

**Transportation Commission
Annual Report
July 2022 – June 2023**

Summary of Accomplishments

The mission of the Transportation Commission includes to advocate and promote development of balanced transportation systems for the City of Alexandria, through oversight of the implementation of the Transportation Chapter of the City's adopted Master Plan. Within these guidelines, the Transportation Commission membership completed the following activities during its 2022/23 session.

Transportation Commission Policy and Membership Accomplishments

- While a number of positions turned over during the year, membership remained steady with a quorum achieved at all scheduled meetings except the December meeting. At this meeting, items were discussed, and these items were brought to a vote at the January which met the quorum.
- As a result of new state guidance, the Commission held two all-virtual meetings (December, June) and eight in-person meetings. In addition, some commissioners participated virtually, although this was rare.

Coordination with other Boards

- The Transportation Commission included membership from the Planning Commission, the Traffic and Parking Board, the Environmental Policy Commission, the Potomac Yard Metro Implementation Working Group, and the DASH Board.
- At every Transportation Commission meeting, the Transportation Commission receives updates and reports back on Transportation Commission topics to their respective board.
- The Transportation Commission endorsed a letter in support of the Energy and Climate Change Action Plan in December.
- Members of the Transportation Commission, Environmental Policy Commission, and Planning Commission coordinated to provide a letter to City Council on the Climate Emergency at the January meeting.

Transportation Commission Member Activities

- Oscar Gonzalez was serving on the ACPS Superintendent's Advisory Team for the High School Project
- Casey Kane is serving on the Eisenhower West/Landmark/Van Dorn Advisory Group and was serving on the Duke Street Transitway Advisory Committee

2021-2022 Accomplishments

- See Attachment 2

Goals for 2023-2024

- Provide input on City consideration of transportation grants.

- Consider endorsements for transportation grants and weigh in on transportation components of other plans and the City budget.
- Continue to hold primarily in-person meetings and up to two hybrid meetings (per the adopted Updated Electronic Meeting Policy) to ensure convenient participation for the Commissioners and the public.
- Update and develop the 2024 Transportation Long Range Plan to prioritize unfunded mobility projects.
- Hold a Transportation Commission retreat to go over roles of commissioners, expectations, priorities, etc.

Leadership

- Officers for the 2022 calendar year were elected at the January 2022 meeting. Oscar Gonzalez was elected as chair and Bruce Marsh was elected as Vice-Chair. In January 2023, Oscar Gonzalez and Bruce Marsh were re-elected as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively. In July Bruce Marsh resigned from the Commission, and in August, Oscar Gonzalez resigned from the Commission. Council will appoint new members on September 12, and a new Chair and Vice Chair will be elected at the September Commission meeting.
- List term expirations and new members, with month they were appointed.
 - Casey Kane – May 31, 2024
 - James Maslanka – October 31, 2024
 - Jody Manor – January 31, 2025
 - Melissa McMahan – October 31, 2026
 - Matthew McManus - January 31, 2025
 - Murat Omay – December 31, 2025
 - Oleksandr Faryga - December 31, 2025
 - Appointed as member of the Environmental Planning Commission in September, 2022.
- During the course of the year, membership included the following individuals:
 - Councilman John Chapman (non-voting)
 - Councilman Kirk McPike (non-voting)
 - Oscar Gonzalez
 - Casey Kane
 - Jody Manor
 - Bruce Marsh
 - James Maslanka
 - Melissa McMahan
 - Matthew McManus
 - Oleksandr Faryga
 - Murat Omay
- Megan Oleynik and Christopher Ziemann, Transportation & Environmental Services, acted as the staff liaisons to Transportation Commission during the 2022/2023 year.

