



Transportation Commission Meeting

**October 21, 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 September meeting. | 7:00 – 7:10 |
| 3. Discussion Item: Duke Street Land Use Plan: Mobility | 7:10 – 7:25 |
| 4. Discussion Item: FY 2028 Budget Priorities | 7:25 – 7:45 |
| 5. Commissioner Updates | 7:45 -7:50 |
| 6. Written Items | 7:50 – 8:00 |
| a. Transportation Planning Division Chief | |
| b. Capital Projects Update | |
| c. West End Open House | |
| d. Automated Enforcement Tools | |
| e. Youth Helmet Ordinance Update | |
| f. Operation Illumination Coordination | |
| 7. Other Business: | 8:25 – 8:30 |
| a. December 16 – Virtual | |

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, NOVEMBER 18, 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

Passcode: 100095

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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 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
September 16, 2026
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Chair Tim Lovain, Vice Chair Dan Beattie, Commissioner Leslie Catherwood, Commissioner Jim Maslanka, Commissioner Melissa McMahon, Commissioner Matthew McManus, Commissioner Kursten Phelps.

Staff Present: **Hillary Orr** – Deputy Director for Transportation; Sara Brandt-Vorel – Capital Project Manager; Owen Albrecht – Accessible Transportation Program Senior Manager; Sheila McGraw – Curbside and Parking Program Manager.

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

1. Public Comment **00:01:13**

No public comment was received.

2. May and June Minutes **00:01:27**

Motion to approve minutes for the May 20 and June 17, 2026 meetings: Commissioner McMahon

Second: Commissioner McManus

Motion carries 6-0 (Commissioner Phelps abstained).

3. Public Hearing/Action Item: FY 2027 GO Alex Fund Budget and Work Plan **00:02:29**

The Commission reopened consideration of the FY 2027 GO Alex Transportation Management Program (TMP) annual budget and work plan, which had been discussed at the previous meeting but could not be acted upon due to lack of a quorum. No public comment was received.

Motion to approve the FY 2027 GO Alex Fund Budget and Work Plan: Commissioner Beattie

Second: Commissioner McMahon

Motion carries 7-0.

4. Discussion Item: Paratransit Program Update **00:04:36**

Owen Albrecht, Accessible Transportation Program Senior Manager, provided an update on the City's paratransit program. Key points included:

- The program is an ADA-complementary demand-response service for residents whose disabilities prevent them from using fixed-route transit. Trips may be scheduled up to 14 days in advance and must be requested by the close of business the day before travel.
- On-time performance has met or exceeded program goals for more than a year, and FY 2026 ridership increased slightly. A temporary dip in customer satisfaction in May 2025 coincided with the implementation of new scheduling software.
- Paratransit operated through most of the major winter storm response, with service suspended only when fixed-route service was closed. Demand dropped substantially during that time as riders canceled medical, social-service and discretionary trips.

- Fares were restructured in January 2026 to better reflect trip distance and inflation, and a peak surcharge was added for trips outside the ADA-mandated service area. Staff reported that on-time performance is now at or above 95 percent during every service hour.
- The vendor cost is approximately \$50 per trip when monthly volume qualifies for bulk pricing; the annual program cost is approximately \$2.2 million.
- Ten newer vehicles were added to the vendor fleet, with a greater use of minivans to improve pickup efficiency while retaining larger vehicles for wheelchair and group-trip needs. Service hours were also expanded to maintain parity with DASH.
- A federally funded travel training program is expected to launch by the end of the year. The Independence Center of Northern Virginia will provide one-on-one instruction to help seniors and people with disabilities use DASH, Metro, VRE, and other fixed-route services.
- Staff is developing a Mobility Pass pilot that would provide eligible paratransit riders with subsidized funds for same-day taxi or transportation-network-company trips, potentially improving flexibility while reducing per-trip costs.
- The City is also working to coordinate transportation services across departments using the Spare scheduling platform to improve use of vehicles and other resources.

