



## Minutes

### EPC MONTHLY MEETING

June 15, 2026

2900 Business Center Drive Conference Room

7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

#### Attendance

| EPC Members (12)          | Status | Staff/Presenters                            |
|---------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------|
| Dan Beattie, Vice-Chair   | P      | Melissa Atwood, TES                         |
| Eldon Boes                | E      | Ryan Freed, Office of Climate Action        |
| Jennifer Debias           | P      | Alexandria Carroll, Transportation Planning |
| Jordon Eccles             | P      | Stevie Mathews, DASH                        |
| Charlie Garlow            | E      |                                             |
| David Hole                | E      |                                             |
| Perrin Krisko             | PR     |                                             |
| Philip Mobilia, Secretary | P      |                                             |
| Marta Schantz, Chair      | P      | <b>Guests</b>                               |
| Rick Schneider            | P      | Tim Lovain, Transportation Commission Chair |
| Julia Slayden             | P      | Seebah Rainey, Grassroots Alexandria        |
| Olu Smoak                 | P      | Alexandra, member of the public             |
| Yanique Revers            | P      | Abigail Ernst, TES Intern                   |
|                           |        |                                             |

P: Present; PR: Present Remotely; A: Absent - Unexcused; E: Absent – Excused; N: Not a Member

#### 1. Welcome & Introductions

Chair Marta Schantz called the meeting to order and provided an overview of topics to be covered. Introductions were completed for all attendees.

#### 2. Public Comment

**Seebah Rainey**, Grassroots Alexandria, noted that they sent their Legislative Priorities to the EPC for consideration. EPC’s legislative priorities letter will be drafted around October 2026, where they will consider information shared during that process.

#### 3. Transportation Planning Presentation

Ms. Alexandra Carroll, Complete Streets Program Manager, provided an overview of the City’s bicycle infrastructure and how it connects to the EPC’s priority on decarbonizing transportation. Complete Streets are streets that are safe, comfortable, and welcoming for people of all ages, modes, and abilities. It includes possible active sidewalks, public spaces, dedicated bike lanes and vehicle lanes, safe crossings, transit options, and green infrastructure.

Presentation included an update on where the City is with expanding the bicycle network and encouraging more people to bike, as well as challenges and considerations when working on bicycle infrastructure. Decisions are guided by several city plans, policies, and studies.

The presentation focused on the Environmental Action Plan (EAP) 2040 goal of expanding the bicycle network by three (3) miles for three (3) years. Information covered how the team identifies projects, the principles of a bicycle network design, and how to design it for all users.

Safety was identified as the most significant obstacle to more residents riding bikes, with 69% being more likely to bike for transportation if they felt safe from traffic.

From 2021 – the present, the advancement of bike lanes did not meet the EAP goals but includes one (1) mile of new bike lanes and 2.5 miles of upgraded bike lanes. This trend is improving as there are currently 9.2 miles of bike lanes approved and 6 miles of bike lanes in the planning phase.

Some challenges moving forward are the disparity in community priorities, site constraints, project resources and equity (providing bicycle infrastructure in all the communities).

EPC discussion and questions included focus on:

- How updates to the Complete Streets program are identified/managed and considerations for which projects are pursued in the city, including funding and following guidance in the Alexandria Mobility Plan.
- How the City conducts the survey to ensure equity of responses and where the approved and planned bike lanes are located throughout the City.
- Bicycle pathways laying small portions of the bike network, but the long-term vision is to get those paths connected so they become more useful to users, resulting in increased ridership.
- Bike lanes provide various benefits to people. They can act as a traffic calming tool, decreasing vehicle speeds in the area. Bike lanes can also reduce the number of travel lanes on a road, which decreases the number of lanes people need to cross on that road.

#### **4. DASH Presentation**

Stevie Mathews, Director of Scheduling and Planning for DASH, provided a presentation on the DASH system progress toward bus electrification and information on ridership trends and equity in service planning.

The bus fleet is currently 35% low-emission diesel, 43% hybrid, and 22% electric. Cost of electric buses is about double that of diesel buses. DASH needs to consider how to transition to electric and still have enough buses to provide services throughout Alexandria. Because of funding available and efficiency of service differences between diesel and electric buses, DASH and City Council are working together to possibly extend the Environmental Action Plan (EAP) 2040 goal of being fully electric by 2037 to a later date.