Attachment 1: Annual Attendance Report
Attachment 2: FY22 Accomplishments Summary
Attachment 3: Notable Letters

**ATTACHMENT 1
ADVISORY GROUP ANNUAL ATTENDANCE REPORT TEMPLATE**

**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
MEETING ATTENDANCE REPORT**

JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023

CHAIRPERSON: OSCAR GONZALEZ

MEMBER'S NAME	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
COUNCILMAN JOHN CHAPMAN (NON-VOTING) OR CHARLES SUMPTER			X	X	E	E	X	E	E	X	X	X
COUNCILMAN KIRK MCPIKE (NON-VOTING) OR KARL BACH			X	X	X	E	E	X	E	E	X	X
OSCAR GONZALEZ			X	X	X	E	X	X	X	E	X	X
CASEY KANE			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X
JODY MANOR			E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E
BRUCE MARSH			E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
JAMES MASLANKA			X	X	X	E	X	E	X	X	X	X
MELISSA MCMAHON			X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X
MATTHEW MCMANUS			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OLEKSANDR FARYGA			X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	E	X
MURAT OMAV			X	X	E	E	X	X	X	X	X	X

**INDICATE: X – FOR PRESENT
UNEXCUSED**

E – FOR EXCUSED

U – FOR

LIST OF THOSE WHO DID NOT ATTEND 75% OF MEETINGS:

FORM MUST BE SIGNED BY CHAIRPERSON

(APPROVED) 
Melissa McMahon (Sep 11, 2023 16:25 EDT)

(Interim Chairperson – Melissa McMahon)

ATTACHMENT 2
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MAJOR INITIATIVES IN FY 2023

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	SCHEDULE
Grant Endorsements	<p>The Transportation Commission regularly reviewed and endorsed grant applications for Council approval as being consistent with the Alexandria Mobility Plan and Vision Zero Action Plan, including for the following programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USDOT Reconnecting Communities Grant - DRPT Operating and Capital Assistance State Aid Applications and the Commuter Assistance Program Operations - I-395 Commuter Choice - Transportation Land Use Connections - Regional Roadway Safety Program - Low and No Emissions and Bus Facilities - Charging and Fueling Infrastructure - Safe Streets for All - NVTA 70% <p>These grant applications included funding for DASH service enhancements, electric bus and vehicle conversion, roadway improvements around high crash intersections, Transportation Demand Management, Safe Routes to Schools, and other pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure improvements.</p>	Ongoing
Transportation Updates	Throughout the year, the Commission received updates on the progress of plan implementation and other major events impacting transportation in the City including Complete Streets and Vision Zero Program, Duke Street in Motion, the Transportation Management Plan, the rail bridges over King Street and Commonwealth Avenue, the Energy and Climate Change Action Plan, the City’s Operation and Capital Improvement Program Budgets, Capital Bikeshare and Dockless Mobility, DASH ridership, and other topics related to transportation.	Ongoing
Alexandria Mobility Plan – public hearing	The Transportation Commission held a public hearing for the Duke Street in Motion project.	May 2023
FY24 City Operating Budget and FY23-32 Capital Improvement Program	The Transportation Commission provided input to the City Manager on the proposed transportation related budget items in the City Manager’s budget. The Commission also provided input to City Council after the City Manager’s budget was submitted.	October 2022 and April 2023
Complete Streets	Staff presented their annual report to the Commission on the activities of the Complete Streets Program, including Safe Routes to School, trails, Vision Zero, and automated enforcement.	October 2022

Capital Bikeshare and Micromobility	Staff provided an update to the Commission on the City’s Capital Bikeshare program and the micromobility program (dockless scooters, etc.) and asked for feedback on the future of the program	February 2023
Duke Street in Motion	Staff provided updates to the Commission on the Duke Street in Motion Project and the Commission provided feedback. The Commission also held a public hearing on the final recommendation of the Advisory Group, and endorsed this recommendation.	October 2022, May 2023, June 2023

ATTACHMENT 3
NOTABLE LETTERS

1. Any notable letters to City Council, date, subject

- Endorsed USDOT Reconnecting Communities Grant Application – September 2022
- Endorsed Duke Street in Motion Guiding Principles – November 2022
- Endorsed DRPT Operating and Capital Assistance State Aid Applications and the Commuter Assistance Program Operations Grant Applications – January 2023
- Endorsed I-395 Commuter Choice Grant Application – January 2023
- Endorsed MWCOG Transportation Land Use Connections and Regional Roadway Safety Program Grant Requests – January 2023
- Provided Letter of Support and Feedback regarding the Energy and Climate Change Action Plan (ECCAP) – February 2023
- Endorsed Low and No Emissions and Bus Facilities Grant Applications – March 2023
- Endorsed FY24 Transit Development Plan – April 2023
- Endorsed Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program Application – April 2023
- Provided Letter of Feedback to Council regarding the FY 2024 Operating Budget and the FY 2024-2033 Capital Improvement Program – April 2023
- Endorsed Safe Streets for All Grant Request – May 2023
- Endorsed NVTA 70% Grant Applications – May 2023
- Endorsed the Duke Street Transitway Advisory Group’s Recommendations – June 2023

