



City of Alexandria

Transportation Commission

Regular Meeting

October 6, 2010

7:30 p.m.

City Hall, Room 1101

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Donna Fossum, Jesse Jennings, Councilman Krupicka, Jennifer Mitchell, Kevin Posey, Phil Voorhees, Louisa Ward, Justin Wilson,

Staff Present: Karen Callaham-T&ES, Al Himes-DASH, Abi Lerner-T&ES, Sandra Marks-T&ES, Jim Maslanka-T&ES, Valerie Peterson-P&Z, Carrie Sanders-T&ES, Steve Sindiong-T&ES

A quorum being present, the Transportation Commission meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm.

1. Minutes

Acting Chair Mitchell called the meeting to order. Commissioner Fossum asked for clarification on the wording of the last few words on October 6 agenda item 3; to replace “to allow the possibility for other high priorities” with “to fund other high priority projects”. It was agreed the change was valid and the October 6 minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Funding Update

T&ES Staff Abi Lerner reported an audit of VDOT accounts showed that millions of dollars have been sitting unspent for several years. The bulk of the money comes from about \$400 million that had accumulated in construction and maintenance accounts while ~~and~~ an additional \$654 million was never allocated to any projects. VDOT informed T&ES staff to wait for further instructions on applying for these additional funds. The City has RSTP and CMAQ projects to submit should additional VDOT funds be dispersed. No word yet on the TIGER II bike sharing grant. WMATA approved an increase that will allow the City to undertake the Potomac Yard Metrorail environmental study.

3. Funding for Priority Transportation Projects

Funding mechanisms and choosing which critical transportation priority projects are selected for funding still require fine-tuning. The proposed process was submitted to City Council and Council recommended more details be provided in terms of community outreach. Councilman Krupicka shared that Council will decide as part of the budget process in November, whether the City Manger should propose to move forward with the add on commercial tax and propose which priority projects should be funded.

4. **Beauregard Corridor Plan**

T&ES staff Abi Lerner reported that a comprehensive transportation plan for the area has not been decided. The September 30 public meeting focused on an overview, the land use challenges, opportunities, related studies, and alternatives considered. The next steps will be additional community outreach, assess infrastructure needs, continued evaluation and implementation of short _/; mid term improvements and long term interchange improvements, and to complete the Transitway Corridor Feasibility Study and coordinate with the High Capacity Transit Corridor work group to identify multi-modal opportunities.

5. **Transitway Corridor Feasibility Study**

The Transitway Corridor Feasibility Study is being conducted for the purpose of investigating the feasibility of implementing a dedicated corridor transit service in the city in three corridors—Corridor A-North-South, Corridor B-Duke Street, and Corridor C-Beauregard/Van Dorn/Beauregard. The study stems from the City's Transportation Master Plan recommendation for providing an enhanced transit service study in the three corridors. A work group comprised of community stakeholders will begin public meetings on Thursday, October 21 from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm in Sister Cities Conference Room 1101, 301 King Street, City Hall. The City has contracted Kimley Horn & Associates ~~engineers~~ to assist staff. Kimley Horn staff provided and who gave a presentation during the meeting. They shared their focus will concentrate on the alignment of the transitways, the modes of transportation and develop an action plan. They will coordinate with the Beauregard Corridor and High Capacity Transit Corridor work groups to develop an implementation plan. The Beauregard/Van Dorn Corridor will be the number one priority. The Beauregard/Van Dorn Corridor recommendations A final plan should be completed by April 2011.

6. **Staff Updates**

Parking – City Council approved funding to replace the single space meters with multi-space meters at their September 14 legislative meeting. The Old Town Area Parking Study Work Group held their last meeting. Their final lists of recommendations for implementation will be placed on City Council's October 12 work session agenda for review and will approval.

Mt. Vernon Trail Bicycle Signal – To increase bicyclist and pedestrian safety and compliance, a bicycle signal has been installed at the intersection of South Alfred and South Washington Streets where the Mt. Vernon Trail crosses Porto Vecchio Condominium's driveway. Bicyclists and trail users routinely disregarded the stop sign at the trail crossing.

BRAC-133 Facility Update – The BRAC TMP was approved by the NCPS. The City is negotiating staff concerns with the TMP in the form of a memorandum of agreement. A memorandum of understanding that future amendments to the TMP require consent from the City also has been drafted. DASH and WMATA presented conceptual proposals for providing transit services for BRAC employees rather than private shuttles. City staff has conducted several travel timed traffic runs from local metro stations to the BRAC location. Staff provided plans to DOD and WHS to link BRAC's TDM with the City's TDM program. Staff has also provided information for the use of City police during peak periods to be funded by the federal government for at least the first year. The City is paying one-half the cost of an operational assessment of transportation enhancement that can be implemented in short, mid-term and long-term timeframes. Discussions are continuing on the implementation of a Residential Permit Parking Program in the areas surrounding BRAC.

Crystal City Potomac Yard Transitway – Council agreed with staff to immediately build a bus way with funds obtained from the federal government. In October, staff will request Council

guidance for the City to participate with Arlington County in an environmental analysis. There will be an October 14 joint meeting with Arlington County to discuss projects of interest.

7. Elections

Unlike previous ballot Transportation Commission elections, Commissioner Fossum requested an open election for Transportation Commission Chair. She proceeded to nominate Commissioner Kevin Posey for the position.

8. Commission Updates

Acting Chair Jennifer , Mitchell, introduced and welcomed the new Commission members Louisa Ward and Justin Wilson to the Commission. As a result of the election process held during the meeting, Commissioner Posey was voted the new Chair for the Commission.

9. Other Business

T&ES Staff Abi Lerner introduced two new staff members, Carrie Sanders and Steve Sindiong of the Transportation Planning Division of the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services. Carrie is the new Bike/Pedestrian Principal Planner and Steve, a Principal Transportation Planner, will be the staff liaison to the Transportation Commission.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made at 8:51 pm, seconded and unanimously accepted.