

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: SANDRA MARKS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #4 – GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL PARKWAY
MEMORIAL CIRCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN / ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT

ISSUE: The National Parks Service is initiating a Transportation Plan and Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Memorial Circle area of the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Transportation Commission (Commission) receive an update on the transportation plan and the environmental assessment.

DISCUSSION: Staff from the National Parks Service (NPS) will provide an update to the Commission on a transportation plan and an environmental assessment for the Memorial Circle area of the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Memorial Circle is located in Arlington County east of Arlington Cemetery, and immediately west of the Memorial Bridge.

The purpose of the plan is to reduce conflicts between trail, walkway and roadway users and to increase overall visitor safety, while maintaining the memorial character of the area and improving mobility for vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists.

The project area is heavily used by motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians both for recreation and for commuting (or other local travel). The circle is often part of funeral routes processing to Arlington National Cemetery. The Mount Vernon Trail travels through the project area along the waterfront, contributing greatly to the bicycle and pedestrian use within the circle.

The heavy use of the transportation facilities within the project area contribute to a number of safety concerns, especially at the six un-signalized, at-grade crosswalks within the vicinity of the circle.

Information on the project is available at www.nps.gov/gwmp

ATTACHMENTS:

- Project Informational Flyer