

Transit

How the City improves its DASH bus service, DOT paratransit service, and works with the region to improve Metro service



Identified Needs & Opportunities



The City has made progress on the Transitway corridors from the 2008 Transportation Master Plan, but the need for improved transit in these and other high capacity corridors still exists.



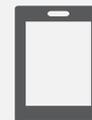
The Alexandria Transit Vision addressed frequent citizen complaints about the lack of a frequent, all day network; but the City needs to work towards full implementation.



Lack of information, customer comfort, and safe access to transit cited as barriers to usage.



Fares pose an obstacle for some for using transit.



Interest in on-demand service opportunities.



Transit Policies



Policies

The City of Alexandria will...



Strategies

That support policies

Prioritize transit service enhancements and initiatives that provide more useful transit service in areas with the largest numbers of people who will be able to benefit from it.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ✓ T1 | <input type="checkbox"/> T5 |
| ✓ T2 | <input type="checkbox"/> T6 |
| ✓ T3 | <input type="checkbox"/> T7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T4 | <input type="checkbox"/> T8 |

Seek to increase ridership by reducing or eliminating barriers to taking transit.

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|------|------|
| ✓ T1 | ✓ T5 |
| ✓ T2 | ✓ T6 |
| ✓ T3 | ✓ T7 |
| ✓ T4 | ✓ T8 |



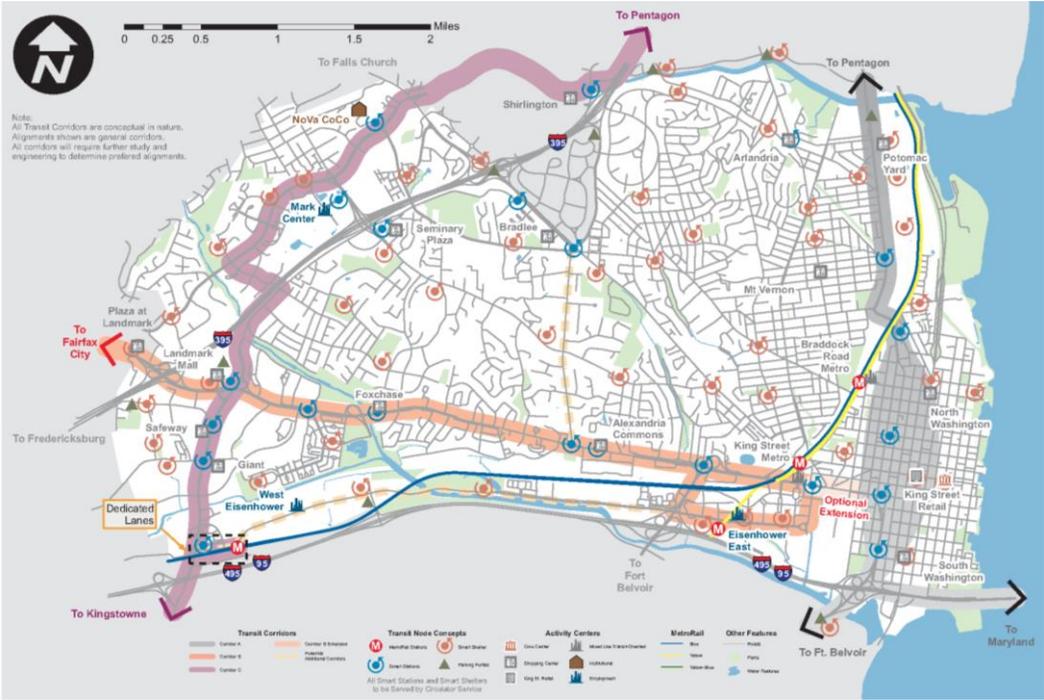


Transit *Strategies*

- **T1.** Implement the City's Priority Transitway Corridors and Alexandria Transit Vision (ATV)
- **T2.** Identify speed and reliability improvements on congested and transit-rich corridors.
- **T3.** Enhance the rider experience at bus stops.
- **T4.** Evaluate fare policy and next generation payment options.
- **T5.** Evaluate micro-transit solutions to complement traditional DASH service as a means to expand ridership.
- **T6.** Create a more resilient and customer-oriented bus fleet.
- **T7.** Prepare for future rail (VRE/MARC) expanded service.
- **T8.** Evaluate and streamline paratransit program for increasing needs.



Strategy T1. Implement the City's Priority Transitway Corridors and Alexandria Transit Vision (ATV).