Questions/Discussion:

- Commissioners asked about how on-time performance is measured, customer feedback channels, the effect of winter weather, and the relationship between passenger fares and the City's vendor costs.
- Discussion of travel training included coordination with the Independence Center, the existing regional waitlist, and availability of training in multiple languages.
- Commissioners expressed support for the Mobility Pass concept and discussed the importance of structuring the pilot to expand flexibility without creating unsustainable new demand.

5. Discussion Item: Parking and Curbside Management Update

00:29:41

Sheila McGraw, Parking and Curbside Program Manager, provided an update on recent accomplishments and upcoming work. Key points included:

- Following permanent pedestrianization of the 200 block of King Street, the City installed new platforms and is continuing additional improvements this fall.
- Staff is digitizing curb regulations using the Curb Data Specification to create a more complete inventory of curb uses and support more effective management and enforcement.
- Recent program work has included updates to taxi regulations, food truck enforcement, curbside EV charging, parking regulations, and creation of an overnight parking district.
- Staff continues to review curb use in Old Town and has converted underused loading areas and other curb space to add approximately 30 on-street parking spaces while continuing to evaluate additional opportunities.

Commissioner Questions/Discussion:

- How curb data and technology could support more flexible management of finite curb space, including loading, parking, deliveries, and enforcement.
- Balancing competing curb uses, utilizing data to identify underutilized spaces and opportunities to increase parking supply without expanding the curb itself.

6. Discussion Item: State Legislative Priorities

00:50:01

Staff reviewed the City's annual state legislative process, prior Transportation Commission priorities, results of the Citywide legislative survey and potential transportation priorities for the 2027 General Assembly session. The Commission provided direction for a letter to be sent from the Chair expressing the Transportation Commission's top priorities for this year. Commissioners and staff discussion included the following points:

- The need to secure stable, dedicated long-term funding for WMATA and other regional and local transit needs, rather than relying on short-term funding measures.

- Renewed support for bicycle and pedestrian safety legislation (which did not pass in the prior session) including the bicycle safety stop, riding two abreast and allowing bicyclists to follow pedestrian signals where appropriate.
- Increased and/or dedicated funding for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and Safe Routes to School projects.
- Support for additional local authority and technology tools for curb management and using automated enforcement to improve safety in high-injury areas.
- The need for a coordinated statewide approach to autonomous vehicles that preserves a meaningful local-government role in regulations affecting local streets and communities.
- Potential future consideration of whether the I-395 Commuter Choice program could be modified to support a broader range of safety and multimodal investments. Staff noted this would require additional research and may be better positioned for a future legislative cycle.

Based upon the discussion, staff will draft the letter for the Chair's signature.

7. Commissioner Updates

01:21:02

- **Chair Lovain:** Noted he has been working with the Public Safety Center and had been impressed that the Chiefs of Police of Fairfax and Arlington and other jurisdictions had participated in the Safety Summit, where he also learned about the development of a voluntary dog-walker neighborhood watch program.
- **Vice Chair Beattie:** No updates.
- **Commissioner Catherwood:** No updates.
- **Commissioner Maslanka:** No updates.
- **Commissioner McMahon:** Announced the Planning Commission's September 25 annual retreat at the Del Pepper Community Resource Center and noted that the meeting is open to the public.
- **Commissioner McManus:** Inquired as to the source of DASH's FY26 budget shortfall, which staff attributed to accounting errors, noting that DASH also expects to be over budget in FY27, given that the current year's budget was based on the (erroneous) prior year numbers.
- **Commissioner Phelps:** Reported on recent Traffic and Parking Board work, including the net addition of approximately 30 on-street parking spaces in Old Town. The TPB plans to revisit Russell Road safety improvement options as part of the Safe Routes to School at their next meeting.

8. Written Items

01:25:00

Commissioners pulled the following Written Items for discussion:

Item A. Capital Projects Updates

Construction at King Street and Beauregard Street is expected to begin later this fall or winter. The Van Dorn/Beauregard Shared Use Path project is moving toward construction, with a pre-construction meeting anticipated in October.

