

Transportation Commission

May 15, 2024

7PM



Notice

The May 15, 2024 meeting of the Transportation Commission is being held in the City Council Workroom on the second floor of City Hall (301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia, 22314) and electronically. Members of the Transportation Commission and staff are participating either in-person or from a remote location through video conference call on Zoom. The meeting can be accessed by the public in-person or via Zoom.



Commission Members

- **Dan Beattie** – Environmental Policy Commission
- **Leslie Catherwood** – Resident East
- **Casey Kane** – Traffic and Parking Board, Eisenhower West/Landmark/Van Dorn Advisory Group
- **Tim Lovain** – Resident East with Transportation Expertise
- **Jody Manor**- Planning Commission
- **Jim Maslanka**– Resident West
- **Melissa McMahon** – Planning Commission
- **Matthew McManus** – Resident West, DASH Advisory Committee
- **John Chapman** – Council (non-voting)
- **Kirk McPike** – Council (non-voting)



Public Comment Period

Agenda Item #1



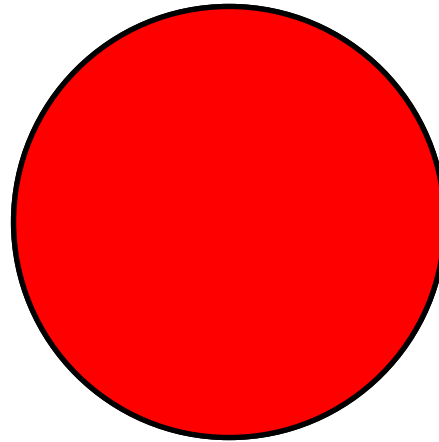
Public Comment

- For speakers not discussing items related to the public hearings.
- For virtual attendees:
 - Raise hand or press *9
 - Mute or unmute press *6
 - 3 minutes per speaker



3 Minute Timer

Announcement will sound automatically when time is up



Transportation Commission Minutes: April 17, 2024

Agenda Item #2



Discussion Item: Maintenance of Traffic

Agenda Item #3



Maintenance of Traffic Plans Overview

Permits and Inspections

May 15, 2024

Alex Boulden, Division Chief

Megan Oleynik, Senior Engineer



Agenda

- Process
- Considerations
- Continuous Improvement

Process

Development Review

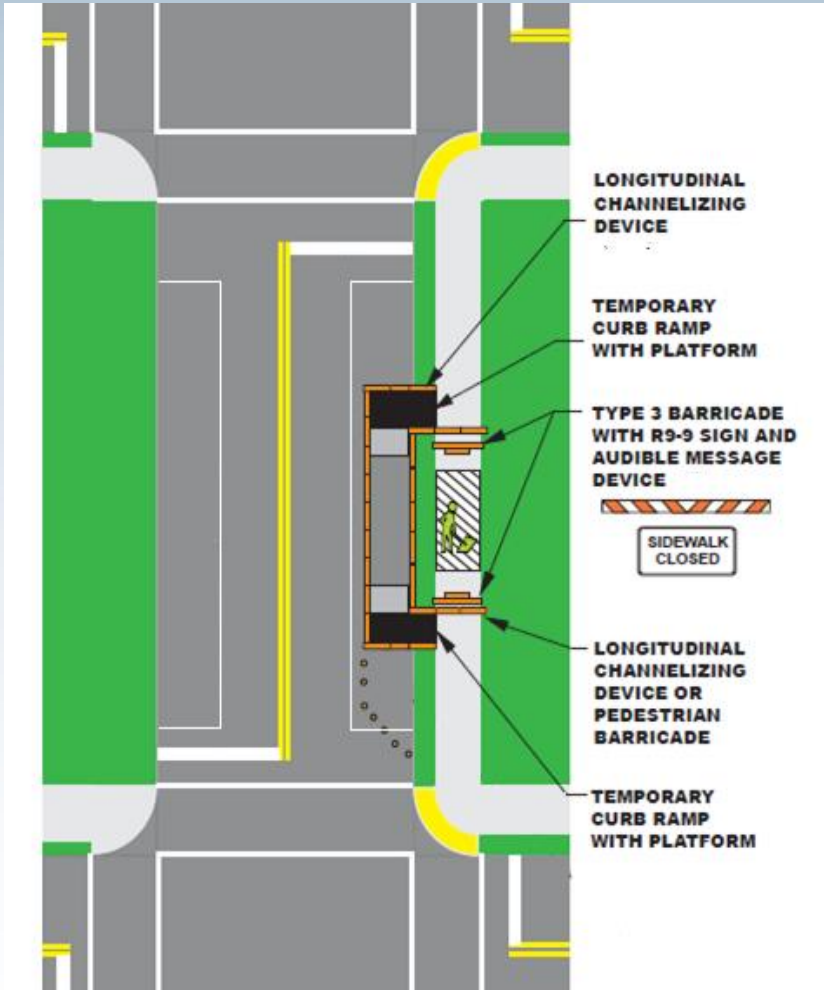
For projects associated with a DSP/DSUP
High Level MOT submitted – usually general MUTCD detour and MOT plans
Construction Management Plans reviewed

