

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2020

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: HILLARY ORR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #5 – CITY OF ALEXANDRIA DRAFT ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE READINESS STRATEGY

ISSUE: Staff update on the City of Alexandria Draft Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Readiness Strategy

RECOMMENDATION: That the Transportation Commission receive this update and provide feedback on the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Readiness Strategy

BACKGROUND: The purpose of the Alexandria Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Readiness Strategy (EVRS) is to outline a plan for deploying electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the City. The development of the EVRS is a key action identified in the City's [Environmental Action Plan 2040](#) to achieve the City's greenhouse gas emission targets and goals. The EVRS also supports advancing many of the goals under consideration in the Alexandria Mobility Plan. City staff from General Services and Transportation Planning have worked closely with a consultant team from Cadmus to develop the draft EVRS to evaluate current electric vehicle charging infrastructure and discuss possibilities for future deployment in the city. Recommendations are based on a combination of virtual public engagement surveys, spatial analysis, literature review and expert input.

The EVRS development process launched in February 2020 with internal coordination and planning meetings and research and data collection on the City's existing policies, plans and initiatives. In April 2020, due to the cancellation of non-essential in-person community meetings, staff released a pre-recorded presentation and provided an opportunity for the community and interested stakeholders to give input and provide online feedback. In July 2020, the City invited further community input via an online questionnaire that sought to evaluate charging needs and to help evaluate locations for publicly accessible chargers.

DISCUSSION: The EVRS is intended to accomplish the following objectives:

- Evaluate projections for current and future electric vehicle charging infrastructure needs
- Recommend locations for publicly accessible charging infrastructure with integration into a broader regional electric vehicle charging infrastructure network
- Recommend charging infrastructure options, including hardware, business ownership, operation models, interoperability, and operations and maintenance solutions

- Review the city's zoning, codes, permitting, and inspection codes, along with development processes and requirements, to recommend updated or new language to promote and anticipate electric vehicle charging needs
- Recommend policies, approaches, and synergies for locating electric vehicle charging infrastructure at businesses, multifamily dwellings (MFD), single-family homes, right-of-way (ROW) areas, and other locations

The EVRS also discusses synergies with other City plans and policies such as the Driving Alexandria Safely Home (DASH) zero emission bus projects, the Transportation Master Plan and smart mobility goals, and the Environmental Action Plan 2040.

The full Draft Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Readiness Strategy is available for review on the [project website](#). The document provides background information, FAQs, and puts this effort into the context of electric vehicle adoption in Alexandria and the country. It also provides recommendations and rationale behind the recommendation, which take into consideration input from the community.

In addition to the Transportation Commission, staff will be presenting the draft strategy to the Environmental Policy Commission and to the Traffic and Parking Board in October 2020 while concurrently receiving additional community input through an online feedback form. After stakeholder input is incorporated, staff will present the final EVRS to City Council in fall 2020.