



**City of Alexandria**  
Transportation Commission

**Regular Meeting**

November 18, 2020  
7:00 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting

**MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present:** Councilman Chapman, Chair Melissa McMahon, Vice-Chair Oscar Gonzalez, Commissioner Bruce Marsh, Commissioner Casey Kane, Commissioner John Goebel, Commissioner Bill Pugh, Commissioner Jeff Bennett, Commissioner Larry Chambers, Commissioner Alyia Gaskins.

**Staff Present:** Yon Lambert – Transportation Environmental Services Director, Christopher Ziemann - Transportation Planning Division Chief, Jennifer Slesinger - Transportation Planning Division, Sharese Thomas - Transportation Planning Division, Jose Ayala – Department of Planning & Zoning.

Audio/Visual presentation is available online:

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/TransportationCommission>

Chair McMahon called the Transportation Commission meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

**1. Electronic Meeting Notice**

**2. Public Comment Period**

No public comment.

**3. November Meeting Minutes**

**Motion to accept the minutes as presented:** Commissioner Kane

**Second:** Vice-Chair Gonzalez

Motion carries unanimously.

**4. Updates to Receive (Consent Items)**

The Commission requested that the following item be pulled for discussion:

**A. FY22 Budget Priorities**

Yon Lambert, the Director of Transportation Environmental Services (T&ES), provided an overview of the item and made himself available to answer any questions.

During the City Council Retreat on November 7, it was revealed that the City is projecting a \$41 million budget gap for FY22. The City Manager is asking each Department to come forward with a 10% proposal budget cut in budget reductions.

Mr. Lambert offered that Commissions could submit letters to the City Manager highlighting their priorities for the FY22 budget. He also noted that once the draft budget is released in February, the Commission can also weigh in again along with the general public.

Transportation Commissioners spoke to continuing to implement Vision Zero and the Alexandria Transit Vision Plan as their top priorities. Commissioners agreed to send staff their individual priorities and endorse a letter at the December 16 Transportation Commission meeting.

**5. ACTION ITEM: Receive Transportation Long Range Plan update and docket for Public Hearing**  
**ISSUE:** The 2020 update to the Transportation Long Range Plan (LRP).

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Transportation Commission receive the LRP update and recommends to docket this item for public hearing at the December 16 meeting.

**DISCUSSION:** Jennifer Slesinger, Principal Planner, presented the update of the 2020 Transportation Long Range Plan. Commissioners discussed shifting the pedestrian and bicycle bridge from the West End Town Center from the developer list to the priority project list because it was given the same treatment as the I-395 vehicular ramp to West End Town Center in the small area plan. Commissioners agreed to scoring it, so that the Transportation Commission can recommend the item for public hearing docket at the December 16, 2020, Transportation Commission Meeting.

**Motion to pull the I-395 pedestrian/ bicycle bridge connection over I-395 to the Landmark Mall site from the developer list to the prioritized project list and scoring it (I-395 Bike/Ped Bridge):**

Commissioner Kane

**Second:** Vice-Chair Gonzalez

Motion carries unanimously.

**Motion to recommend that Transportation Commission docket the Long Range Plan at the December 16 meeting for a public hearing:** Commissioner Kane

**Second:** Commissioner Marsh

Motion carries unanimously.

**6. Commissioner Updates**

**Councilman Chapman:** The City Council met with the Board of Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) on Tuesday, November 17, to discuss its Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that include Safe Routes to School, as ACPS develops a plan for the future of school sites and where school sites will be located. Currently their \$65 million Capital Investment Plan to build a new school in 2026 will have some impact on traffic.

**Commissioner Pugh:** The Energy and Climate Action Plan is currently soliciting applications to be on the task force. The City is looking for a diverse mix of individuals as it relates to Transportation.

The Metropolitan Regional Council of Governments (MWRCOG) adopted a 2030 [Climate and Energy Action Plan](#) on November 18, 2020, that provides guidance on transportation and how the region can achieve its 2030

target.

**Chair McMahon:** The Planning Commission and the Environmental Policy Commission (EPC) are planning a joint session and are working with staff to develop a cohesive balance. Planning Commissioners are being asked to send out their ideas of what they would like to discuss.

Chair McMahon asked the Transportation Commissioners to consider a joint style session with the EPC or another group in the City that the Transportation Commission would benefit from having a collaborative discussion with.

**Commissioner Marsh:** The Potomac Yard Metrorail Implementation Group (PYMIG) met on October 26. The Board of Architectural Review issued a Certificate of Appropriateness on October 21 for the new Southwest Access. City Council approved a Development Special Use Permit so that construction on the southwest entrance can begin. The next PYMIG update will be on Monday, November 23.

**Commissioner Kane:** The Traffic and Parking Board (T&PB) met on Monday, November 16. The T&PB discussed adding 14 new bike stations in the West End. The seven used bikeshare stations from Arlington County were purchased. Additionally, the City will purchase seven new bikeshare stations around June or July of 2021 to supplement these initial seven. By the end of summer 2021 there will be around twenty-four new bikeshare stations with the majority being located in the West End. A bikeshare station will be installed in the next week or two on Madison Avenue.

Also, the T&PB approved a motion to City Council to install “No Through Truck” signs on the unit and 100 Block of Linden Street.

**Commissioner Chambers:** The DASH Board approved the FY22 operating budget for \$22.8 million. In addition, the Board also approved the FY22 supplemental request for full implementation of the Alexandria Transit Vision Plan.

**Commissioner Bennett:** DASH is working through its budget and hoping for a second round of CARES Act funding. Barriers are currently being procured for DASH buses to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

### **Adjournment**

At 8:08 pm, the Transportation Commission adjourned.