

# *City of Alexandria, Virginia*

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## **MEMORANDUM**

DATE: MAY 4, 2011

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: T&ES STAFF

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM # 5 - STAFF UPDATES

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**ISSUE:** Staff update to Commission on various ongoing projects

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Transportation Commission (Commission) receive the staff update.

**A. BRAC-133 UPDATE:**

- ✓ VDOT has committed to \$80 million in funding for the HOV/Transit Ramp at I-395 and Seminary Road, with a design/build process to expedite construction. This includes use of a categorical Exclusion (CE) for the environmental documentation. FHWA rejected the VDOT recommendation for a CE and will require an Environmental Assessment (EA). Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division has agreed to oversee and manage the NEPA and construction processes for the project.
- ✓ The Army has requested reprogramming of \$20 million through the Defense Access Roads program to fund the Short and Mid-term Road Improvements at the key intersections adjacent to the Mark Center. The funds will be available pending a two week Congressional comment period. FHWA has concurred with the VDOT recommendation that the appropriate NEPA documentation for this project is a CE, and the Eastern Federal Lands Division of FHWA has agreed to oversee and manage the NEPA process, the preliminary design and the procurement for this project.
- ✓ DoD and WMATA have agreed in principle to an express shuttle service between the Pentagon and the Mark Center, structured similarly to the DASH arrangement with DoD. The City will serve as a pass-through conduit for the funding. An agreement is being prepared to establish this arrangement.
- ✓ Discussions continue between Alexandria Fire and Fort Belvoir regarding the structure of an arrangement where Fort Belvoir would contribute to capital and operational costs for fire and EMS services, off-setting service impacts from the BRAC facility. Several City staff members received security clearances from DoD to allow them to begin operational planning.
- ✓ The Traffic & Parking Board approved the staff recommendation on March 28 that will

create a new daytime parking district in response to anticipated neighborhood parking encroachment issues resulting from the BRAC-133 facility. Ordinance amendments go before City Council in May, and implementation is scheduled for June and July.

- ✓ Beginning in April, TES staff began conducting traffic counts at several locations throughout the West End neighborhoods to document existing volumes and speed to establish a baseline as a part of the effort to determine the need and locations for traffic calming measures in anticipation of potential cut-through traffic from the workers at the BRAC-133 facility.
- ✓ The letter of agreement for modification of the Transportation Management Plan TMP has been executed by the City, Department of Defense (DoD), and Washington Headquarters Service (WHS).
- ✓ The cooperative agreement for providing enhanced transit between the Mark Center and King Street Metro Station using DASH for is being revised to final form. The service is anticipated to commence August 8, 2011.