

Implementation of Transitway Corridor A (Route 1 / North-South)

Recommendation by High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group (CWG)

The following motion was passed by the High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group at its December 15, 2011 meeting, regarding transit in Corridor A:

Whereas the Alexandria Comprehensive Transportation Master Plan conceptually envisioned the eventual location of high capacity transit in dedicated lanes in the portion of Corridor A south of Braddock METRO Station; and

Whereas the High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group was appointed to recommend methods for implementing the Alexandria Comprehensive Transportation Master Plan to City Council;

Be it hereby resolved that the High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group recommends that there be no dedicated-lane high capacity transit on the portion of Corridor A south of Braddock METRO Station. Instead, the High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group recommends that resources be used to explore the possibility of putting circulator buses/trolleys or other forms of conventional and scale appropriate transit in this portion of the City.

Recommendation by Transportation Commission

At the May 2, 2012 Transportation Commission meeting, a public hearing was held on the recommendation made by the High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group (CWG) for the implementation of Corridor A (Route 1/North-South). The following motion was moved, seconded and approved by the Transportation Commission:

The Alexandria Transportation Commission concurs with the recommendation made by the High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group in the following Resolution that the Work Group adopted on December 15, 2011:

“Whereas the Alexandria Comprehensive Transportation Master Plan conceptually envisioned the eventual location of high capacity transit in dedicated lanes in the portion of Corridor A south of Braddock METRO Station; and

“Whereas the High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group was appointed to recommend methods for implementing the Alexandria Comprehensive Transportation Master Plan to City Council;

“Be it hereby resolved that the High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group recommends that there be no dedicated-lane high capacity transit on the portion of Corridor A south of Braddock METRO Station. Instead, the High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group recommends that resources be used to explore the possibility of putting circulator buses/trolleys or other forms of conventional and scale appropriate transit in this portion of the City.”

After careful review of the high capacity transit options in the portion of Corridor A south of the Braddock METRO Rail Station, the Transportation Commission has determined that dedicated right-of-way transit is not viable on the streets of Old Town.

The Transportation Commission recommends that City Council explore the expansion of East-West connections between Old Town and the existing MetroRail Stations as the most effective way to encourage transit use in this area. Any such connections made must be done with maximum sensitivity to residents' concerns and the historic infrastructure in Old Town. The Transportation Commission further recommends that City Council direct City staff to engage in community outreach on this matter and that at least one public hearing be held by the Transportation Commission on any proposal regarding East-West connectivity before any action to implement such is taken.

While the Work Group considered and ultimately rejected all three proposed "build" options for the portion of Transit Corridor A south of Braddock METRO Rail Station (i.e., (1) West Street, (2) Patrick/Henry Street, and (3) Washington Street), the Transportation Commission urges City staff to explore additional connectivity from Transit Corridor B into Fairfax County via the Huntington MetroRail Station, and into Maryland via the Wilson Bridge, and to present all findings to the Transportation Commission and City Council on any potential "build" options identified.

(NOTE: This was approved by a vote of 6 to 1, with both Council members abstaining, by the Transportation Commission on May 2, 2012.)

Recommendation by Planning Commission

At the June 5, 2012 Planning Commission meeting, a public hearing was held on the recommendation made by the High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group (CWG) for the implementation of Corridor A (Route 1/North-South). The following motion was moved, seconded and approved by the Planning Commission:

The Planning Commission reaffirmed support for the motions for Corridor A that were passed by both the High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group, and the Transportation Commission.

(NOTE: This was approved by a vote of 5 to 0 by the Planning Commission on June 5, 2012.)