



## TRANSPORTATION POLICY AND PROGRAM

Last spring, City Council approved the plan to develop a comprehensive City transportation policy and program. The goals of the project are:

- to protect the quality of life in residential neighborhoods by keeping through traffic on main City thoroughfares and off of local streets;
- to define the function of the City's major roadways as carriers either of vehicles traveling through the City or of local traffic; and
- to reduce the number of vehicles on City roadways by the additional use of transit, carpools, and other forms of non-vehicle transportation.

### *Did You Know?*

\* The City's variable message boards, posted to alert motorists and pedestrians about maintenance and construction projects and events, are powered by self-contained solar cells.

### *Did You Know?*



This multi-year effort will address pedestrian safety, aesthetics and the motor vehicle demands on City streets as traffic continues to grow due to the increases in resident and business population in the region and the City.

## SAFETY INITIATIVES

To increase pedestrian safety, a number of City crosswalks have been widened and paved. The City is using signs, including variable message boards, to alert motorists and pedestrians to upcoming projects, such as construction, alternate routing and special



\* The City now owns Union Station which serves AMTRAK and Virginia Railway Express riders.

events. Along the King Street corridor, new blue and white signs help visitors identify the downtown area as a continuous pedestrian shopping and business area.



New pedestrian crossing countdown clocks have been installed at many City intersections to help pedestrians cross busy streets.

### **WOODROW WILSON BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION**

In May, the Woodrow Wilson Bridge construction began in Jones Point Park with clearing of the area for the footprint of the new replacement bridge and the driving of piles, which were completed in Jones Point Park in the fall. Bridge pile driving will continue in the Potomac River until 2003. Work on the Route 1 Interchange is scheduled to start in December. The demolition of buildings at Hunting Terrace Towers will start early in 2002. Superstructure work on the new bridge will begin in 2002. The outer loop bridge is expected to open in December 2004. Demolition of the existing bridge and opening of the new inner loop bridge is scheduled for December 2006, with the Route 1 Interchange reconstruction proceeding at the same time.



**Telegraph Road Interchange work is expected to begin in 2009 with completion in 2011, about 18 months later than in earlier projections.**

### **GRIDLOCK REDUCTION**

Last fall, City Council voted to make permanent the City's pilot program to keep 10 key City intersections from being blocked during the 3:30 to 6:30 weekday evening rush hour. The Police Department will continue to monitor and move traffic through intersections at Henry and Prince,

Henry and Duke, Henry and King, Henry and Cameron, Washington and Gibbon, Alfred and Gibbon, King and Alfred, King and Patrick, King and Washington, and Duke and West Taylor Run, Monday through Friday evenings.

### **DASH ABOUT**

In May 2000, DASH initiated new free weekend "Dash About" shuttle service for visitors and residents between the King Street Metro Station and lower King Street. Three buses with distinctive eye catching markings provide frequent, easy and fun weekend bus service funded by an \$85,000 demonstration

Vehicle Accident Rates

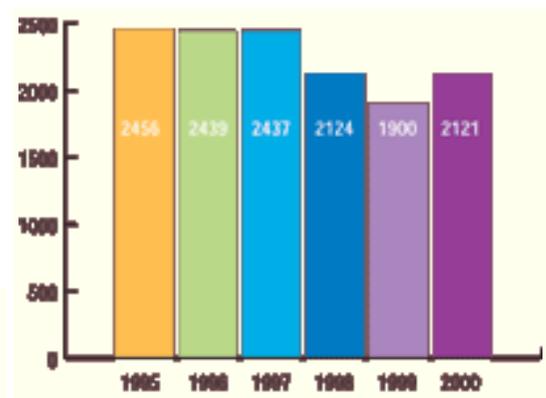
grant from the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation. DASH and the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association market and promote the service together.

## TRANSIT *Did You Know?*

\* Transportation and Environmental Services supervised the paving of approximately 60 lane miles of residential and arterial streets, and cleaned and maintained over 23,000 lane miles of City roads in FY 2001.



\* The City's third annual Bike to Work Day included over 250 participants. Alexandria Rideshare has helped 175 people to find carpools, and assisted 35 large and small businesses in promoting alternative transportation for workers.



In 2000, the Alexandria Transit Company, operator of the City's DASH bus system, transported over 2.6 million passengers, 4.7% more than in 1999. Average weekday DASH ridership grew 5.5% to 9,144 passengers. In the last ten years, the fleet of 17 DASH buses purchased in 1984 has increased threefold, while total ridership is up by 88% overall.

In March 2001, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority added a bus route to Potomac Yard to serve this popular City retail destination.