2. Any letters to other Advisory Groups, date, subject

- Provided Feedback on FY24 City Budget Priorities to City Manager – October 2022

3. Any completed reports or relevant documents

- N/A



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

September 21, 2022

Re: **Endorsement of Grant Application for the FY 2022 Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its September 21 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse a grant application for funding up to \$300,000 through the FY 2022 Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) Program from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) for a feasibility study of a bicycle and pedestrian bridge over I-395 from the redeveloped Landmark Mall site, the future site of West End Alexandria, to neighborhoods to the west.


The Transportation Commission supports staff's proposal to request funding to conduct a feasibility study for this bridge. I-395 is a significant barrier, especially to those with no or limited access to a vehicle. A bicycle and pedestrian bridge in this area was envisioned in the update to the Landmark-Van Dorn Corridor Plan as a connection to provide neighborhoods to the west of I-395 more direct access to jobs, amenities, and the transit center that will be available at the redeveloped Landmark Mall site. It is recommended in the 2022 Transportation Long Range Plan and is consistent with the goals of the Alexandria Mobility Plan and the Environmental Action Plan. A feasibility study would help the City understand the next steps for providing this bridge and, if a bridge is deemed feasible, make the City more competitive in applying for additional grant funding for design and construction.

The Transportation Commission understands the RCP grant program requires a 20% local match, and that if the City's grant request is awarded, the match would be up to \$60,000. The match would be funded through the City's Transportation Project Planning Capital Improvement Project.

The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff's proposal and to provide its endorsement to Council.

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

Sincerely,

**Oscar
Gonzalez**  Digitally signed by Oscar
Gonzalez
DN: cn=Oscar Gonzalez, c=US,
email=ojgonza@gmail.com
Date: 2022.09.21 22:06:38 -04'00'

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
Megan Oleynik, Transportation Planning



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Leslie Catherwood, Chair
Duke Street Transitway Advisory Group

November 16, 2022

Re: Endorsement for the Duke Street in Motion Guiding Principles

Dear Chair Catherwood,

At the October 19 Transportation Commission meeting, Jennifer Monaco, Principal Planner, updated the Commission on the Duke Street in Motion project including the purpose and background of the project, community engagement efforts to date, guiding principles, road segments under consideration, and potential alternatives.

The Transportation Commission voted to endorse the guiding principles of the project which are: convenient, efficient, equitable, safe, vibrant, and sustainable. The Commission appreciates the efforts of staff and the Advisory Group to develop these thoughtful principles and encourages the Advisory Group to promote and implement alternatives that best reflect them. The Commission noted that further analysis was needed to fully assess how each potential alternative would meet the guiding principles and requested that additional information be brought to them for consideration in the Spring of 2023.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback and for your consideration of our endorsement.

Sincerely,

Oscar Gonzalez

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission
Yon Lambert, Acting Deputy City Manager and Director, T&ES
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES
Christopher Ziemann, Transportation Planning Division Chief, T&ES



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703.746.4025

Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council
City Hall
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
December 21, 2022

Re: Endorsement of the FY 2024 DRPT Operating and Capital Assistance State Aid Applications and the Commuter Assistance Program Operations Grant Applications and Approval of Required Matching Funds.

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its December 21, 2022, meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse the staff recommended funded requests through five DRPT grant programs:

DRPT Operating Assistance

- Up to \$34 million to offset the City's operating expenses for FY 2024 and provide greater support for DASH

DRPT Capital Assistance

- Up to \$20 million to purchase replacement buses and batteries to maintain the DASH fleet in a State of Good repair

Commuter Assistance Program

- Up to \$331,300 to fund two staff and programming.
 - This requires a \$66,260 local match

Demonstration Project Assistance Program

- Up to \$235,000 for an Electric Bus Charge Management System Pilot
- Up to \$80,000 for an Automated Wheelchair Securement Pilot


Public Transportation Workforce Development Program

- Up to \$55,000 to fund a DASH planning intern

These requests support goals of the Alexandria Mobility Plan including supporting multimodal transportation and reducing single occupancy vehicle trips. The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff recommendations for the FY 2024 DRPT Grant request formulated to procure DRPT operating and capital funds and the FY 2023 Commuter Assistance Program grant request.

