

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: HILLARY ORR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #6 – FY 2027 CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) AND REGIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS (RSTP)

ISSUE: Consideration of the FY 2027 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) project funding requests.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Transportation Commission endorses the FY 2027 CMAQ /RSTP funding request and recommend City Council consideration and approval at the October 2020 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.

Since the Commonwealth of Virginia provides the local match required for CMAQ/RSTP funds, the City is not required to provide any local funds to receive the grants. As projects mature in the annual CIP, staff provides updated estimates of operating impacts from each of these projects.

The City of Alexandria must submit the FY 2027 CMAQ/RSTP funding request to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) by December 2020. A combined table showing CMAQ/RSTP funding for FY 2022-2026 as well as the FY 2027 proposed funding can be found in Attachment 1. The City's funding request for FY 2027 is \$4.5M and includes the following projects.

FY27 CMAQ/RSTP Proposed Program

Project Name	FY 27
Duke Street Transitway Operations	\$3,500,000
Smart Mobility Implementation	\$1,000,000
TOTAL	\$4,500,000

Duke Street Transitway Operations

The City anticipates operations on the Duke Street Transitway to begin around FY 2027 and will most likely require addition funding for operations (similar to the West End Transitway). The City will begin the planning process in early 2021 for the transitway, coordinated with some of the City’s other projects along the corridor, including transit signal priority and improvements at the intersection of Duke Street at West Taylor Run Parkway. Regardless of the outcome of the planning process, transit enhancements, including additional service, will require these additional operating funds. To date, the City has received a total of \$87 million in NVTVA 70% funding for design, right-of-way, construction and buses for the Duke Street Transitway project..

Proposed Funding: \$3,500,000

Smart Mobility Implementation

The Smart Mobility Program continues the work from the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Integration project, which installs the infrastructure needed to enable the City to connect to future technology and vehicles. This includes the installation of underground conduit and fiber optic cable, connections to the City’s traffic signal network and Dedicated Short Range Communication (DSRC) at intersections. The projects within the Smart Mobility Program enable the City to better manage traffic and the transportation network. The FY 2027 funds will fund several potential Smart Mobility projects to improve travel along key corridors, better manage parking through technology, and install recommended technology from the Smart Mobility Framework Plan and Alexandria Mobility Plan.

Proposed Funding: \$1,000,000

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: FY 2022 – FY 2026 CMAQ/RSTP Approved and FY 2027 Proposed