Permits

Detailed MOT and closures permitted
Fees for closures calculated and invoiced

Inspections

Inspectors review sites to ensure MOTs are compliant and appropriate for given work activities at the time
Ensure safe options available for all modes



Mid-Block Sidewalk Closure (example)

- Diagram from MUTCD
- Longitudinal channelizing
 - separate pedestrians from vehicles and work area
- Temporary curb ramps (when needed)

Considerations

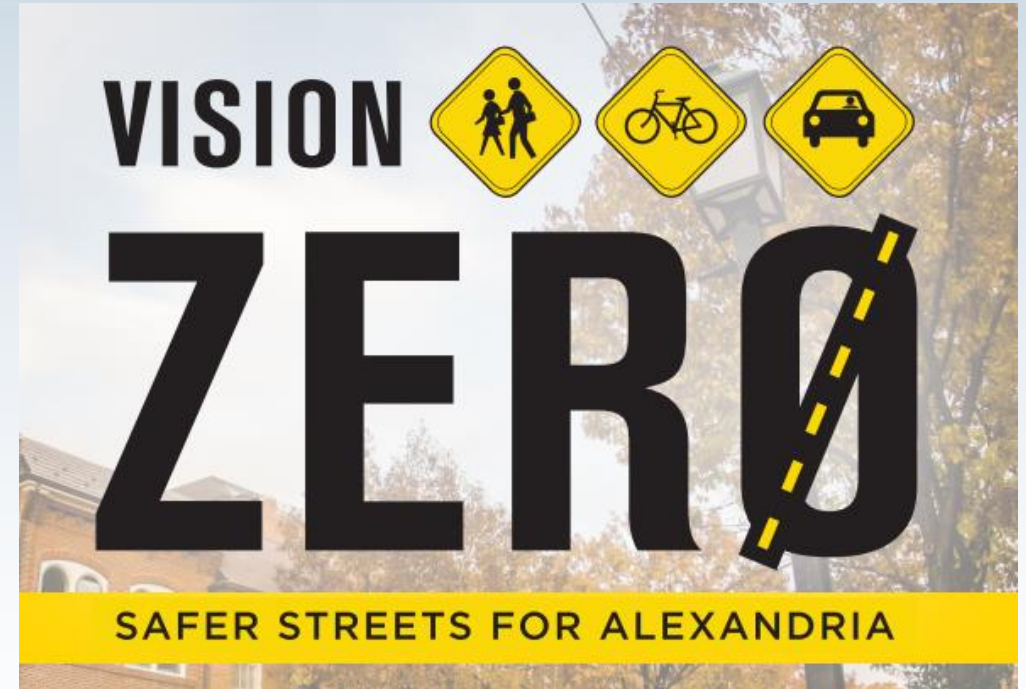
Open Sidewalks Policy

Safety

- Balance between making it safe, easy, and convenient for pedestrians, cyclists, drivers, and contractors to navigate sites and keeping safe separation between the public and construction activities