Item B. Smart Scale Applications

The City submitted its Smart Scale applications and has been responding to VDOT clarification questions; preliminary feedback is expected by the end of the year, with formal awards anticipated next spring.

Item C. West End Open House

The West End Transportation open house is planned for October 29 at Minnie Howard, and will bring transportation projects, programs, mobility services and DASH information together in one event.

Item E. T&ES Staffing Updates

Staff discussed several recent hires supporting the GO Alex, Shared Mobility, and Smart Mobility programs.

9. Other Business

01:28:30

- The **Transportation Commission Annual Report** has been submitted to the City Clerk.
- The Commission thanked **Commissioner Catherwood** for her service on the board as she departs.
- Staff noted two **Commission Membership Updates**:
 - City Council has approved changes to Transportation Commission membership, including broadening the DASH representative category, creating a seat associated with the Commission on Aging or Commission on Persons with Disabilities, and adding a citizen member age 16–25 with an interest in transportation or land use.
 - The second open Planning Commission seat remains vacant; staff is working with the City Clerk to determine whether that position could be repurposed. Commissioners were encouraged to identify potential applicants for open seats.

At **8:38 pm**, the Transportation Commission meeting adjourned.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2026

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #3 – DUKE STREET LAND USE PLAN UPDATE AND REQUEST FOR ENDORSEMENT

ISSUE: The Draft Duke Street Land Use Plan was recently released for public feedback, with the formal Planning Commission public hearings planned for December 2026.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive this presentation and provide any comments they may have, along with a letter of endorsement for the Draft Duke Street Land Use Plan as related to its transportation elements, finding it generally consistent with the Alexandria Mobility 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 4,000 stakeholders have participated through over 70+ pop-up events, 10 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. Following that, the Draft Framework Plan was shared at a virtual community meeting

in April. The Framework Plan, a set of four maps (Land Use, Heights, Open Space, and Mobility), was presented to the Transportation Commission in May 2026.

Since then, additional community engagement occurred in the late spring and early summer 2026 when Draft Recommendations were released. A community meeting coinciding with the release of the Draft Plan was held on September 29, 2026. A public comment period for the Draft Plan will be open until November 13. Public hearings on the final draft of the plan are anticipated in December 2026.

DISCUSSION: Staff will present an overview of the Draft Duke Street Land Use Plan, with a focus on the transportation-related elements.

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

- Street network that identifies new locally-serving street connections implemented by development;
- Street sections that show, in detail, how new streets will handle various modes of transportation and meet the intent of the Plan to serve all users;
- Bicycle and pedestrian network that builds on and expands the approved Alexandria Mobility Plan and other City plans;
- Areas in the mobility network that need further study for safety, and multi-modal and pedestrian improvements; and
- The planned Duke Street Transitway and how it ties into the overall mobility network.

In addition to providing an official letter from the full Transportation Commission, members of the Commission are encouraged to view the Draft Plan at alexandriava.gov/dukestreetplan and/or provide specific comments on the draft by visiting the [community engagement hub](#).

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment 1 – Endorsement Letter Template



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

www.alexandriava.gov

Phone: 703.746.4025

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

_____, 2026

Re: Transportation Elements of the Draft Duke Street Land Use Plan

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

At its October 21, 2026 meeting, the Alexandria Transportation Commission reviewed the Draft Duke Street Land Use Plan's transportation-related elements. The Commission moved to endorse the draft plan as consistent with the Alexandria Mobility Plan (AMP).

During discussion of the recommendations, the Transportation Commission highlighted the following:

- CONTENT TO BE GENERATED AT OCTOBER 21, 2026 TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

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 action on October 21, 2026 was conducted to fulfill that oversight obligation.

The Commission appreciates your consideration of its input on this project, and we look forward to the implementation of the Duke Street Land Use Plan.

