
- Monitor ridership, on-time performance, customer feedback, costs, and other service metrics to support continuous improvement.
- Complete required National Transit Database and DRPT reporting and use program data to support service planning, accountability, and funding eligibility.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: HILLARY ORR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, TRANSPORTATION

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #5 – PARKING & CURBSIDE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

ISSUE: Staff update to Transportation Commission on the City's Parking & Curbside Management Program.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive the presentation for questions and discussion.

BACKGROUND: The City's Parking & Curbside Management Program manages parking and curb space to balance access for people and goods, support businesses and neighborhoods, and respond to changing mobility needs. The program oversees on-street parking, City-owned garages, residential parking programs, loading and pickup zones, parklets, disability and bike parking, and other curbside uses.

DISCUSSION: In FY 2026, the program advanced several initiatives to modernize parking and curb management while continuing day-to-day service delivery. In FY 2027, the team will continue to manage ongoing initiatives while also tackling other key priorities.

FY 2026 Major Accomplishments include:

- Made the 200 block of King Street permanently car-free and continued coordination on implementation improvements.
- Deployed license plate readers on Parking Enforcement vehicles and began digitizing curb regulations and modeling parking demand and occupancy.
- Updated parking and curb policies, including taxicab regulations, food truck enforcement, curbside EV charging, Old Town parking regulations, and a new overnight parking district.
- Expanded Residential Pay-by-Phone to 34 blocks, approved meter and citation rate increases, and coordinated parking needs associated with the Market Square garage closure and City Hall renovation.
- Supported nine Traffic and Parking Board meetings, reviewed 42 docket items, and responded to more than 310 parking-related Alex311 requests.

FY 2027 Major Work Objectives

- Update residential development parking standards for new development
- Update the City's carshare policy
- Continue implementation of the permanent pedestrianization of the 200 block of King Street and related waterfront improvements
- Advance parking technology applications using the City's digital curb data and license plate reader infrastructure to support data-driven management
- Evaluate how curb and parking assets are priced, including loading zones, meter rates, citation prices, and garage rates
- Continue development of EV charging policies in coordination with the Office of Climate Action
- Continue monitoring and managing emerging curb uses, including personal delivery devices and autonomous vehicles
- Conduct the biennial taxicab review

Ongoing Program Management

- Provide staff support to the Traffic and Parking Board
- Manage the Residential Parking Permit and Residential Pay-by-Phone programs
- Manage City-owned garages
- Manage curbside loading and pickup zones, parklets, disability parking, bike parking, and daylighting requests
- Coordinate with APD Parking Enforcement on recurring issues, policy updates, signage, and effective enforcement

*City of Alexandria,
Virginia*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: HILLARY ORR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #6 – STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

ISSUE: The City is requesting legislative priorities from Boards and Commissions.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Transportation Commission provide input verbally through this meeting on legislative priorities, and that the Commission direct staff to draft a letter for the Chair to sign.

BACKGROUND: Every year, the Transportation Commission receives a request for State legislative priorities. For reference, last year the Transportation Commission articulated the following 2026 legislative priorities:

- 1) Improving bicyclist and pedestrian safety
 - a. Legalization of the Safety Stop, formerly Idaho stop- *(FY26 – Did not pass)*
 - b. Allowing bicyclists to ride two abreast *(FY26 – Did not pass)*
 - c. Allowing bicyclists to follow pedestrian signals *(FY26 – Did not pass)*
 - d. Expanded automated enforcement for safety purposes *(FY26 – significant changes passed)*
- 2) Formalize Autonomous Vehicle regulations with delegation of local regulation *(FY26- state created a statewide working group to make recommendations to the delegation in FY27)*
- 3) Dedicated funding for WMATA operations *(FY26 – state provided support for the next two years through the budget process but did not modify legislation around this topic.)*
- 4) Increased support for local transportation systems *(FY26 – state provided support for the next two years through the budget process but did not modify legislation around this topic.)*

DISCUSSION: The 2027 Virginia Legislative Session will be a short session and will begin January 13. The City is undertaking a resident feedback form to solicit community-based priorities, coordinating across Departments, preparing a draft legislative package and is asking Boards and Commissions to identify any legislative proposals to recommend for inclusion in the City's package by September 18.

For this year's legislative session:

- Proposals should align with [City Council Priorities](#) and support efforts to achieve the goals set forth in these Priorities.
- Proposals should be as actionable as possible.
- If proposals are scalable in any way, indicate how they could be scaled up or down, depending on the political environment, budget, or other unknown variables.
- Groups that submit more than one proposal should prioritize them in some way.
- The Legislative Package will be broken out into Legislative Principles and Legislative Priorities. For reference, the [2026 Legislative Package is available here](#).

Based on the discussion during the meeting, staff will draft a letter for the Chair's signature before the September 18 deadline.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: HILLARY ORR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, TRANSPORTATION

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #8 – WRITTEN ITEMS

ISSUE: Staff update to Transportation Commission on various projects.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive the written items.