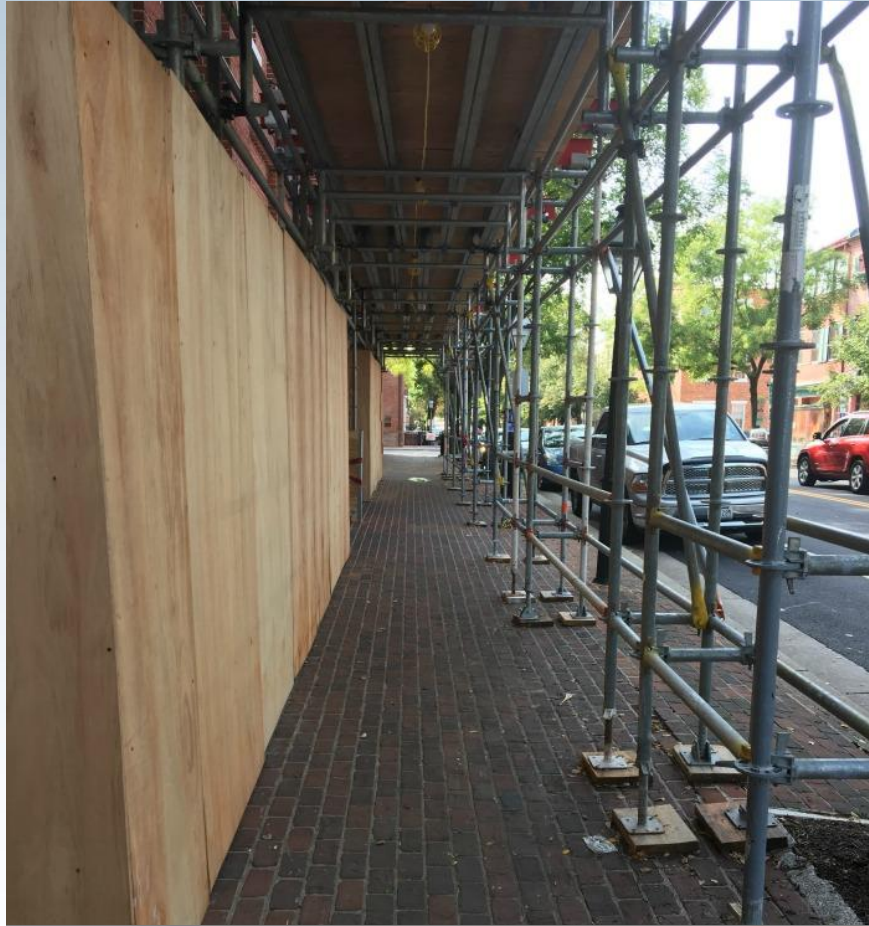
Flexibility and Constructability

- Worksites change day to day



Open Sidewalk Policy

- Memo to Industry 04-18 Maintenance of Traffic Plans – Maintaining access for pedestrians and bicyclists during construction
 - Approved 2018
- Avoid MOT Plans that:
 - Divert pedestrians to sidewalks across from constructions sites
 - Divert cyclists to alternate routes beyond the site
- Director of T&ES can accept alternate pedestrian and/or bicyclist accommodations if there is:
 - An undue hardship
 - A direct and demonstrable safety conflict
- Applies to all construction activity that requests a sidewalk or bicycle facility closure of more than 7 calendar days



Sunrise Senior Living – Washington Street

Pedestrian Access

- Considerations when approving closures and detours that impact pedestrians
 - Duration and location of closure
 - Minimize construction area
 - Maintain portion of sidewalk where possible
 - Overhead protection where possible
 - On-street parking for pedestrian access
 - Maintain minimum 4 feet width and ADA access
 - Temporary ramps
 - Grade changes
 - Curbs

Bicycle Access



Potomac Yard

- Considerations when approving closures and detours that impact pedestrians
 - Duration and location
 - Maintain minimum 5 feet wide facilities
 - Diversion into travel lanes as a last resort