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

Sincerely,



Oscar Gonzalez (Jan 23, 2023 10:55 EST)

Jan 23, 2023

Oscar Gonzalez

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission
City Manager James Parajon
Yon Lambert, Interim Deputy City Manager and Director, T&ES
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: 703.746.4025

www.alexandriava.gov

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

December 21, 2022

Re: Endorsement of Application for FY24-FY25 I-395/95 NVTC Commuter Choice Grant

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its December 21, 2022, meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse the City's proposed I-395/95 Commuter Choice Grant applications. The proposals seek a total of up to \$26,500,000 over a two-year period for the continuation of service enhancements on two DASH routes in the new 2022 Alexandria Transit Vision (ATV) Plan that provide important transit connections for the West End, and the purchase of 10 electric buses for additional bus capacity on Line 35.

The proposed top priority project, "DASH West End – Pentagon Bus Service Enhancements", would allow DASH to continue to provide weekday, Saturday, and Sunday service enhancements for the new DASH "Line 35". This route provides frequent, all-day service in West Alexandria from the Van Dorn Metro to the Pentagon via Beauregard Street. This project will continue to build on major recent ridership growth in West Alexandria along the planned West End Transitway corridor, maintain a potential future source of operations funding for the transitway, and support the implementation of the 2022 ATV Plan. Total project cost for FY 2024 – 2025 is roughly \$7,500,000.

The second-priority project, "DASH West End – Potomac Yard Bus Service Enhancements", proposes to continue the weekday, Saturday, and Sunday service enhancements for "Line 36". "Line 36" provides service to key destinations along the I-395 corridor including the Mark Center, Shirlington, Arlandria, and the future Potomac Yard Metro Station. The total two-year cost of the project is \$4,000,000.

The third priority project, "DASH Bus Purchases for Additional Capacity from West End to Pentagon" would fund the purchase of 10 new, large 100% electric buses that would be used to provide additional passenger capacity along the Line 35 corridor in West Alexandria. Due to major ridership increases, Line 35 sees frequent crowding on buses that could be mitigated with the purchase of additional 40- and 60-foot buses. The total funding request for this project is up to \$15,000,000.

The Commission recommends that Council support these grant requests.

Sincerely,

Oscar Gonzalez
Oscar Gonzalez (Jan 20, 2023 17:02 EST)

Jan 20, 2023

Oscar Gonzalez

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission
James F. Parajon, City Manager
Yon Lambert, Director, T&ES
Josh Baker, General Manager, DASH



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703.746.4025

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

January 18, 2023

Re: Endorsement of the FY 2024 Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOC) Grant Applications

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its January 18, 2023 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse the following staff-recommended technical assistance grant applications to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Transportation and Land Use Connections Program and Regional Roadway Safety Program:

Transportation and Land Use Connections Program:

- Up to \$80,000 to perform planning, community engagement, and preliminary design for corridor improvements on South Pickett Street between Edsall Road and Duke Street

Regional Roadway Safety Program:

- Up to \$80,000 to evaluate roadway lighting needs and develop lighting recommendations to enhance pedestrian safety in key areas

These requests support the goals of the Alexandria Mobility Plan and the Vision Zero Action Plan. The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff recommendations for the FY 2024 Transportation and Land Use Connections and Regional Roadway Safety Programs.

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

Sincerely,

Oscar Gonzalez
Oscar Gonzalez (Jan 20, 2023 17:02 EST)

Jan 20, 2023

Oscar Gonzalez

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission
James Parajon, City Manager
Tarrence Moorer, Interim sDirector, T&ES
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Mary Harris and Marian Pegram, Co-Chairs
EECAP Task Force

December 21, 2022

Re: Support and feedback for the Draft Energy and Climate Change Action Plan (ECCAP)

Dear Chairs Harris and Pegram,

At the November 16 Transportation Commission meeting, Bill Eger, Energy Manager, updated the Commission on the draft EECAP including the purpose and background of the plan, engagement efforts to date, an overview of the draft plan, and a focus on the transportation trends and goals laid out in the plan.

