

**Alexandria Transportation Commission**  
**301 King Street**  
**Alexandria, VA 22314**

Mr. Richard Baier, Director of Transportation  
& Environmental Services  
Alexandria City Hall  
301 King Street, Suite 4100  
Alexandria, VA 22314

December 5, 2013

Re: King Street Bicycle Improvements

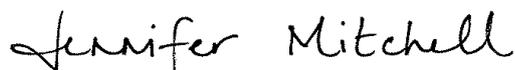
Dear Mr. Baier:

At the December 4, 2013 Transportation Commission meeting, the Commission discussed the proposed bicycle and pedestrian improvement project on King Street between West Cedar Street and Janneys Lane. This is an important project that is needed to provide safe and adequate access for bicyclists and pedestrians between Old Town, the King Street Metrorail station and activity centers to the west including TC Williams High School. The project will also provide pedestrian improvements and narrow travel lanes to maintain vehicular speeds at the posted speed limit.

The Transportation Commission endorses the original staff recommendation for bike lanes on King Street, as it is consistent with the City's Transportation Master Plan, Complete Streets Policy and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. The City's Complete Streets Policy offers a number of situations in which a street might be exempt from implementing Complete Streets infrastructure such as disproportionate cost or non-motorized use prohibited by law, and none of the allowable exceptions apply in this case. We commend the work staff has put into developing a compromise solution in response to public comments. The staff compromise recommendation for sharrows, while not fully consistent with the Complete Streets policy, retains ten on-street spaces. We believe it is acceptable because it would still address pedestrian and bicycle safety issues.

With that noted, the Transportation Commission does not support any further compromise that would degrade pedestrian and bicycle safety along this portion of King Street. T&ES staff have put significant time and effort in developing a compromise solution, and we believe that additional deliberation will simply further delay to the implementation process without resulting in a better design solution. We respectfully request that you make a decision on this important Complete Streets project, and proceed with implementation in a timely manner.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Mitchell  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

Copy to: Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg, and Members of the City Council