

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 27, 2019

TO: MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH: YON LAMBERT, DIRECTOR, TRANSPORTATION & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

FROM: STEPHEN KLEJST, TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION CHAIR

SUBJECT: FY 2019 TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

Purpose of the Annual Report: This Annual Report provides a summary of the activities undertaken by the Transportation Commission during FY 2019 (July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019). The report includes a summary of activities by the Transportation Commission for the fiscal year, specific goals for the coming year, upcoming recruitment and leadership plans, and the commissioners' attendance.

Background: The Alexandria Transportation Commission was established in April 2008 to advocate and promote development of balanced transportation systems for the City through oversight of the implementation of the Transportation Chapter of the City's adopted Master Plan. The Commission is comprised of eleven members serving three-year terms. The Commission includes the following representatives:

- 2 Members from the Planning Commission, nominated by the Commission
- 1 Member from the Traffic and Parking Board, nominated by the Board
- 1 Member from the Environmental Policy Commission, nominated by the Commission
- 1 Member from the Alexandria Transit Company (ATC) Board of Directors, nominated by the Board
- 2 Citizen Members, who shall be residents of the City possessing qualifications in land-use, transportation and/or municipal finance, of whom one shall reside east of Quaker Lane and one west of Quaker Lane
- 2 Citizen members in addition to those provided for above, who shall be residents of the City, of whom one shall reside east of Quaker Lane and one west of Quaker Lane
- 2 Ex-officio, non-voting members from the City Council who serve on the boards of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOC) /Transportation Planning Board (TPB), Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA), Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC), or Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)

Membership and Appointments during FY 2019:

In January of 2018, the Commission nominated Steve Klejst as Chair and Melissa McMahon as Vice-Chair for the Commission.

On January 2nd Councilman Canek Aguirre replaced Councilman Timothy Lovain on the Commission. No other new members were appointed in FY 2019. On April 9, 2019, Chair Steve Klejst was appointed for his second term on the Commission. On June 19, John Goebel replaced David Brown as one of the members of the Planning Commission.

Ongoing members of the Commission include Oscar Gonzalez (Citizen East of Quaker Lane with transportation/land use experience), Jake Jakubek (Citizen West of Quaker Lane with transportation/land use experience), Melissa McMahon (Planning Commission), John Chapman (Council Member), Bruce Marsh (Citizen East of Quaker Lane), Aliya Gaskins (Citizen West of Quaker Lane), and Carolyn Schroeder (Environmental Policy Commission).

Ramiro Rios served as staff to the Transportation Commission through January 2019. Jennifer Slesinger took over the role in April 2019. In the interim period, Christopher Ziemann, Transportation Planning Division Chief served in that role.

Upcoming Recruitment Plans for FY 2019:

Two Transportation Commission members' terms are ending in FY20, but one has stated that she will seek an additional term, and staff anticipates the other will also seek an additional term. At the beginning of FY19, David Brown stepped down as Transportation Commissioner representing the Planning Commission and John Goebel replaced him.

Attendance:

During FY 2019, a total of nine (9) Transportation Commission regular meetings were held in addition to a retreat in March. The December meeting was canceled due to lack of content. The February meeting was canceled due to severe weather. The Commission does not meet during the month of August. The average attendance throughout FY 2018 was 8.1 Commissioners per meeting, plus staff. Two voting members of the Commission attended fewer than 75 percent of all meetings, but all of the absences were excused.

Role of the Transportation Commission:

The responsibilities of the Transportation Commission include:

- 1) Maintaining a comprehensive transportation development program that identifies the City's long-range transportation needs;
- 2) Recommending on an annual basis a transportation improvement program for the ten fiscal years next ensuing;
- 3) Recommending priorities for project requests that are to be submitted for funding

- through state, regional and local transportation funding programs;
- 4) Recommending and prioritizing project requests that are to be submitted for funding through federal and state grant programs;
 - 5) Receiving reports and findings on transportation project development studies and recommending follow up actions;
 - 6) Recommending transportation projects for addition to or deletion from the metropolitan planning organization and regional long-range transportation plans;
 - 7) Recommending such amendments as may be necessary or desirable to the transportation chapter of the City's adopted Master Plan;
 - 8) Preparing periodic reports on the City's progress in implementing its long-range transportation plan;
 - 9) Providing input to and support for the City's representatives to regional transportation boards and authorities, and serving as a public forum for discussion and consideration of matters such representatives may refer to the commission; and,
 - 10) Considering such other transportation related matters as may be referred to the commission by city council and other City boards and commissions.

The 2018 Transportation Long Range Plan (LRP), which is a tool that is used by the Commission and other elected and appointed bodies to make recommendations for funding of transportation projects and initiatives, was approved by the Commission in July 2018 following a public hearing.

Major Initiatives during FY 2019:

The Transportation Commission undertook a number of initiatives during FY 2018 as shown in Attachment 2.

FY 2020 Goals:

A major goal will be to support the successful development of the Alexandria Mobility Plan, the update to the City's Transportation Master Plan. Another, related major initiative will be updating the City's list of prioritized capital projects in the Long Range Plan.

In addition to these major initiatives, the Transportation Commission will seek to make recommendations to Council or other boards to ensure that funding, implementation and plans are consistent with the Transportation Master Plan, including:

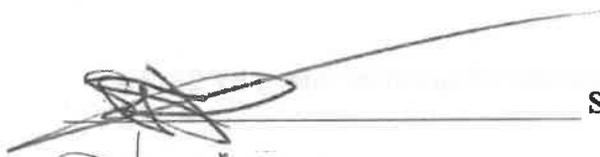
- FY 2021-2026 CMAQ / RSTP Program Funding
- FY 2021-2030 Capital Improvement Program
- FY 2021 Operating Budget
- FY 2021 Transportation Demand Operations Grant
- FY 2021 Capital and Operating Grants
- NVTA 70% Funds Grant

Other FY 2020 Initiatives

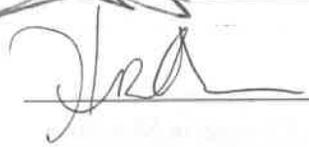
This fiscal year, the commission anticipates reviewing the following initiatives:

- Mount Vernon Avenue North Project
- Mount Vernon Avenue Plan Update
- Duke Street Area Plan Update
- Duke Street Transitway
- West End Transitway
- Environmental Action Plan Implementation
- Dockless bikeshare regulation
- Complete Streets Program
- Alexandria Transit Vision Plan
- Capital Bikeshare Expansion
- Vision Zero Implementation

APPROVED:



Stephen Klejst, Chairperson



Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Major Initiatives during FY 2019