As expressed at the meeting, Commissioners indicated that they would like the final version of the ECCAP to include an updated 2021 data point for greenhouse gas emissions trends. The Commission feels that there would be additional value in providing annual updates, recognizing that these would be more high-level and less precise than the more thorough three-year updates. Providing yearly updates would help the City to better track progress and respond more efficiently to changing trends, which is particularly important at this moment as climate change becomes more dire and the rate of change escalates.

The Commission wants to commend the efforts of the ECCAP task force and share support for this plan, recognizing the importance of local policy and efforts in addressing climate change. With that in mind, the Transportation Commission recognizes that the ECCAP's focus on what we can do at a local level, especially relating to transportation goals such as reducing single-occupancy vehicle trips and replacing internal combustion engine trips with electric vehicle trips, is particularly important.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Oscar Gonzalez
Oscar Gonzalez (Jan 20, 2023 17:02 EST)

Jan 20, 2023

Oscar Gonzalez

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission
Yon Lambert, Acting Deputy City Manager and Director, T&ES
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES
Bill Eger, Energy Manager, General Services
Christopher Ziemann, Transportation Planning Division Chief, T&ES
Megan Oleynik, Urban Planner, T&ES



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703.746.4025

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

March 15, 2023

Re: Recommendations to the Federal Transit Administration's Low or Now Emissions Vehicles and Bus and Bus Facilities Grant Applications

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council:

At its March 15, 2023 meeting, the Alexandria Transportation Commission voted to endorse the City's application for the Federal Transit Administration's Low or No Emissions Vehicles and Bus and Bus Facilities discretionary grant programs. The project will seek federal funding for zero emission buses, new electrical service and infrastructure, and workforce development.

The Transportation Commission is supportive of the City's and DASH's adopted policy goal to shift to a 100% Zero Emissions bus fleet by the year 2037 for all 120+ of its buses. The proposed application will support this goal by funding the building of a new electrical service and infrastructure to provide sufficient electricity to the DASH facility for electric bus charging and the conversion of buses from conventional to Battery Electric/Zero Emissions.

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

Sincerely,

Oscar Gonzalez
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission (with recusal from Commissioner Omay)
James Parajon, City Manager
Tarrence Moorer, Interim Director, T&ES
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22414

Phone: 703.746.4025

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Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council
City Hall
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22414

April 19, 2023

Re: **Endorsement of the Alexandria Transit Company (DASH) FY24 Transit Development Plan (TDP)**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its April 19 meeting, the Transportation Commission received an update from DASH on the FY24 Transit Development Plan. The Commission voted to endorse DASH's recommended improvements outlined in that plan including those currently unfunded in the City's proposed FY24 budget. Those improvements include improved weekend bus connections from Arlandria, Del Ray and Old Town North to the new Potomac Yard Metro on Lines 33 and 34, that would require additional FY 2024 budget allocations from City Council.

The Transportation Commission believes the improvements proposed in the TDP including the unfunded service improvements are critical to meeting goals of the Alexandria Mobility Plan, Transit Vision Plan, and the Environmental Action Plan 2040 of providing frequent, reliable transit service to Alexandrians and encouraging reduction of single occupancy vehicle trips in the City. The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to receive this update from DASH, as well as to provide its endorsement to City Council.

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

Sincerely,

Oscar Gonzalez

[Oscar Gonzalez \(Apr 21, 2023 17:46 EDT\)](#)

Oscar Gonzalez

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission
Jim Parajon, City Manager
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager
Tarrence Moorer, Interim Director, T&ES
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, Transportation Planning



**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**
301 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

alexandriava.gov

703.746.4025

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

April 19, 2023

Re: **Endorsement of Grant Application for the FY 2023 Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its April 19 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse a grant application for the FY 2023 Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) for bringing critical charging infrastructure to support the growing adoption of electric vehicles.

The City is a leader in advancing transportation electrification in the region. The City has developed an Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Readiness Strategy (EVRS) to act as a roadmap to meet the electric vehicle charging infrastructure and technical needs of City residents, workforce members, and visitors as electric vehicle adoption increases. The EVRS includes 31 recommendations that will build an effective, innovative, and sustainable electric vehicle ecosystem. The EVRS includes recommendations around meeting the charging demand of the community, workforce development, and equity, which can be accelerated by the CFI Program.