A. Capital Projects Update

The City continues to advance multiple transportation projects and key VDOT milestones. The **King/Beauregard Project** began the award process and anticipates starting the Construction phase this Fall. The **Van Dorn Shared Use Path** project was also bid out and is currently in the award process, with an anticipated start of Construction this fall. For **Adaptive Phase II**, the next major milestone is obtaining the right-of-way waiver, after which the project will advance toward the 90% design phase. City staff have been coordinating closely with Dominion Energy to advance the **Old Cameron Run Trail Project** to final design, with bid advertisement anticipated in Spring 2027.

The **T-Intersections** and **Citywide Transit Signal Priority** projects have completed final design and are awaiting authorization from VDOT to advertise, with construction on both projects anticipated to begin in Fall 2026. The **West End Transitway Project** is nearing completion of the right-of-way phase, while the **Duke Street BRT Project** is advancing through the 30% design phase comments and has a new CMAR under contract. In addition, construction is continuing on the **Route 1 Median Project** and will conclude by Spring 2027.

The **Crossing Improvements Phase II project** kicked off this summer and anticipates to have a consultant procured this fall with design starting by Winter 2026/2027.

B. SmartScale Applications

After receiving City Council support to apply for a competitive SmartScale grant in June, staff completed two SmartScale grant applications in September for construction funding. The King-Street Bradlee Safety & Mobility Enhancements project was resubmitted to SmartScale for up to \$27 million in construction funding, and the Mount Vernon Avenue Intersection Improvements project was submitted to SmartScale for up to \$8 million in construction funding, for a total funding request of \$35 million. A preliminary decision is expected in early 2027 with final notification in summer 2027.

C. West End Transportation Open House

The Transportation Division is finalizing details to host an open house in late October for transportation projects located on the City's West End. The Open House will bring representatives from various city transportation projects across the planning, design and construction phases in a convenient location to create a forum to share information and engage directly with the community. Stay tuned for additional details including the time, date, location and projects as the Open House details are finalized.

D. WMATA Funding

WMATA's FY2027 approved budget provides near-term stability for the regional transit system, maintains current fare levels, and includes targeted service improvements that benefit Alexandria riders. The total WMATA budget is approximately \$4.85 billion, including a \$2.7 billion operating budget and a \$2.1 billion capital budget. For Alexandria, the approved WMATA allocation includes approximately \$69.5 million in operating subsidy, \$1.8 million in debt service, and \$14.2 million in capital contribution, for a gross FY2027 WMATA-related total of approximately \$85.5 million before any final state-aid reconciliation.

The most important budget development is the adopted Virginia state budget, which provides \$153 million in General Fund support for Virginia's share of additional WMATA operating assistance over the FY2027–FY2028 biennium. Because Alexandria adopted its FY2027 budget before the Commonwealth finalized this funding, the City likely budgeted conservatively assuming the local jurisdictions would need to fully cover WMATA's request. As a result, the state funding should reduce Alexandria's final local operating obligation compared with what was budgeted. The exact savings amount has not yet been confirmed by NVTC/WMATA, but staff previously discussed a rough planning estimate in the range of \$3 million to \$4 million. That figure should be treated as preliminary until final jurisdiction-level reconciliation is provided.

From a service perspective, WMATA's FY 2027 budget is generally positive for Alexandria. Fares remain unchanged, which helps avoid additional cost burdens for riders. Metrorail service on the Blue and Yellow Lines remains frequent through Alexandria's core stations, and WMATA is also advancing targeted bus improvements. The most significant Alexandria-related bus improvement is the planned F2X limited-stop Metrobus service, scheduled to begin in December 2026. This new Route 7 service will connect Tysons, Falls

Church, Mark Center, and the West Alexandria Transit Center, providing faster and more frequent regional service and serving as an early implementation step toward the longer-term Route 7 Bus Rapid Transit vision.

On the capital side, WMATA's FY 2027–FY 2032 Capital Improvement Program continues major investments in safety, reliability, railcars, buses, stations, facilities, and state of good repair. Alexandria benefits from these investments through continued reliability on the Blue and Yellow Lines, station and access improvements, bus fleet investments, and broader system modernization. However, WMATA continues to face a significant long-term capital challenge, with major state-of-good-repair needs and debt capacity constraints expected around FY2029.

The state budget also establishes a future WMATA capital funding framework beginning in FY 2029, requiring Northern Virginia jurisdictions collectively to provide \$136 million annually, growing by 3 percent each year, for Metro capital modernization. This is separate from the \$153 million in near-term operating support. In practical terms, the state budget provides short-term relief for Alexandria's FY2027/FY2028 operating costs, but it also signals future regional capital obligations that will need to be incorporated into the City's longer-term financial planning.

Overall, the FY 2027 WMATA budget is good news for riders and provides short-term fiscal stability, but it does not permanently solve Metro's operating or capital funding challenges. Alexandria should expect some near-term operating relief once the state assistance is reconciled, while continuing to plan for future WMATA capital obligations and ongoing regional discussions about sustainable long-term transit funding.

E. T&ES Staffing Updates

The Transportation Division is happy to announce the hiring of multiple new staff members who will ensure the Division continues to deliver great service and projects to the community. Over the summer, **Jacob Foster** joined the Division as a Planner on the GoAlex Team and **Tom Hillman** joined as a Shared Mobility Planner on the Shared Mobility Team. At the end of September, **Matt Reeves** will be joining the Division as the Smart Mobility Program Manager.