Two-phase expansion of the facility is underway to increase capacity for an additional 24 buses (phase 1) and is in the design phase to expand future electric bus charging (phase 2). Additional infrastructure projects are happening at the West Alex Transit Center to include the region's first on-route transit station with overhead charging.

Ridership trends show an increase from FY24 to FY26. Buses are recently equipped with more accurate automatic passenger counters. Overall system productivity shows use of DASH throughout the day, every day of the week, including high ridership on the weekend. Route performance is also evaluated for passenger use and needs. This information is considered in how DASH develops its service recommendations through a data-informed, community-centered, and equity-focused approach. The guiding principle, the Alexandria Transit Vision Plan, focuses on getting all routes to a higher frequency status.

EPC questions and further discussion included:

- Information on how tourism is identified in ridership numbers versus community use and on-time percentages for overall bus routes. On time for DASH is considered minus one minute to plus five minutes.
- Balance of understanding how to possibly incorporate the “build it and they will come” mentality into route frequency, versus primarily focusing on the routes currently showing higher ridership and likely benefiting from the higher frequency. The Alexandria Transit Plan defines the vision, with DASH's board helping make decisions. This ties into discussions to identify Environmental Justice areas, including where they are and which areas are being served the most/least. DASH is working on incorporating this into their Title 6 analysis.
- DASH is investing in articulated buses, which will increase capacity of riders in a single bus. Schedule for this deployment is not finalized yet. These buses can be used on any route in the City.
- Gathering insights from DASH operators when making system decisions. Balancing information gathered from operators, residents, and by understanding where new, large developments can change ridership.

## **5. Annual EPC Elections for FY27**

Secretary Phil Mobilia initiated elections by noting that there was only one candidate for each position; therefore, voting will be by show of hands.

Secretary Mobilia conducted the elections for Chair and Vice Chair:

- Chair nominee is Ms. Marta Schantz. Unanimous vote for appointment.
- Vice Chair nominee is Mr. Jordan Eccles. Unanimous vote for appointment.

Chair Schantz conducted the election for Secretary.

- Secretary nominee is Ms. Jennifer Debias. Unanimous vote for appointment.

Commissioner Phil Mobilia noted this will be his last meeting as part of the EPC. His seat will be announced for candidates in the Fall (September).

## **6. EPC Survey Results for FY27 Priority Topics + Summer Homework Volunteering**

Ten (10) EPC commissioners completed the survey, received via email, regarding priorities, volunteers, and summer homework. Chair Schantz provided a verbal recap of the results, where two (2) commissioners will be placed on each topic area to increase productivity over the summer and minimize Sunshine Rule concerns.

Summer assignment results were provided as an overview, but remaining commissioners have a chance to complete the survey post-meeting.

FY27 priority topics ended with Resilience for Extreme Heat on top, followed by Green Buildings, Flood Resilience, and water quality and supply. Next was the City Voluntary Programs (e.g., Eco City Homes/Businesses, Multifamily Challenge), Environmental Action Plan check-in. Followed by schools/students/youth, transportation, bikes and utilities. A complete list of all the priority topics ranked through the survey will be provided by Chair Schantz to each EPC member and for the EPC webpage. Any commissioner that feels a topic should be moved up as a priority, please let Chair Schantz know and it will be discussed for consideration.

Commissioner Krisko provided information on an assessment that the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality is doing with regard to monitoring air quality around data centers in Loudoun and Prince William County. Possibly connect the data center topic into the EPC's legislative priorities letter, with the larger regulation of utilities topic.

## **7. Administrative Items**

### **a) Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 18, 2026**

Vote on May 18, 2026, regular meeting minutes, for approval. **Motion:** Mr. Dan Beattie; **Second:** Mr. Phil Mobilia; **Vote:** Unanimous approval.

### **b) Approval of Meeting Minutes for Annual EPC Retreat, May 2, 2026**

Vote on Meeting Minutes, Annual Retreat, for approval. **Motion:** Mr. Rick Schneider; **Second:** Mr. Jordon Eccles; **Vote:** Unanimous approval

### **c) Approval of FY27 Calendar**

Vote on FY27 Calendar for approval. **Motion:** Ms. Jen Debias; **Second:** Mr. Phil Mobilia; **Vote:** Unanimous approval

### **d) Youth Engagement (Ms. Perrin Krisko & Mr. Eldon Boes)**

- Check in on status of the youth seat, which was not voted on in the May City Council meeting. May be addressed in their June meeting, and would go into effect in the fall.
- The bike bus webpage is live.

