



City of Alexandria

Transportation Commission

Regular Meeting

December 4, 2013

7:00 p.m.

City Council Work Room

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Kerry Donley, John Komoroske, Jennifer Mitchell, Kevin Posey, Josh Sawislak, Louisa Ward and Maria Wasowski

Staff Present: Carrie Beach - P&Z, Karen Callahan – T&ES, Megan Cummings – T&ES, Sandra Marks – T&ES, Marti Reinfeld – T&ES, Steve Sindiong - T&ES, Andre Stafford – DASH
The Chair called the Transportation Commission meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

1. October 2, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Mitchell asked if there were any comments or edits regarding the October 2013 meeting minutes. Commissioner Donley made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Lovain seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion to approve the minutes was voted on and unanimously approved.

2. November 15, 2013 Retreat Recap and Minutes

Commissioner Mitchell gave an overview of the November 15, 2013 Retreat, including the goals of clarifying the role of the Commission, identifying ways to improve productivity, ways to improve public engagement, and a discussion of upcoming initiatives. There was discussion on the need to update the Transportation Master Plan, and also discussion on having occasional workshops for items that need more detailed review, prior to the regular meetings. Commissioner Mitchell asked if there were any comments or edits regarding the Retreat minutes. Commissioner Komoroske made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Sawislak seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion to approve the Transportation Commission Retreat minutes was voted on and unanimously approved.

3. Updates To Receive

The Commission received written staff updates on the Funding Update, Potomac Yard Metrorail Station, Route 1 Transitway, Capital Bikeshare, Parking standards for new development, Pay by Phone, and the Lower King Street Pedestrian Study. In addition, staff provided an oral recap of the November 26, 2013 Council Work Session. There were no requests from Commissioners to discuss any of the staff updates, and the Commission accepted the updates.

4. Transportation Management Plan (TMP) Text Amendment Update

T&ES staff Megan Cummings spoke on the background of the TMP Ordinance. She also cited the number of times staff has reached out to different groups such as TMP Coordinators, civic associations, business groups, committees, transportation planners, and land use attorneys to discuss the concept and guidelines of the TMP. The proposed amendment to the ordinance simplifies the text. The language in the new ordinance will contain only the regulatory requirements of the TMP program, and administrative guidelines will provide technical requirements. The new Transportation Planning Administrative Guidelines (Guidelines) provide technical procedures for the preparation of the Transportation Study (Study) and TMP. The new ordinance establishes a process for the approval of Administrative Guidelines (Section 11-709) to facilitate the TMP program. The Guidelines will be approved by the Planning Commission and City Council with the proposed amendment. Subsequent updates will be made as part of the annual TMP report to City Council. Other revisions include evaluating and adjusting TMP requirements every 2-3 years over the life of the TMP, administrative fees with a maximum of \$5,000 for non-compliance, expand the City's TDM program to include smaller developments that will be required to participate in the City's TDM program and pay into the City's TDM fund rather than establishing their own program and funds, establish equitable triggers and fee structure, and lower the threshold for TMPs, allow for TMP partnerships among neighboring developments, create an amendment to present to the Planning Commission and City Council to establish an opt-in program for older TMP programs to opt in with new program, and require non-compliant TMPs to pay their fees to support the expanded Citywide TDM program and temporarily run their on-site TMP program until the TMP is compliant. The Commission requested that staff bring back the TMP Text Amendment Update to the January 8, 2014 Commission meeting and hold a public hearing. Staff should invite the Federation of Civic Associations, and send an e-news to the public to solicit comments.

5. FY 2015-2024 CIP

T&ES staff is developing the FY 2015-24 CIP budget priorities based on the Commission's guidance and is identifying new and major changes to projects. Staff will bring a draft list of projects to the Commission at its January 8, 2014 meeting for consideration by the City Manager for preparation of his budget. Upcoming dates regarding the City budget are: Proposed Budget Presentation by CMO on Feb 25, 2014, City Council Public Hearing on FY2015-24 Budget on March 10, 2014, and City Council Public Hearing on tax rate on April 12, 2014.

6. Commission Updates

The election of Officers was held. Commissioner Sawislak made a motion to elect Jennifer Mitchell as the Chair. Commissioner Posey seconded the motion, and there being no objections, the motion to approve Jennifer Mitchell as the Transportation Chair was unanimously approved. Commissioner Wasowski made a motion to elect Josh Sawislak as the Vice Chair. Commissioner Donley seconded the motion, and there being no objections, the motion to approve Josh Sawislak as the Transportation Vice-Chair was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Posey thanked staff for their professionalism during their presentation of the King Street Bicycle Lane project during the November 25, 2013 Traffic and Parking Board hearing. After weighing the pros and cons of the land use and options of the project, the Transportation Commissioners agreed that the location for the King Street Bicycle Lane does not have a lot of expansion capabilities. It was also agreed that in keeping with the original Complete Streets

Policy, the compromise for this project that staff has devised is not a clear implementation of the Complete Streets Policy but it is an acceptable compromise and an adaptive reuse of a major thoroughfare as it continues to protect the safety of citizens, bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists. Commissioner Donley made a motion that the Chair write a letter endorsing the King Street Bicycle Project as an example of the Complete Street Policy and stating the staff compromise -is acceptable as it does not degrade safety. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sawislak, voted on and unanimously approved.

7. Other Business

Chair Mitchell asked for Commission volunteers for several upcoming project committees. Maria Wasowski agreed to serve on the Eisenhower West Transportation Study Steering Committee. Kevin Posey agreed to serve on the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Update Ad hoc Committee. Kerry Donley agreed to serve on the Parking Standards for New Development Study. Jennifer Mitchell agreed to temporarily serve on the Corridor C Alternatives Analysis Policy Advisory Committee until another Commissioner agrees to replace her.

The next meeting will be rescheduled from January 1 to January 8, 2013 due to the New Year holiday.

There being no further business, Chair Mitchell made a motion to adjourn which was seconded, voted on and unanimously approved.