The Transportation Commission supports staff's proposal to request funding to implement the EVRS recommendations through the installation of publicly accessible Level 2 and DC Fast Chargers at multiple sites across the City, such as public parks, libraries, and on-street locations. The chargers will be located in areas that will benefit disadvantaged communities and serve areas with a high concentration of multi-unit dwellings and limited off-street parking. The City of Alexandria residents are adopting electric vehicles at a rate faster than the national average, and this project will help meet the needs of the community.

The Transportation Commission understands that the CFI grant program requires a 20% local match. USDOT encourages applicants to partner with private entities after award to implement the project, and the terms of the grant indicate that recipients can require those private entities to provide the local match. Any remaining match would be funded through the City's FY 2023 CIP for the Citywide Electric Vehicle Charging Station project.

The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff's proposal and to provide its endorsement to Council.

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

Sincerely,

Oscar Gonzalez

Oscar Gonzalez (Apr 21, 2023 17:46 EDT)

Oscar Gonzalez
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

Cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission
Jim Parajon, City Manager
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager
Tarrence Moorer, Director, T&ES
Ryan Freed, Climate Action Officer, Office of Climate Action
Amy Posner, Electric Vehicle Planner, Office of Climate Action
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, Transportation Planning, T&ES
Megan Oleynik, Transportation Planning, T&ES
Philippe Simon, Grants Coordinator, T&ES
Helen Lee, Environmental Program Manager, T&ES

Jennifer Monaco, Principal Planner, T&ES
Megan Oleynik, Urban Planner, T&ES



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

alexandriava.gov

703.746.4025

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

April 19, 2023

Re: **FY 2024 Budget Feedback**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its September meeting, the Transportation Commission received an update from staff on the FY24 budget process and the City Manager's letter to Boards and Commissions to provide feedback on priority budget options that will help the City further **smart, equitable, and green** programs in FY24, while maintaining and attracting employees.

Transportation Commission provided a letter of feedback on the proposed budget in October 2023, and expressed the following priorities to the City Manager:

- 1) Supporting safety and bicycle and pedestrian travel through funding for the Complete Streets and Vision Zero program
- 2) Funding for a comprehensive review of the trail system and maintaining the trail system in a state of good repair
- 3) Fully funding the Alexandria Transit Vision Plan
- 4) Funding projects to support the Energy and Climate Change Action Plan including increasing vehicle electrification.

After reviewing the City Manager's proposed budget in March, the Transportation Commission feels that it is a "status quo" budget when it comes to transportation and has the following the specific areas of concern:

- The Manager's budget does not invest further in Complete Streets and Vision Zero to achieve established City goals. While staff work diligently to implement what is possible with existing staffing and capital investment levels, the only new capital investment in this area is through

external grants, and not through enhanced commitments of local dollars to this critical community need.

- The Transit Vision Plan implementation requires more transit service (coverage and frequency), and the Manager’s budget does not provide this. The increased funding for DASH simply replaces lost grant funding and funds higher operating costs to keep the service levels stable but does not expand service.
- The Manager’s budget does not invest proactively in the trail system state of good repair. Overlooking this part of our transportation system threatens the existing use of these routes as viable commute alternatives to driving, and makes truly multimodal lifestyles less realistic, especially in the West End.
- Finally, the Manager’s proposed budget does not do enough to support the draft Energy and Climate Change Action Plan, which outlines critical needs with respect to greenhouse gas reduction and City resiliency. Without a more aggressive investment in electrification of transportation and the shift to non-auto modes, the City jeopardizes the ability to achieve the goals of the Environmental Action Plan 2040 and the directives of the City’s own declaration of Climate Emergency.
 - One particular area that the Transportation Commission is concerned about is the ability to transition the DASH bus fleet to fully electric buses if the grants being pursued for this effort are not awarded. Commissioners have concerns that continuing to invest in purchasing non-electric buses will delay the transition significantly and be at odds with achieving the City’s climate goals in a timely manner.

The Transportation Commission is concerned that this proposed budget fails to follow through in the creation of a more accessible, connected, convenient, equitable, safe, and sustainable community as established in the Alexandria Mobility Plan. The Commission requests that Council consider incorporating strategic increases in funding in each of these areas to better represent the urgency embodied in Council’s past commitments and the lived experience in Alexandria today.