Continuous Improvement

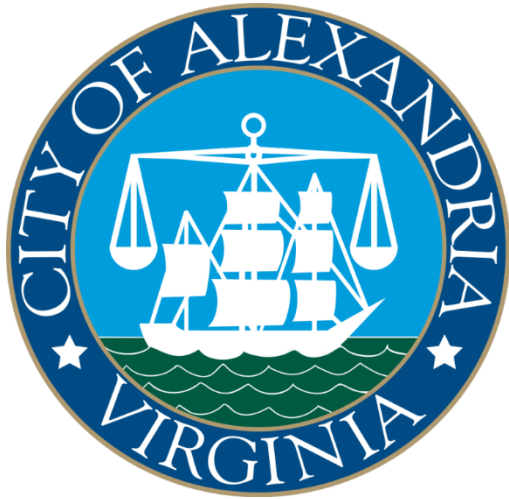
- All inspectors and permit staff attended TTAP Pedestrian and Bicyclist Considerations in Work Zones Webinar in March
- All inspectors and permit staff have registered for VDOT Intermediate Work Zone Training in June
- Discussing sensitive pedestrian areas with contractors ahead of work
- Contractors and construction industry adjusting and becoming more accustomed to accommodating all modes

Questions?

Discussion Item: AlexMoves Travel Survey

Agenda Item #4





Resident Transportation Needs Assessment Survey

2023 Results

May 2024 Transportation Commission



Survey Methods

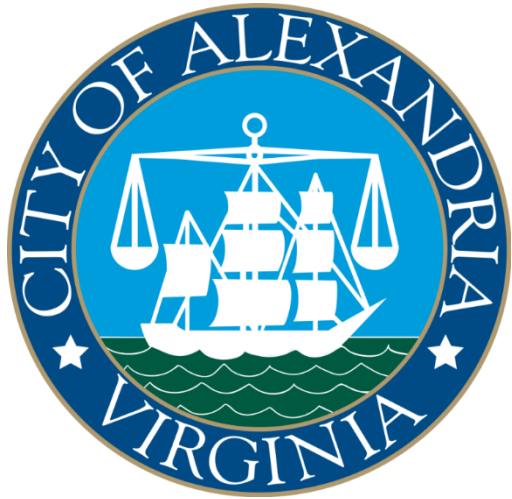
4,200 households

667 completed surveys (16%)

