

# City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: OCTOBER 18, 2017

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: MATT MELKERSON, ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #5B – FY24 CMAQ / RSTP PROGRAM FUNDING REQUESTS

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**ISSUE:** Consideration of the FY24 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) project funding request.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Transportation Commission endorses the FY24 CMAQ / RSTP funding request and recommend City Council consideration and approval at the November 28, 2017 Legislative session.

**DISCUSSION:** Since 1993, the Commonwealth has allocated CMAQ and RSTP funding to the Northern Virginia region. CMAQ funded projects must meet these three eligibility requirements: 1) have a transportation focus, 2) reduce air emissions, and 3) be located in or benefit a nonattainment or maintenance area.

RSTP funds are flexible funds that may be used for a variety of regional transportation activities, including but not limited to pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, transit capital projects, and transportation / transit studies.

The City's funding request for FY24 is \$4.5M and includes the following projects, listed in priority order. The City of Alexandria must submit the FY24 CMAQ / RSTP funding request to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) by December 15, 2017.

Prior year CMAQ / RSTP funding can be found in Attachment 1.

## FY24 CMAQ / RSTP Proposed Program

	FY24
West End Transitway Operations	\$1,000,000
Transportation Demand Management	\$500,000
Commuter Outreach	\$600,000
Bike Sharing	\$250,000
ITS Integration	\$600,000
DASH Technology	\$250,000
Backlick Run	\$300,000
Pedestrian and Safety Mobility Enhancements on Primary Corridors	\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,500,000</b>

### West End Transitway Operations

The City continues to advance the West End Transitway towards implementation and plans to begin operations in the early 2020's. This new transit service will connect existing and developing West End neighborhoods to large employment centers (Mark Center, Pentagon) and to regional transit connections (Van Dorn Metrorail station, Southern Towers, Shirlington, Pentagon Metrorail station). These funds will fund a portion of the annual operating costs.

**Proposed Funding: \$1,000,000**

### Transportation Demand Management

The primary goal of the City's Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program, Go Alex, is to reduce the number of single occupant vehicles (SOV) during peak travel times and to provide information about transportation alternatives such as transit, bikeshare, carshare, rideshare, and telework. These funds will be used to implement the City's TDM program.

**Proposed Funding: \$500,000**

### Commuter Outreach

These funds will be used to operate the TDM program's Mobile Transit Store, a service that brings information on transportation alternatives and the sale of transit fare media to major employment locations and community events. Funding is also used to operate the DASH Call Center, a vital resource for information related to multi-modal transportation options in Alexandria. **Proposed Funding: \$600,000**

### Capital Bikeshare

In 2012, the City launched Capital Bikeshare in Alexandria with eight stations and has since grown to 41 stations, 10 of which are currently being installed using FY17 CMAQ/RSTP funds. FY24 bikeshare funds would allow for expansion stations, replacement of bicycles that have been operational for more than five years, and replacement of stations that have been operational for over ten years. Staff continues to seek additional funding sources to expand the program through development contributions, sponsorships, and grants. **Proposed Funding: \$250,000**

### ITS Integration

This is a multiphase project consisting of designing a smart transportation network for the City, including but not limited to design and construction of a broadband communications network, installing traffic cameras, and installing other field devices such as weather stations, flood monitoring equipment, and pavement temperature sensors. These funds will advance expansion to all City intersections and allow for facility coordination with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), Alexandria Fire Department, and Alexandria Police Department. **Proposed Funding: \$600,000**

### DASH Technology

Technology is an integral part of delivering high quality transit service to riders and a vital tool that transit providers need to deliver efficient, reliable service. These funds will enable DASH to upgrade existing technology and implement new technology enhancements for the bus fleet and behind the scenes system management. **Proposed Funding: \$250,000**

### Backlick Run

This project provides additional funding to construct a Phase 2 of a shared-use path along Backlick Run from Boothe Park west to the Fairfax County line. This is a high priority project in the Transportation Master Plan and is also a recommendation of the Eisenhower West Small Area Plan. Design and construction for Phase 1 is funded through \$6.5 million in CMAQ/RSTP grant funds. Completion of this project will provide increased multimodal connectivity by linking the City's trail network to the Van Dorn Metro Station. **Proposed Funding: \$300,000**

### Pedestrian Safety and Mobility Enhancements on Primary Corridors

The project improves important pedestrian safety and mobility enhancements along primary roadway corridors with high volumes and speeds, and a history of pedestrian fatalities. It would implement recommendations for priority sidewalk projects within Pedestrian Case Study Areas and in the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. The project is consistent with the City's Vision Zero Policy to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries by 2028, a majority of which occur on primary roadway corridors with high volumes and speeds. **Proposed Funding: \$1,000,000**

Attachment 1: Prior Year CMAQ / RSTP Funding