

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2018

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: HILLARY ORR, DEPTUTY DIRECTOR AND T&ES STAFF

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM 6 – FY2020-FY2021 HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM (HSP)
FUNDING REQUEST

ISSUE: Consideration of the FY 2020-FY 2021 Virginia Highway Safety Program (HSP) project funding request.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Transportation Commission endorses the FY 2020-FY 2021 HSP funding request and recommends City Council consideration and approval at the September 25, 2018 Legislative session.

DISCUSSION: The Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) is a core program administered at the federal level by the U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office of Safety. HSIP's purpose is to make significant progress in reducing highway fatalities and serious injuries on all public roadways.

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Traffic Engineering Division (TED) administers the Federal and State highway safety programs within the Commonwealth of Virginia. VDOT's HSIP program consists of the following sub-programs:

- Highway Safety Program (HSP)
- Systemic Safety Improvement (SSI)
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Program (BPSP)
- Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Safety Program (H-RGCP)
- Local Agency Safety Program (LASP)

The City is requesting approximately \$2.5 million for FY 2020-FY 2021 under the HSP to implement a mid-term recommendation from the Route 1 South Housing Affordability Strategy. This project entails installing a 10-12'-wide landscaped median refuge island on South Patrick Street (Route 1) from Wolfe Street to Jefferson Street (from the current 4'-wide, concrete median) and narrowing the travel lanes to calm vehicular traffic. While conducting this project, the team received numerous complaints of safety and accessibility crossing South Patrick Street. The Vision Zero Action Plan also identified South Patrick Street as a high-crash corridor. This project is consistent with the goals outlined in the City's Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan and the Vision Zero Action Plan, which aims to eliminate roadway fatalities and serious injuries by 2028. The City of Alexandria must submit the FY 2021 funding request to the Virginia Department of Transportation by November 1, 2018.