4% Margin of Error

Results weighted



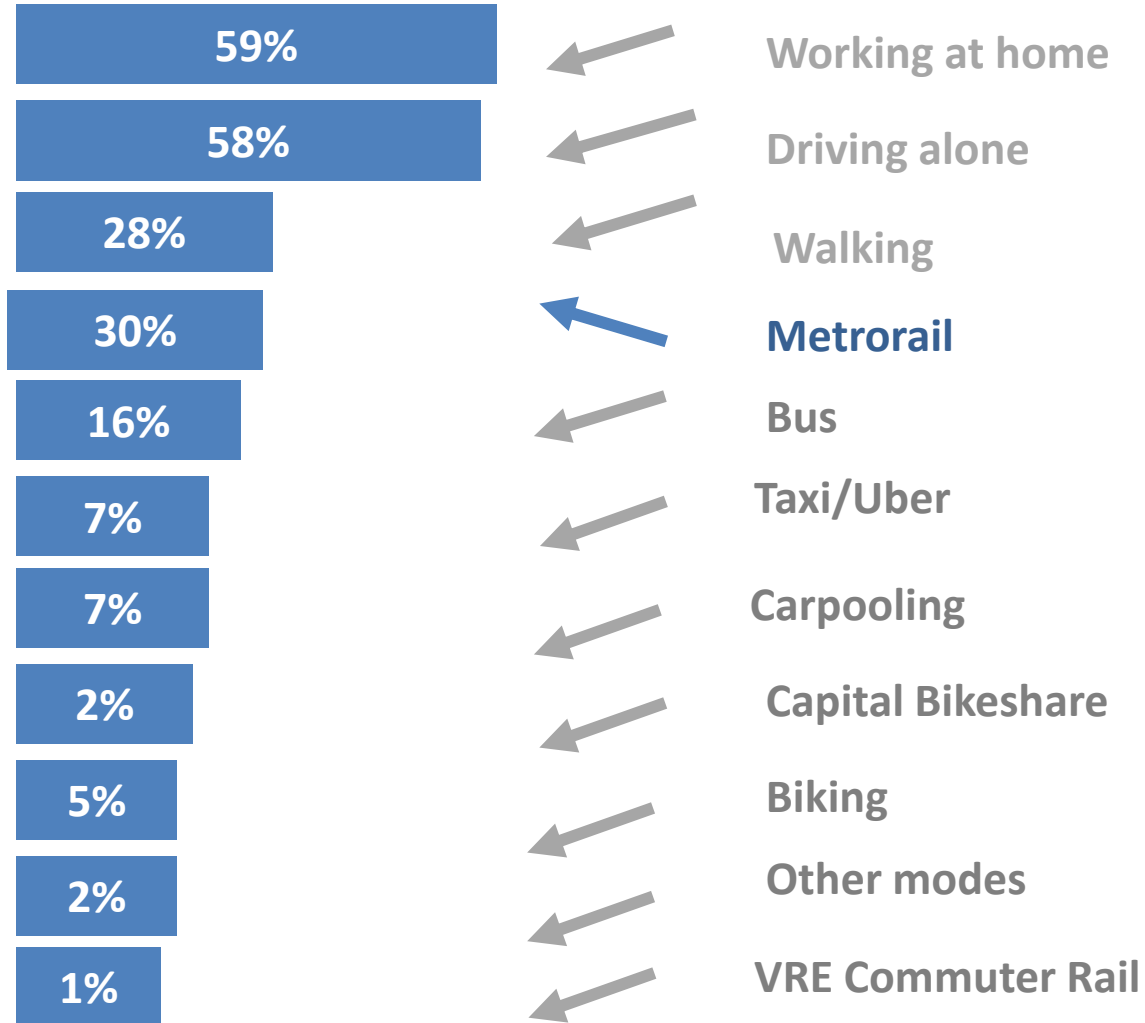


Modal Share of the Work Commute

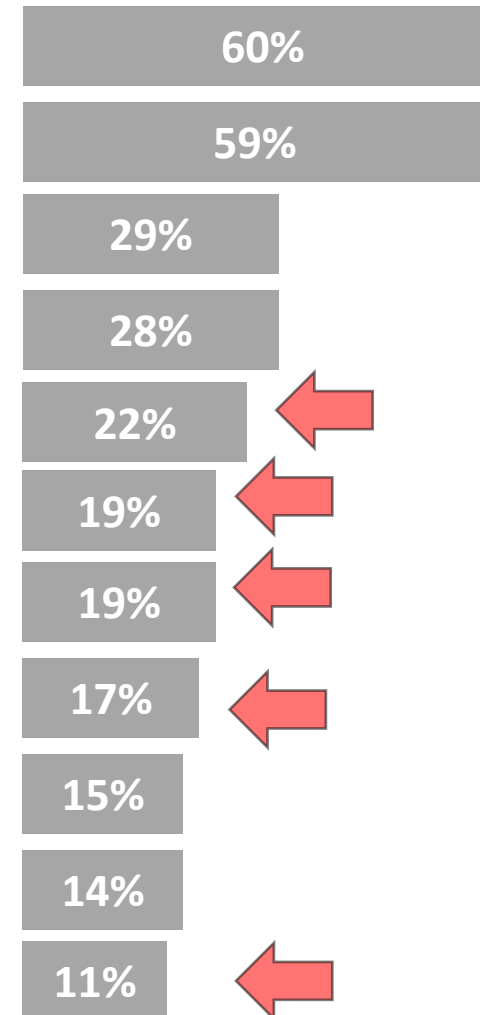


Work Commute (Min. 1 Day/Wk)