### **e) Flood Resilience Plan (Secretary Phil Mobilia & Ms. Julia Slayden)**

No update at this time.

**f) Housing Master Plan (Ms. Yanique Revers)**

Planning Commission unanimously voted to approve the Housing Master Plan on June 13<sup>th</sup>. June 23<sup>rd</sup> it goes to City Council for adoption.

**g) Community Choice Aggregation (Mr. Charlie Garlow & Ms. Krisko)**

No update at this time.

**h) Council Public Hearing EPC Remarks**

Commissioner Rick Schneider did not attend the meeting; therefore, submitted written remarks and confirmed they were passed to Council.

**i) Staff/Commission Updates:**

Staff Update

No update at this time.

Transportation Commission – Vice-Chair Dan Beattie

Last meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 17, 2026.

Waterfront Commission – Mr. Boes

No updates at this time.

Public Health Commission – Ms. Perrin Krisko

Last meeting was a planning meeting. Water quality updates were provided during this meeting, including a link to the webpage.

Park & Recreation Commission – Mr. David Hole

No update at this time.

**8. Adjourn**

**Motion to Adjourn:** Mr. Dan Beattie

### **FY2026 Attendance**

| Member          | Sept<br>15,<br>2025 | Oct<br>20,<br>2025 | Nov<br>17,<br>2025 | Dec<br>15,<br>2025 | Jan 26,<br>2026 | Feb<br>23,<br>2026 | Mar<br>19,<br>2026 | Apr<br>20,<br>2026 | TBD<br>(Retreat) | May<br>18,<br>2026 | Jun<br>15,<br>2026 | TOTALS |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------|
| Dan Beattie     | PR                  | P                  | P                  | P                  | Cancelled       | P                  | PR                 | P                  | P                | E                  | P                  | 100%   |
| Eldon Boes      | P                   | P                  | P                  | P                  | Cancelled       | PR                 | PR                 | P                  | P                | P                  | E                  | 100%   |
| Benjamin Cuddy  | E                   | E                  | N                  | N                  | Cancelled       | N                  | N                  | N                  | N                | N                  | N                  | 100%   |
| Jennifer Debias | P                   | P                  | P                  | P                  | Cancelled       | PR                 | PR                 | E                  | P                | P                  | P                  | 100%   |
| Jordon Eccles   | E                   | E                  | N                  | N                  | Cancelled       | P                  | PR                 | P                  | P                | P                  | P                  | 100%   |
| Charlie Garlow  | P                   | P                  | P                  | P                  | Cancelled       | P                  | PR                 | PR                 | E                | P                  | E                  | 100%   |
| Kathie Hoekstra | P                   | P                  | P                  | PR                 | Cancelled       | E                  | N                  | N                  | N                | N                  | N                  | 100%   |
| David Hole      | P                   | P                  | P                  | P                  | Cancelled       | P                  | E                  | P                  | P                | P                  | E                  | 100%   |
| Perrin Krisko   | P                   | P                  | P                  | P                  | Cancelled       | P                  | E                  | P                  | P                | P                  | P                  | 100%   |
| Philip Mobilia  | P                   | P                  | P                  | P                  | Cancelled       | PR                 | PR                 | P                  | P                | P                  | P                  | 100%   |
| Marta Schantz   | P                   | P                  | P                  | P                  | Cancelled       | P                  | PR                 | P                  | P                | P                  | P                  | 100%   |
| Rick Schneider  | N                   | N                  | P                  | E                  | Cancelled       | P                  | E                  | P                  | P                | P                  | P                  | 100%   |
| Julia Slayden   | P                   | P                  | P                  | P                  | Cancelled       | P                  | E                  | P                  | P                | P                  | P                  | 100%   |
| Olu Smoak       | N                   | N                  | N                  | N                  | Cancelled       | N                  | N                  | N                  | P                | P                  | P                  | 100%   |
| Yanique Revers  | P                   | P                  | P                  | P                  | Cancelled       | E                  | PR                 | P                  | E                | P                  | P                  | 100%   |