



City of Alexandria

Transportation Commission

Regular Meeting

October 6, 2010

7:30 p.m.

City Hall, Room 1101

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Donna Fossum, Jesse Jennings, Councilman Krupicka, Jennifer Mitchell, Kevin Posey, Phil Voorhees, Louisa Ward, Justin Wilson,

Staff Present: Karen Callaham-T&ES, Al Himes-DASH, Abi Lerner-T&ES, Sandra Marks-T&ES, Jim Maslanka-T&ES, Valerie Peterson-P&Z, Carrie Sanders-T&ES, Steve Sindiong-T&ES

A quorum being present, the Transportation Commission meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm.

1. **Minutes**

Acting Chair Mitchell called the meeting to order. Commissioner Fossum asked for clarification on the wording of the last few words on October 6 agenda item 3; to replace “to allow the possibility for other high priorities” with “to fund other high priority projects”. It was agreed the change was valid and the October 6 minutes were unanimously approved.

2. **Funding Update**

T&ES Staff Abi Lerner reported an audit of VDOT accounts showed that millions of dollars have been sitting unspent for several years. The bulk of the money comes from about \$400 million that had accumulated in construction and maintenance accounts while and an additional \$654 million was never allocated to any projects. VDOT informed T&ES staff to wait for further instructions on applying for these additional funds. The City has RSTP and CMAQ projects to submit should additional VDOT funds be dispersed. No word yet on the TIGER II bike sharing grant. WMATA approved an increase that will allow the City to undertake the Potomac Yard Metrorail environmental study.

3. **Funding for Priority Transportation Projects**

Funding mechanisms and choosing which critical transportation priority projects are selected for funding still require fine-tuning. The proposed process was submitted to City Council and Council recommended more details be provided in terms of community outreach. Councilman Krupicka shared that Council will decide as part of the budget process in November, whether the City Manger should propose to move forward with the add-on commercial tax and propose which priority projects should be funded. It was agreed that a Public Hearing on the draft project list would be held at the Novemeber Commission meeting.

4. **Beauregard Corridor Plan**

T&ES staff Abi Lerner reported that a comprehensive transportation plan for the area has not yet been identified. The September 30 public meeting on the Beauregard Corridor Plan focused on an overview, the land use challenges, opportunities, related studies, and alternatives considered. The next steps will be additional community outreach, assess infrastructure needs, continued evaluation and implementation of short / mid term improvements and long term interchange improvements, and to complete the Transitway Corridor Feasibility Study and coordinate with the High Capacity Transit Corridor work group to identify multi-modal opportunities.

5. **Transitway Corridor Feasibility Study**

The Transitway Corridor Feasibility Study is being conducted for the purpose of investigating the feasibility of implementing a dedicated corridor transit service in the City in three corridors identified in the City's Transportation Master Plan . The study stems from the City's Transportation Master Plan recommendation for providing an enhanced transit service study in the three corridors. A work group comprised of community stakeholders will begin public meetings on Thursday, October 21 from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm in Sister Cities Conference Room 1101, 301 King Street, City Hall. The City has contracted Kimley Horn & Associates to assist staff. Kimley Horn staff provided a presentation during the meeting. Their focus will concentrate on the alignment of the transitways, the modes of transportation and an implementation plan. They will coordinate with the Beauregard Corridor and High Capacity Transit Corridor work groups throughout the study. The Beauregard/Van Dorn Corridor will be the number one priority. The Beauregard/Van Dorn Corridor recommendations should be completed by April 2011.

6. **Staff Updates**

The Commission received the written staff updates provided. There were no questions on the updates.

7. **Elections**

Elections were held for the position of Commission Chair. Commissioner Fossum nominated Commissioner Kevin Posey for the position and was seconded by Commissioner Jennings. Commissioner Wilson nominated Commissioner Mitchell but was not seconded. Kevin Posey was elected Chair 6-1. Commissioner Mitchell will continue serving as Vice Chair.

8. **Commission Updates**

Acting Chair Jennifer Mitchell, introduced and welcomed the new Commission members Louisa Ward and Justin Wilson to the Commission.

9. **Other Business**

T&ES Staff Abi Lerner introduced two new staff members, Carrie Sanders and Steve Sindiong of the Transportation Planning Division of the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services. Carrie is the new Bike/Pedestrian Principal Planner and Steve, a Principal Transportation Planner, will be the staff liaison to the Transportation Commission.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made at 8:51 pm, seconded and approved unanimously.