2023



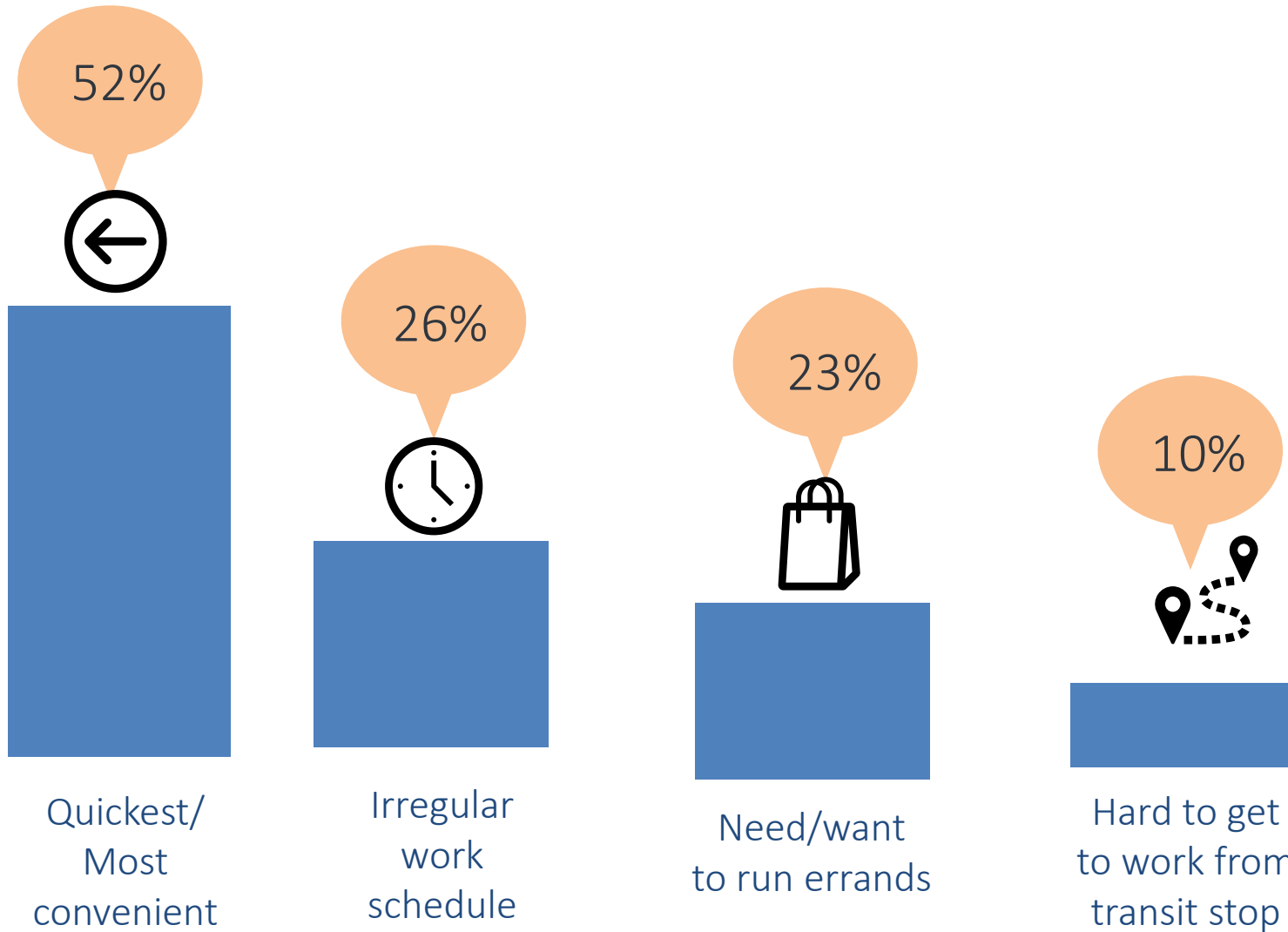
2021



The number of Alexandrians who used **VRE, Capital Bikeshare, Bus Carpooling, and Uber / Taxi** for at least one work commute per week **decreased** significantly since 2021



