

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 8, 2013

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: SANDRA MARKS, ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #3 – PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE PLAN UPDATE

ISSUE: Staff update to Transportation Commission on pedestrian and bicycle projects completed and underway, and changes needed to the City's bicycle plans.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive the staff update.

BACKGROUND: There are two main areas that staff would like to update the Commission on regarding this topic:

- 1 Projects completed
- 2 Projects underway
- 3 Bicycle plan updates needed

A. Projects Completed

Since the 2008 Transportation Master Plan and the 2008 Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Plan were completed, staff has made progress on important projects to improve walking and bicycling in Alexandria.

Some key accomplishments include:

- Over 7 lane miles of bicycle lanes and shared-lane markings
- Over 5 miles of shared-use paths
- Over 150 bicycle parking spaces
- Eisenhower Trail Underpass
- Woodrow Wilson Bridge Trail
- Jones Point Park Trails and Mount Vernon Trail
- Potomac Avenue Trail - Phase I
- Potomac Avenue Trail Connection to Arlington County
- Telegraph Road Trail Connection to Fairfax County
- Woodrow Willson Bridge Trail and Mount Vernon Trail Connection to Fairfax County
- First bicycle signal in the State of Virginia on Mount Vernon Trail

- First HAWK signal in City with second planned for 2013-2014
- City's first pervious trail in Dora Kelly Park made of recycled rubber passenger tires
- Launch of Capital Bikeshare in Alexandria with eight stations in Old Town
- Charles Barrett Safe Routes to School Project
- Mount Vernon and East Reed pedestrian safety improvements
- Russell Road and Cedar Street pedestrian safety improvements
- Grew Bike to Work Day registrants by adding two new Alexandria pit stops
- Installed hundreds of lights on bikes in the Arlandria neighborhood each year
- Bicycle education and safety classes offered by City has doubled since 2010
- For annual Street Smart Campaign, over 100 DASH bus drivers received pedestrian and bicycle safety trainings

With the adoption of the Complete Streets Policy in 2011, and full-time Complete Streets Coordinator on staff as of January 2013, there are now two full-time staff working on pedestrian and bicycle projects.

B. Projects Underway

Projects currently underway in the implementation of the 2008 Transportation Master Plan and the 2008 Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Plan include:

- Capital Bikeshare
- Complete Streets Paving Program
- Complete Streets On-street Bicycle Facilities, over 10 miles planned
- Complete Streets Safety Upgrades and Neighborhood Enhancements
- Holmes Run Greenway
- Chambliss Crossing - under construction
- Access to Transit
- Edsall and South Pickett Pedestrian Improvements
- Wilkes Street Bikeway
- Mount Vernon Trail at East Abingdon
- Duke Street Pedestrian Improvements
- Bicycle Parking Improvements at Metrorail Stations
- Safe Routes to School Intersection Improvements
- Old Cameron Run Study
- Street Smart Campaign
- City Code for Bicycles revision

C. Bicycle Plan Updates Needed

While projects and recommendations from the 2008 Transportation Master Plan and the 2008 Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Plan are underway and will continue to be completed, updates are needed to these plans to reflect the new Complete Streets Program and Capital Bikeshare program. These updates should include existing and future bicycle parking areas, bicycle way-finding, and on-street bicycle facilities that incorporate innovative treatments such as cycle tracks.