- Extend and realign the Metroway through North Potomac Yard.
- Design and construct the West End and Duke Street Transitways.
- Invest in more bus drivers, buses and facilities, and access improvements to transit.

What it means for you:

- Improved transit **access** to major destinations
- Enhanced **connections** between bus and rail
- More **convenient** transit options beyond rush hour to attract new ridership
- Access to frequent, all-day transit for 89% of low-income residents and 87% of minority residents
- **Safer** access to transit
- Making more **sustainable** options more attractive





Strategy T2. Identify speed and reliability improvements on congested and transit-rich corridors.

- Evaluate transit signal priority, queue jumps, HOV lanes.
- Consider near-term pilot projects for speed and reliability improvements on the Transitway corridors in advance of full implementation.



What it means for you:

- More **convenient**, faster travel for all roadway users, especially higher-occupancy modes
- Greater **equity** for bus riders
- Improved **sustainability** by making bus travel more efficient and attractive





Strategy T3. Enhance the rider experience at bus stops.

- Ensure all bus stops are fully accessible.
- Consider opportunities to improve access to bus stops through sidewalk improvements, bike parking, and accessible curb ramps.
- Expand offering of bus stop amenities including shelters, real time signage, seating, lighting and natural amenities to improve comfort and make people feel safer.
- Develop standards for appropriate bus amenities at different types of locations in partnership with the region.



What it means for you:

- Improved **access** to transit for people of all ages and abilities
- More **connected, comfortable, and convenient** waiting environments
- **Safer** waiting environments
- More **equitable** distribution of amenities





Strategy T4. Evaluate fare policy and next generation payment options.

- Complete Low-Income Fare Pass Study
- Determine whether the DASH fare structure is helping to attain City goals to improve equity and increase ridership
- Coordinate with regional partners on assessing, designing and implementing next generation payment options, including contactless payment and off-board fare collection.



What it means for you:

- More **convenient** payment structure and methods to speed up boarding and increase ridership
- Improves **access** to transit for low-income populations
- **Safer** payment methods





Strategy T5.

Evaluate micro-transit solutions to complement traditional DASH service as a means to expand ridership.

- Explore opportunities for micro-transit as a first-last mile and 24-hour mobility solution when traditional transit is unavailable.
- Coordinate with Alexandria's Department of Community and Housing Services on micro-transit options for seniors.
- Identify partnership opportunities and conduct pilots of potential service models.
- Pursue electric micro-transit fleet options.



Source: visitanaheim.org

What it means for you:

- Improved **access** for seniors and communities beyond the reach of traditional transit
- More **convenient** travel options
- Improved **sustainability** by promoting transit and shared, electric rides

ALEXANDRIA



Smart Mobility



Strategy T6. Create a more resilient and customer-oriented bus fleet.

- Add Automatic Passenger Counters to all existing vehicles for improved ridership data and decision-making.
- Upfit the existing fleet to improve the health and safety of drivers and passengers during the pandemic and beyond (enable rider notifications of bus crowding, add driver partitions, improve air flow).
- Build in options for storage for strollers/groceries.
- Stay up to date with real time tracking and bus priority technology.



Source: DASH

What it means for you:

- More **accessible** transit for people of all ages and abilities
- More **convenient** service that meets your needs.
- Better information with more **connected** transit
- Improved on-board **safety**





Strategy T7. Prepare for future rail (VRE/MARC) expanded service.

- Improve the ease of transferring between King Street Metro and Alexandria Union Station.
- Ensure that mobile payment systems are compatible between WMATA, VRE, MARC, and DASH.
- Identify potential gaps in DASH service for existing or potential rail customers, or opportunities for improved marketing to rail customers.

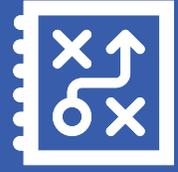


Alexandria Union Station on vre.org

What it means for you:

- Improved **access** to transit
- Improved **connections** between rail and transit
- More **convenient** travel
- Improved **sustainability** with increases in transit ridership





Strategy T8. Evaluate and streamline paratransit program for increasing needs.

- Understand data and trends for paratransit and prepare service for increased demand.
- Identify opportunities to improve cost-effectiveness for long-term program sustainability.
- Explore partnerships with micro-transit or on-demand service providers to eliminate advance scheduling and large scheduling windows.



**Age Friendly Plan
For A Livable Community**



What it means for you:

- Improved **access** to destinations
- More **convenient** travel
- More **equitable** service levels