

# *City of Alexandria, Virginia*

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## **MEMORANDUM**

DATE: JUNE 5, 2013

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: JOEL MARCUSON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #4 – COMMONWEALTH’S DRAFT SIX YEAR IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

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**ISSUE:** Update on the Commonwealth’s draft Six Year Improvement Program.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Transportation Commission receive an update and provide comments to staff regarding the draft Six Year Improvement Program.

**DISCUSSION:** The Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP) is a document prepared by the Commonwealth that outlines planned spending for transportation projects proposed for construction development or study for the next six years. The SYIP is updated annually and is approved by the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB). Under the Code of Virginia, the CTB is required to allocate funds to interstate, primary, secondary and urban highway systems, public transit, ports and airports and other programs for the immediate fiscal year. While the SYIP also identifies planned program funding for the succeeding five fiscal years, only funds for the first fiscal year of the SYIP are allocated; the remaining five years are estimates of future allocations. The CTB updates the SYIP each year as revenue estimates are updated, priorities are revised, project schedules and costs change, and study results are known.

Development of the SYIP begins in the fall and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) hosts a series of meetings seeking public comment. Each spring, a draft SYIP is presented to the CTB and made public for comment with a series of public hearings seeking input on development of the draft SYIP. The program is finalized in June and takes effect on July 1 of each year.

The Commonwealth released a draft of the SYIP on May 15, 2013. Table 1 provides a summary of Commonwealth transportation funding included in the SYIP. The draft SYIP included \$9.2 million in funding for the City in FY 2014, in addition to \$22.4 million in funding from FY 2015 to FY 2019. Additional VDOT-sponsored projects within the City, such as the I-395 HOV Ramp at Seminary Road and the I-395 Auxiliary Lane, also received substantial funding.

Several new City projects were added to the FY 2014 – FY 2019 SYIP, including the Eisenhower Avenue Resurfacing, Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements, and Corridor C BRT. In addition, three existing projects were allocated new funds – King Street Metrorail Station Area Improvements, Dedicated Transit Corridor Project and Bicycle Sharing.

**Table 1. City of Alexandria Projects in the Draft FY14 - FY 19 SYIP**

<b>Project Description</b>	<b>FY 2014 Funding</b>	<b>FY 2015-2019 Funding</b>
	(in thousands)	
<b><i>Virginia Department of Transportation Funding</i></b>		
DASH Vehicles	\$2,650	\$11,340
Eisenhower Avenue Resurfacing	\$248	\$0
Duke Street Reconstruction	\$0	\$0
Bikeshare*	\$437	\$1,054
Rebuilding Mount Vernon Trail	\$450	\$0
Bikeshare Stations at Major Transit Stops	\$0	\$350
King Street Metrorail Station Area Improvements	\$0	\$1,146
Transit Analysis Study	\$0	\$500
Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Study	\$0	\$340
Dedicated Transit Corridors Study	\$127	\$600
Ridesharing Enhancements and TDM	\$500	\$2,860
Braddock Road Metrorail Station Multimodal Connections	\$0	\$500
Parking Technologies	\$0	\$310
Corridor C	\$0	\$3,391
<b>Subtotal VDOT Funding</b>	<b>\$4,412</b>	<b>\$22,391</b>
<b><i>VA Department of Rail and Public Transportation Funding</i></b>		
DASH Expansion Vehicles	\$2,145	
Route 1 Transitway Vehicles	\$2,029	
Route 1 Transitway Enhancements	\$660	
<b>Subtotal DRPT Funding</b>	<b>\$4,834</b>	
<b>Total Funding for Alexandria Projects</b>	<b>\$9,246</b>	<b>\$22,391</b>

\*Staff understands that an additional \$520,000 was allocated for Bikeshare in FY 2014 and FY 2015, although this amount was not reflected in the SYIP. The City noted this omission in its written testimony.

A Northern Virginia public hearing was held on May 29, 2013, at which Mayor Euille provided testimony. Written testimony was also submitted (Attachment 1). The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) plans to adopt the final program at its June 19 meeting.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1 – City Testimony on the Draft FY 2014 - FY 2019 SYIP