Union Street Corridor Study
Waterfront Commission Special Meeting
June 21, 2012
Project Team

- City of Alexandria

- Toole Design Group
  - Tina Fink, P.E. – Project Manager
  - Dan Goodman, AICP, LEED-AP – Senior Planner
  - Lauren Kaufmann – Staff Engineer

- Quality Counts
Agenda

• Project Overview
  • Goals and challenges
  • Scope elements
  • Project schedule
• Previous plans and studies
• Status of ongoing work
• Discussion questions
Project Goals and Challenges

• Build upon previous studies
• Facilitate a vibrant waterfront
• Address parking and circulation issues
• Enhance safety for all modes
• Implement Complete Streets
• Balance needs:
  - Of all users
  - On different days and times of the week
Study Area & Key Scope Elements

- **Existing Transportation Conditions**
  - Field Assessments
  - Traffic Counts (all modes!)
  - Parking
  - Overnight Parking
  - Delivery Truck Activity
  - Motorcoach Activity
  - Crash Data

- **Public Engagement**

- **Alternatives and Recommendations**
# Project Schedule

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Waterfront Commission Input

Meeting #1: June 21
Provide input on issues and concerns in the study area

Meeting #2: Aug 28
Provide preferences and comments on design alternatives and recommendations

Meeting #3: Sept 18
Select preferred design alternative
Comprehensive Transportation Master Plan

- March 2008
- Provides the overarching vision and goals for our study
  - Multimodal emphasis
  - Balance between travel efficiency and quality of life
  - Transportation choice
  - Infrastructure recommendations
  - Accessibility and mobility
Alexandria Waterfront Small Area Plan

- July 2011
- Informs our understanding of future land use and development changes in the study area
- Goals
  - Connected
  - Dynamic
  - Manageable
- Public space
- Parking

- Transportation
  - Signal timing and new signals
  - Pedestrian congestion
  - Wayfinding
  - Safety retrofits
  - Accessibility
  - Bike share
  - Enforcement
  - Transit
Pedestrian and Bicycle Mobility Plan

- June 2008
- Provides starting point for recommended bike and pedestrian improvements and how they might be prioritized
  - Citywide pedestrian and bike data collection and recommendations
  - Prioritization
  - Bicycle and Pedestrian Priority Streets
Old Town Parking Study and Implementation Plan

- February 2010
- Provides baseline understanding of broader parking issues and opportunities in Old Town, which we’ll:
  - Apply to study area
  - Test based on current data collection
  - Expand upon as needed
- Garage and wayfinding strategies
Alexandria Waterfront Traffic Impact Study

- May 2010
- Provides baseline traffic analysis, which we’ll use to evaluate what we’re observing today
  - Key intersections focus on access to/from Washington Street
  - Provides recommendations for all modes and evaluates impact of potential improvements
Other Plans and Studies

• Wayfinding System Design Guidelines Manual (September 2010)
• Motorcoach Task Force (2008-2010)
• Windmill Hill Park Consensus Plan Development (January 2002)
• Other
Status of Ongoing Work

- Safety Analysis
- Union Street & King Street Behavior Analysis
- Delivery Truck Activity
- Daily Traffic Counts
- Turning Movement Counts
- Stakeholder Interviews
Safety Analysis

- Only a few reported crashes
- “Near misses” aren’t reported
- User comfort not captured
What are the major complaints and concerns at this intersection?
Delivery Truck Activity

• Deliveries started at 7 AM
• Busiest between King and Prince
• More activity on the weekday
Daily Traffic Counts

- Traffic volumes highest Friday to Sunday
- Motorist speeds slow
- Bicyclists volume highest mid-day on Saturday
- Pedestrian volume off the charts!
Turning Movement Counts

Thursday Evening

• Union & King
  • 482 cars
  • 950 peds

• Fairfax & King
  • 759 cars
  • 503 peds

• Wash. & King
  • 3,344 cars
  • 603 peds
What is **working well** on Union Street today and what is **not working well**? How has it **changed over the years**?
Discussion Question (2/4)

What are the **most important competing needs** that we will need to balance as part of our effort?
Discussion Questions (3/4)

Which of the issues that exist today can be addressed through physical and/or operational changes and which have more to do with behavior?
At the end of our process, how will we know that we have succeeded?