

# City of Alexandria, Virginia

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## MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 18, 2014

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: SANDRA MARKS, ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #5 – ROUTE 1 TRANSITWAY AND HOV LANE ENFORCEMENT

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**ISSUE:** Enforcement of the Route 1 Transitway and High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Transportation Commission (Commission) receive the report.

**DISCUSSION:** At previous meetings, the Commission requested that staff provide an update on existing enforcement of the Route 1 HOV lanes, and future enforcement of the Route 1 Transitway.

### **Route 1 Transitway**

On June 11, 2014 City Council approved on first hearing the proposed Ordinance enabling dedication of transitways for transit vehicles and emergency vehicles only and set the Ordinance for public hearing, second reading, and final passage on Saturday, June 14, 2014.

The Crystal City Potomac Yard Transitway is a five-mile high-capacity transit corridor connecting Pentagon City and Braddock Road Metrorail stations. Service is expected to start in summer 2014. Much of the service will operate in dedicated transit lanes, providing residents, workers, and visitors with a fast, convenient, and comfortable connection to the regional Metrorail network, the emerging Potomac Yard developments, and key employment nodes.

The initial segment of the corridor is under construction along Route 1 between Potomac Avenue and East Glebe Road. Transit vehicles will operate in exclusive right-of-way along this segment. The project includes enhanced stations, off-board fare collection, transit signal priority, and real-time passenger information. The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) will operate new premium transit service under the brand *Metroway*. Dedicated transit lanes are key components of the new service. These transit lanes will allow buses to travel freely, unrestricted by the heavy congestion in the corridor.

The Crystal City Potomac Yard Transitway will be the first corridor in the region to make use of dedicated transitways that are physically separated from general traffic. The proposed addition of Title 10, Chapter 3, Section 17 would enable City Council to designate transitways for the exclusive use of transit vehicles and sets fines for unauthorized use of the transitway.

**Route 1 High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes**

A representative of the City of Alexandria Police Department will attend the June 18, 2014 Transportation Commission meeting to discuss current methods of enforcement of the HOV lanes and answer questions of the Commission.

**ATTACHMENT:**

Attachment 1: Ordinance 13-3-17