We thank you for your consideration of these priority areas to help the City advance its strategic goals.

Sincerely,

Oscar Gonzalez

Oscar Gonzalez (Apr 21, 2023 17:46 EDT)

Oscar Gonzalez

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission
Tarrence Moorer, Interim Director, T&ES
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES
Christopher Ziemann, Chief of Transportation Planning Division, T&ES
Megan Oleynik, Urban Planner, T&ES



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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

May 17, 2023

Re: **Endorsement of Grant Application for the FY 2022 Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its May 17 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse a grant application for funding up to \$5,000,000 through the FY 2023 Safe Streets and Road for All (SS4A) Program from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) to support Vision Zero safety initiatives.

The Transportation Commission supports staff's proposal to request funding to implement safety improvements at the intersections of Duke Street and South Henry Street, and Duke Street and South Patrick Street. The project will include detailed design and construction of conceptual designs developed through a 2022 Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Regional Roadway Safety technical assistance grant.

This project supports the Vision Zero Action Plan strategy to prioritize engineering efforts at high injury corridors and intersections. It also supports the following strategies in the Alexandria Mobility Plan:

- Implement the Vision Zero Action Plan to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries by 2028.
- Create a safe, well-maintained, and comfortable walking and biking environment.

This project is consistent with the Transportation Long Range Plan and the project added to the plan by Transportation Commission in November 2021 titled "Vision Zero High Crash Intersection Improvements."

The Transportation Commission understands the SS4A grant program requires a 20% local match, and that if the City's grant request is awarded, the match would be approximately \$1,000,000. The match would be funded through the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTVA) 30% fund balance.

The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff's proposal and 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
Tarrence Moorer, Interim Director, T&ES
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, Transportation Planning
Alex Carroll, Complete Streets Program Manager, T&ES



**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
301 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22313**

alexandriava.gov

703.746.4025

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

May 17, 2023

Re: **Endorsement of Grant Application for Application To Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) for Regional Transportation Funding (70% Funds) for FY 2028-FY 2029**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its May 17 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse a grant application to Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) for Regional Transportation Funding for FY 2028-FY 2029. The grant application is for up to \$28 million total for the following projects:

- Up to \$10 million for the extension of the Metroway between Glebe Road and Evans Lane on Richmond Highway, and between Evans Lane and the Arlington border on Potomac Avenue;
- Up to \$5 million for upgrading traffic controllers and provision of connected vehicle infrastructure;
- Up to \$3 million for the design of safety improvements at seven high crash intersections; and
- Up to \$10 million for the implementation of multimodal enhancements to the Van Dorn Bridge over the Norfolk Southern rail tracks.

The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff recommendations for this important grant program. This grant and recommended projects are consistent with the Alexandria Mobility Plan and NVTA's TransAction plan and will help to make Alexandria a more sustainable, accessible and safe City with enhanced multi-modal transportation options.

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

Sincerely,

Oscar Gonzalez
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

Cc: Jim Parajon, City Manager
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager
Tarrence Moorer, Interim Director, T&ES
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, Transportation Planning, T&ES



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

www.alexandriava.gov

Phone: 703.746.4025

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

June 21, 2023

Re: **Endorsement of the Duke Street Transitway Advisory Group's Recommendation**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

The Transportation Commission has received many updates throughout the Duke Street in Motion process and has provided input at meetings for our representative on the Duke Street Transitway Advisory Group (AG) to relay at meetings. At the May 17th and June 20th meetings, the Transportation Commission received an update from the Duke Street in Motion Project Team on the results of the analysis of the two end-to-end corridor concepts and the Advisory Group's recommendation. The Commission voted to endorse the Advisory Group's long-term plan for center running lanes and separated bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout the corridor as well as its near-term recommendation in support of Busway Concept A – Mostly Center Running and Mixed Traffic and Curb Concept Y with more separated bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

The Transportation Commission would further like to assert the importance of specifying a long-term plan for the corridor in order to ensure that future development on the corridor can contribute to achieving the full vision established for the corridor that was developed with considerable public input. Further, by continuing to hold on to a long-term plan, and including it in City plans and regional plans, the City is better positioned to identify outside funding.

