Mayor Allison Silberberg and Members of City Council
City Hall
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

March 21, 2016

Re: Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Update

Dear Mayor Silberberg and Members of City Council:

At its March 16, 2016 meeting the Transportation Commission reviewed the City’s Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Update, which will replace the existing Pedestrian and Bicycle section of the City’s Transportation Master Plan. The planning and implementation of safe, connected and accessible pedestrian and bicycle facilities is a very important component of the City’s overall transportation system that will help to improve mobility for Alexandria’s residents and visitors.

The Transportation Commission endorses the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Update, and recommends that the Planning Commission and Council approve an amendment to update the City of Alexandria Master Plan to include the revised Pedestrian and Bicycle section of the Transportation Master Plan.

In addition, the Transportation Commission recommends that Pedestrian Engineering strategy #5 (related to improvement of street crossing conditions) be amended to include additional language that encourages the provision of automatic pedestrian signals, where feasible, to minimize the incidence of pedestrian signals requiring actuation in order to minimize pedestrian delay. In addition, the Commission recommends that Bicycle Program/policy strategy #12 (related to education and outreach to under-represented groups) include partnering with Alexandria City Public Schools, which includes children as an under-represented group.

In order to implement the plan, it is important that Council provide the necessary funding to implement the plan vision, goals, recommended strategies, and priority projects, including the implementation of a Vision Zero program which is a high priority of residents and the Transportation Commission.

The Transportation Commission would like to thank the Ad Hoc Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Advisory Committee for its hard work over the past two years in helping to shape this plan.
The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review the City’s Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan update, as well as the consideration of its input by the Planning Commission and Council.

Sincerely,

J. J. King III
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Planning Commission
    Alexandria Transportation Commission
    Mark Jinks, City Manager
    Yon Lambert, Director, T&ES