



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: 703.746.4025

www.alexandriava.gov

Mayor William D. Euille and Members of City Council
City Hall
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

August 3, 2015

Re: Alexandria Transit Development Plan

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of City Council:

At the June and July Transportation Commission meetings, City staff and the project consultant provided an overview of the recommendations in the draft Alexandria Transit Development Plan (TDP) being developed by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT). The TDP serves as a policy document intended to inform and prioritize capital and operating funding decisions for all transit services that operate in the City of Alexandria, including DASH, Metrobus, Metrorail, MetroAccess, DOT Paratransit, Fairfax Connector, Virginia Railway Express (VRE), and Amtrak.

The Commission held a public hearing on July 22, 2015, and following the public hearing, endorsed the TDP, but provided the following comments to be incorporated into the final plan:

- The plan should acknowledge that there is likely to be limited funding for expansion of DASH over the next several years; DASH service expansion is funded primarily through the City's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Recently, funding from the TIP has been diverted to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) as the required subsidy has increased. The diversion of funds directly impacts the City's ability to expand local transit service;
- The Transportation Commission recommends investigating opportunities to improve the efficiency of the King Street trolley, such as reducing layover time;
- The plan references the proposal to eliminate WMATA route 9A and restructure route 10A; the Commission requests that staff consider the potential impacts of any service changes to Hunting Point;

- The plan should consider using a higher inflation rate for project costs than currently assumed. The annual inflation rate currently applied only reflects year-over-year cost growth over a one-year period and may underestimate the potential for higher inflation rates over a longer period of time;
- The plan should include a better explanation of City and state funding flows, particularly regarding DRPT reimbursement of capital funds expended by the City and how those funds are used as part of the City's subsidy contribution to WMATA.

The Commission requested that staff provide the final copy of the plan upon its completion. We appreciate your consideration of the Commission's input on the Alexandria Transit Development Plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan M. Macek". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Nathan M. Macek
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transit Company Board of Directors
Alexandria Transportation Commission
Mark Jinks, City Manager
Yon Lambert, Director, T&ES