Sincerely,

Tim Lovain
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Planning Commission
James Parajon, City Manager
Leah Riley, Director, T&ES
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES

*City of Alexandria,
Virginia*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2026

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: HILLARY ORR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #4 – CITY BUDGET PRIORITIES

ISSUE: The City Manager has requested Boards and Commissions provide input in advance of the development of the FY28 City Budget.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Transportation Commission provide input on budget priorities.

BACKGROUND: Every year, the Transportation Commission receives a request for City budget priorities. For reference, last year the Transportation Commission articulated the following City budget priorities for the FY27 budget:

- Investment that ensures continuous **sustainable WMATA regional transit service**, including making sure that WMATA's Better Bus Network meets the needs of our community;
- Investment that continues to implement the **Alexandria Transit Vision Plan**, with more fare free DASH, planning for the operations costs of upcoming transitways, and a focus on regional connectivity;
- Staffing and resources for **Complete Streets and Safe Routes to School**, including more protected bike infrastructure to make biking feasible for more people for short trips; and
- Investment that brings Alexandria's **multi-use trail** system fully into a state of good repair, for many people rely on it just as others do on the roads.

In March, the Commission sent a letter in response to the proposed FY26 budget with the additional following feedback:

- Safety is a priority for the Transportation Commission, and as such, all efforts should be made to frontload safety investments in the early years of the CIP budget.
- The budget should properly fund snow removal from bike lanes, sidewalks and bus stops. The City should even make every effort to ensure that our transportation network is ready and accessible for all users, even during snow storms.

- There is significant concern over the eliminated Transportation Principal Planner position. With so many projects in the City, an appropriately staffed agency is critical to managing fiscal resources prudently and assuring the City can benefit from federal and state grants.
- The Commission greatly appreciates that this budget [FY27] keeps DASH funding and service stable.

DISCUSSION: The City Manager expects the FY28 City budget to be a challenging fiscal year as the City (1) monitors continued economic uncertainty and respond to the dynamic shifts impacting our community, (2) maintains investments in employee recruitment and retention, youth and education, public safety programs, and eliminating community disparities, (3) maintains and stabilize affordable housing, (4) continues to navigate the financial sustainability of the Capital Improvement Program, specifically the need to reduce required borrowing and associated debt service and (5) builds the City's economic strength through diversification of our tax base.

The City Manager is requesting these priorities by November 20. Staff will incorporate feedback provided through this discussion into a draft letter to be endorsed by the Chair.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: City Manager Budget Letter FY28

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2026

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: HILLARY ORR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, TRANSPORTATION

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #6 – WRITTEN ITEMS

ISSUE: Staff update to Transportation Commission on various projects.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive the written items.

A. Transportation Planning Division Chief

The Transportation Division is pleased to announce the hiring of Nick Rogers as the new Division Chief for Transportation Planning. Nick is an experienced planner with nearly two decades of public-sector and consulting experience in land use planning, zoning, and community development across Virginia. His work includes leading complex zoning ordinance amendments, managing development reviews, advancing housing and commercial policy initiatives, and engaging communities and local government stakeholders. He has also taught university-level planning courses at the University of Mary Washington and brings a strong commitment to advancing the planning profession through his leadership as President of APA Virginia. We're excited for his experience and leadership to help advance our Transportation Planning team in the City. Nick will start with the City at the end of October and begin attending the Transportation Commission in November.

B. Capital Projects Update

The City continues to make significant progress in advancing its transportation program, with several projects reaching key VDOT milestones and transitioning from design into construction.

The **King/Beauregard Project** has received authorization to award the construction contract, with work anticipated to begin within the next month. Construction on the **Van Dorn Shared Use Path** is also expected to begin in October 2026. Meanwhile, the **T-Intersections** and **Citywide Transit Signal Priority** projects have completed final design and are awaiting VDOT authorization to advertise for construction, with both projects anticipated to begin construction in late fall 2026.