The Transportation Commission believes the near-term plan is a critical first step to meeting goals of the Alexandria Mobility Plan, Transit Vision Plan, the Environmental Action Plan 2040, Vision Zero, and ALL Alexandria. Improved transit travel times and reliability, enhanced station amenities, and improved access to stations including for the disabled are vital components, in combination with frequent service, to improve the rider experience and attract new ridership to achieve the city's sustainability and equity goals. Moreover, this project includes significant safety benefits to make Duke Street better for everyone and is an important piece to managing growing transportation demand along the corridor.

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

Sincerely,

Oscar Gonzalez
Digitally signed by
Oscar Gonzalez
Date: 2023.06.21 21:
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Oscar Gonzalez

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission
Jim Parajon, City Manager
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager
Yon Lambert, Director, T&ES
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, Transportation Planning
Jennifer Monaco, Transit Program Manager, Transportation Planning



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

City Manager James Parajon
City Hall
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

October 19, 2022

Re: FY 2024 Budget Priorities

Dear City Manager:

At its September meeting, the Transportation Commission received an update from staff on the FY24 budget process and the City Manager's letter to Boards and Commissions to provide feedback on priority budget options that will help the City further **smart**, **equitable**, and **green** programs in FY24, while maintaining and attracting employees.

The Transportation Commission recognizes the challenges of this fiscal year that the City Manager has highlighted, and supports these priorities being advanced. Transportation funding will be critical to supporting these priority areas. The Transportation Commission has identified several areas that are critical to supporting these goals.

First, there are several programs that support pedestrian and bicycle travel in Alexandria that the Transportation Commission believe should be budget priorities. With changing travel patterns during the pandemic, more people are walking and biking, and cars are frequently able to travel at faster speeds, creating potentially dangerous situations. Communities of color and lower income communities typically have much higher rates of pedestrian crashes. The Transportation Commission recommends the budget support the implementation of the Complete Streets program and Vision Zero Action Plan, so as not to lose ground against the Vision Zero goal of eliminating serious and fatal crashes in Alexandria by 2028. Consistent with the City Manager's goal of maintaining and attracting employees, the Commission also supports funding additional staffing for these programs.

Related to safety and Vision Zero, increased flooding and severe weather events in Alexandria have taken a toll on several of the bridges and trails that serve bicycles and pedestrians in Alexandria, which has led to closures while funding can be identified for repairs. This causes disruptions in travel patterns for pedestrians and cyclists and makes it more difficult for Alexandrians to choose non-vehicular travel options that can help reduce greenhouse gases and decrease congestion on City streets. Additionally, the

City is working on a trail pavement index that will help staff understand trail conditions and identify areas that need improvements. The Transportation Commission recommends that the budget include funding to do a comprehensive review of the trail system and to bring the trail system up to a state of good repair including maintaining trail pavement conditions and replacing damaged trail infrastructure.

Additionally, the Transportation Commission believes that transit service is critical to providing the most vulnerable access to jobs and essential services and to reducing greenhouse gases and reducing the City's climate impacts. The Alexandria Transit Vision Plan laid out a framework network to expand access to low-income and minority populations. Fully funding the proposed network will not only improve access for most Alexandria residents but will also make DASH service more efficient. The budget should also take into account funding for the City's transit partners and look for opportunities to improve (or maintain) levels of services provided by regional operators including Metro and Virginia Railway Express.

Finally, the Commission recognizes the important work of the on-going Energy and Climate Change Action Plan and the City's efforts to increase attention to the Climate Emergency through the creation of the new Office of Climate Action. The Commission supports these efforts and encourages the City to fund projects and programs that are consistent with the related transportation goals. This includes increasing efforts to expand the electric vehicle fleet within the City and partner organizations such as DASH and Alexandria City public schools, promoting new publicly accessible infrastructure for electric vehicle charging throughout the City and other efforts that will encourage the community to adopt electric vehicles.

We thank you for your consideration of these priority areas to help the City advance its strategic goals.

Sincerely,

Oscar Gonzalez

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission
Yon Lambert, Director, T&ES
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES
Christopher Ziemann, Chief of Transportation Planning Division, T&ES
Megan Oleynik, Urban Planner, T&ES


Annual Report 2023 ATC Final Complete


Final Audit Report


2023-09-11


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