

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 19, 2019

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: JEFFREY FARNER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PLANNING AND ZONING

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #5 – EISENHOWER EAST SMALL AREA PLAN DRAFT MOBILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

ISSUE: Eisenhower East Small Area Plan (SAP) draft mobility recommendations – consistency with the Transportation Master Plan.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Transportation Commission endorse the Eisenhower East Small Area Plan draft mobility recommendations as consistent with the Transportation Master Plan and Vision Zero Action Plan.

BACKGROUND: In May, the Transportation Commission received a briefing on the Eisenhower East Small Area Plan process to date and provided feedback on the draft mobility principles, with the expectation that staff would return in June with further development of the mobility recommendations in response to feedback, as well as an update on the preliminary results of the multimodal transportation study.

DISCUSSION:

Multimodal Transportation Study Preliminary Recommendations

Property owners in the corridor coordinated on a joint transportation analysis and submitted their draft multimodal transportation study on May 31, 2019, which indicates that the proposed increase in density and change of uses will have a manageable impact on the surrounding transportation network taking into consideration the implementation of the following multimodal mobility mitigations:

- Complete grid of streets
- Standardization and synchronization of traffic and pedestrian signals
- Increased bus service
- Low parking ratios
- Improved bicycle infrastructure
- Transportation technologies
- Site specific mitigations

Draft Mobility Recommendations and Consistency with the Transportation Master Plan

Building on the 2003 Eisenhower East Plan, the Transportation Master Plan, Complete Street Design Guidelines, Vision Zero Action Plan, and the Environmental Action Plan, as well as feedback from the community and Transportation Commission, staff developed draft mobility recommendations that prioritize a safe environment for all people moving in and around Eisenhower East and beyond.

During the engagement for the plan, the community expressed support for increased connectivity and safety for all users, specifically for those walking and biking. The community supported the framework plan, which featured enhanced bicycle and pedestrian access within and around the Eisenhower East area. The framework plan also emphasizes creating connections to existing trails (Old Cameron Run Trail), the existing tunnel connecting to Witter Field, and to the Eisenhower Avenue Metrorail station, which will develop into an urban transit hub serving residents, employees, and visitors to the area.

The draft recommendations are consistent with the **Transportation Master Plan** and **Vision Zero Action Plan goals** (as reflected in the Attachment).

EISENHOWER EAST DRAFT MOBILITY RECOMMENDATIONS:

GENERAL

1. Implement network improvements consistent with the City's Complete Street Design Guidelines, Vision Zero Action Plan, and the Environmental Action Plan.
2. Provide a continuous, connected, and accessible network that enables people of all ages and abilities to move safely and comfortably within the neighborhoods and to destinations outside the neighborhoods.

PEDESTRIANS + CYCLISTS

1. Provide internal pedestrian connections shown in Figure 1 (Pedestrian Network) within the blocks, where feasible.
2. Prioritize safe pedestrian crossings consistent with Figure 1 (Pedestrian Network).
3. Provide an enhanced pedestrian crossing on Eisenhower Avenue at the Eisenhower Avenue Metrorail Station consistent with Figure 1 (Pedestrian Network).
4. With redevelopment, enhance pedestrian crossings on Eisenhower Avenue east of the Metrorail Station, with particular attention to the location of the future retail/entertainment district in Neighborhood 2.
5. Improve the Mill Road and Eisenhower Avenue intersection consistent with Figure 1 (Pedestrian Network).
6. Improve connectivity for people walking and biking to and from the Eisenhower Avenue Metrorail Station.

7. Develop a comprehensive on- and off-street bicycle network consistent with Figure 2 (Bike Network).
8. Provide a safe and accessible pedestrian and bicycle connection for people of all ages and abilities between Witter Field and the Eisenhower area via improvements to the existing connection at Mill Road or another comparable connection.
9. Explore options for an interim and future dedicated bike facility on Eisenhower Avenue.

STREETS

10. Provide a complete grid of streets and blocks.
11. Dedicate to the City (or provide public access easements on) all streets and rights-of-way.

EISENHOWER AVENUE METRORAIL STATION

12. Explore the feasibility of a northern Metrorail Station entrance.

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 - Eisenhower East SAP Draft Mobility Recommendations Matrix (Comparison to Transportation Master Plan and Vision Zero Action Plan)
- Attachment 2 - Figure 1 - Pedestrian Network
- Attachment 3 - Figure 2 - Bike Network