Several other major projects continue to advance through design and right-of-way activities. **Adaptive Phase II** is working toward obtaining its right-of-way waiver, which will allow the project to progress toward 90% design. The **West End Transitway Project** is nearing completion of the right-of-way phase, while the **Duke Street BRT Project** is addressing 30% design comments and has a new Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) under contract. The **South Van Dorn Bridges Project** also continues to progress through design.

Coordination with external partners remains a key focus for several projects. City staff are working closely with Dominion Energy to advance the **Old Cameron Run Trail Project** toward final design, with advertisement anticipated in spring 2027. Similarly, the **Landmark Transit Center** remains in design, with ongoing coordination with Inova and Foulger-Pratt. Construction also continues on the **Route 1 Median Project**, with completion anticipated in spring 2027.

The City is also advancing its next phase of smart mobility and pedestrian improvement transportation projects. The **Crossing Improvements Phase II Project**, which kicked off this summer, is expected to have a consultant under contract this fall, with design beginning in winter 2026–2027. Additionally, the **Scalable Digital Models, Smart Mobility Implementation, and Smart Scan** projects are progressing through planning and approaching the design phase.

C. West End Transportation Open House

The Transportation Division is hosting a West End Transportation Open House on Thursday, October 29th from 5 – 8 p.m. in the Forum at Minnie Howard (3775 W Braddock Road). 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.

D. Automated Enforcement Tools

The Code of Virginia was recently amended to authorize the use of new or expanded automated enforcement tools, including, but not limited to automated enforcement:

- Speed on high-risk pedestrian corridors
- Stop signs
- Bus lanes
- Crosswalks
- Noise

To act on this authority, the City must update its Code of Ordinances. Transportation & Environmental Services staff is coordinating with the Alexandria Police Department and the City Attorney's Office on this effort and expects to bring recommendations to City Council. Once the City Code is updated, staff will then update work plans to advance key automated enforcement tools as deemed appropriate based on available resources, technical feasibility, and community needs and priorities.

E. Youth Helmet Ordinance Update

Section 46.2-906.1 of the Code of Virginia specifies the devices for which a locality may, by ordinance, require riders 14 years of age or younger to wear a helmet.

Consistent with Commonwealth enabling legislation when it was enacted, City of Alexandria Code requires every person 14 years of age or younger to wear a protective helmet that meets the Consumer Product Safety Commission standard when riding or being carried on a bicycle on any roadway, sidewalk or public shared-use path within the City.

During its 2026 Session, the Virginia General Assembly amended Section 46.2-906.1 (House Bill 343; 2026 Acts of Assembly, Chapter 114) to **add motorized skateboards or scooters and nonmotorized scooters** to the list of devices for which a locality may require a helmet for riders 14 years of age or younger.

To stay consistent with the updated state enabling legislation for local youth helmet ordinances, Section 10-7-12 (Bicycle helmets) the City of Alexandria Code is proposed to be updated to incorporate micromobility devices, **including e-bikes, e-scooters, and motorized skateboards,** in the list of devices every person 14 years or under must wear a helmet while riding. City Council will review the proposed change during its Tuesday, November 10 and Saturday, November 14 sessions.

F. Operation Illumination Coordination

Operation Illumination is an annual event that distributes bike lights, helmets, and safety education to improve visibility and safety for people walking and biking, particularly during shorter daylight months. The program directly supports Vision Zero by pairing safety equipment with in-person engagement that encourages safer travel behavior.

Location details:

- October 27 - The Shops at Mark Center, East of Sardis and south of the bus stop, near 1480 N Beauregard St, Alexandria, VA, 22311
- October 29 - West End Transportation Open House at the Minnie Howard Campus of ACHS
- November 5 - Potomac Yard Trail entrance at Braddock Road Metro, near 608 E Braddock Rd, Alexandria, VA 22314
- November 5 - Northwest corner of Mount Vernon Ave and W Reed Ave, south of the bus stop on the sidewalk near 3515 Mt. Vernon Ave