



City of Alexandria

Transportation Commission

Regular Meeting

March 8, 2010

7:30 p.m.

City Hall, Room 1101

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Jayme Blakesley, Donna Fossum, Sean Kumar, Jennifer Mitchell, Kevin Posey

Staff Present: Mark Jinks, CMO; Rich Baier, T&ES; Abi Lerner, T&ES; Morgan Routt, OMB; Antonio Baxter, T&ES; Karen Callahan, T&ES; Yon Lambert, T&ES; Sandra Marks, T&ES; Jim Maslanka, T&ES; Pat Mann, P&Z; Al Himes, DASH

1. **Minutes**

Chairman Kumar began the meeting and asked if any items in the February 3, 2010 minutes required editing. There being minor edits, a motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

2. **Funding Update**

Yon Lambert reviewed the monthly Funding Memo. Commissioner Mitchell requested information on state funding levels for transportation; staff agreed to provide a review in the April funding update.

3. **Presentation on City Capital Improvement Program**

City Capital Improvement Program - Antonio Baxter, Division Chief of T&ES Administration, reviewed the proposed City CIP budget and explained how Transportation Commission guidance had been used by staff to establish funding levels for the City Manager's proposed budget. There were no actions taken by the Commission.

Commercial Real Estate Tax – Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager, reviewed the proposed Commercial Real Estate Tax. The Commonwealth legalized this local option tax in 2007 which allows localities to levy add-on taxes for non-residential commercial and industrial real estate up to 12.5 cents per \$100 of value for transportation funding. The City Manager's proposed FY2011 budget proposes a 3-cent increase. This funding would result in additional funding for new transportation capital projects such as high capacity transportation corridors, increased peak period bus service, Metro station improvements and alternative transportation initiatives.

TIGER Grants – Jim Maslanka, Division Chief of Transit Services, reviewed the TIGER grant program which was developed as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Stimulus Act) package and provides 100% federal funding for transportation. The Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments submitted an application to the federal Department of Transportation which included regional projects submitted by localities. On February 17, 2010, the region was awarded \$58,838,000 for projects throughout the region and two City projects were included in the application; Potomac Yard Transitway (\$8.5 million) and Van Dorn-Pentagon BRT (\$670,000).

4. Staff Updates

Long Range Plan (LRP) - Sandra Marks reviewed the draft LRP and the Commission requested a final version for consideration at the April meeting.

Beauregard Corridor Plan – Interchange Justification Report (IJR) – Abi Lerner, T&ES Deputy Director of Transportation, provided an update on the Beauregard/BRAC issue. At the City’s February 25th Community Values and Visions meeting, public input was solicited regarding strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. An updated meeting schedule is available on the Planning web page.

5. Commission Updates

Donna Fossum reported on requests from the Federation of Civic Associations regarding notices of the Transportation Commission meetings and difficulty finding information about the Commission on the City website. Staff agreed to provide more information and list of detailed changes at the April meeting. Commissioner Fossum also noted citizen input from Cameron Station regarding BRAC-133.

6. Other Business

Carrie Fesperman inquired about the Commission’s consideration of a complete streets resolution. Commissioner Blakesley informed her of the subcommittee and plans to provide an update at the April meeting.

Adam Froehlig announced that transportation advocacy groups have an on-line petition that is recommending local jurisdictions increase their funding commitment to offset service cuts and requested information on how Alexandria would handle transit cuts. This issue and others will be reviewed at an April work session with City Council.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded and unanimously accepted.