



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: 703.746.4025

www.alexandriava.gov

Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council
City Hall
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

June 15, 2022

Re: **Endorsement of Grant Application for mitigation funding from the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) to offset Metrorail service impacts during the Potomac Yard Rail Cutover and Yellow Line Bridge/Tunnel Work**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its June 15 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse a grant application for mitigation funding of up to \$1,000,000 from the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) to offset Metrorail service impacts during the Potomac Yard Rail cutover and Yellow Line bridge/tunnel work.

As outlined by staff, elements of the plan could include the following types of mitigation measures:

- Robust communication, marketing and employer outreach, in partnership with WMATA
- Access to transportation options such as the water taxi, discounted Capital Bikeshare memberships, HOV lane changes, enhanced way-finding, and discounted or free travel on Virginia Railway Express (VRE)
- Enhanced support for data monitoring such as bike trail counters, StreetLight data

Transportation Commission understands that DASH buses are not anticipated to play the same role they did during the 2019 Platform Improvement Project due to a lack of operators to take on additional routes.

The Commission also understands that DRPT Mitigation funds require a 20% local match, and if the City's grant request is awarded, the match would be \$200,000. The match would be funded through unappropriated Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) 30% fund balance. The Commission encourage that staff time to manage and administer these projects be included in the applications where feasible.

This request will help the City meet goals of the Alexandria Mobility Plan including maintaining transportation choices for residents, employees, and visitors while there are Metrorail service

impacts. The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to provide its endorsement to Council.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Oscar Gonzalez

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission
Jim Parajon, City Manager
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager
Yon Lambert, Director, T&ES
Josh Baker, General Manager and CEO, DASH
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, Transportation Planning