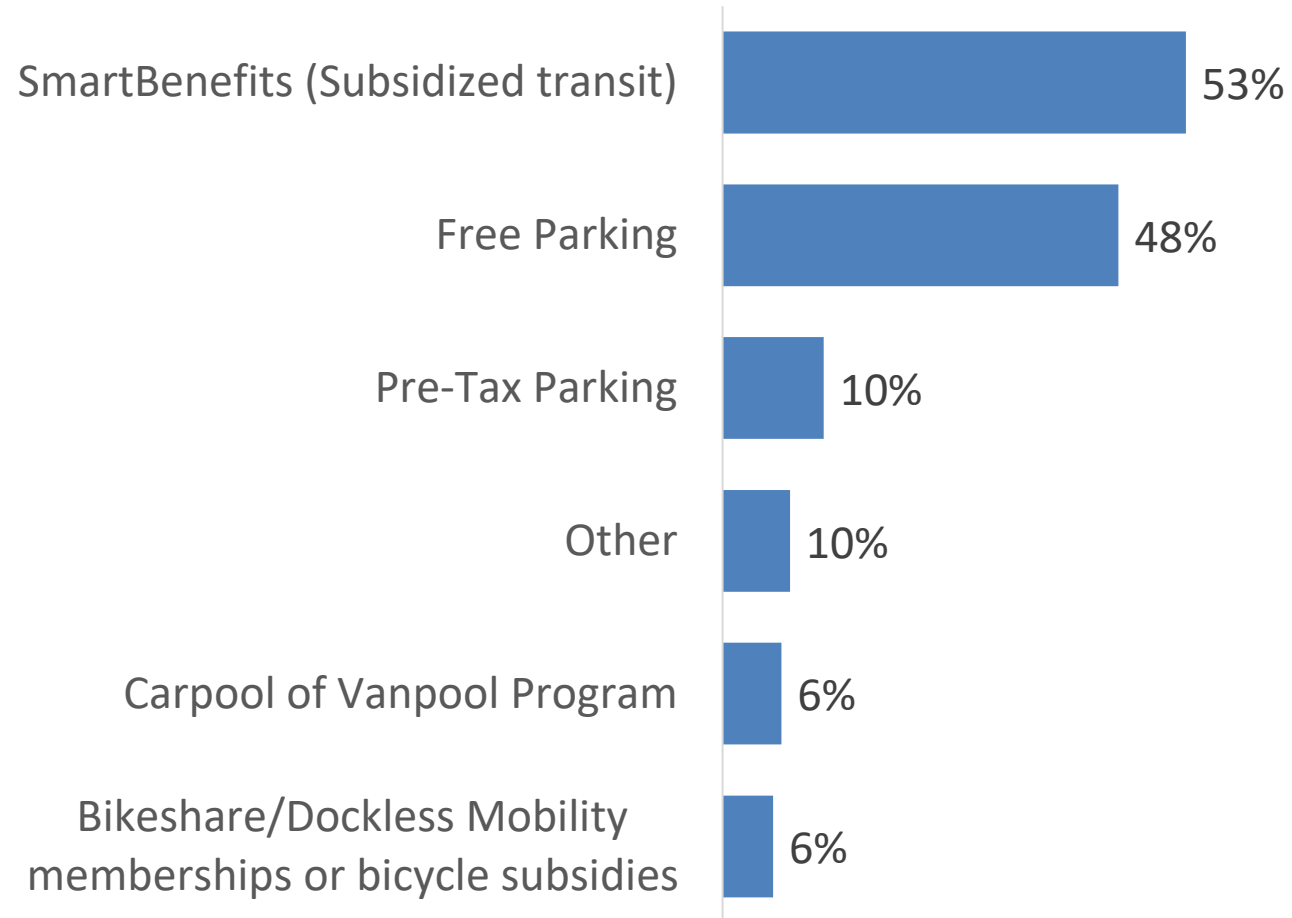
Main Reasons for Driving to Work



Driving is still perceived as the most efficient mode of travel to work



Employer-Offered Benefits



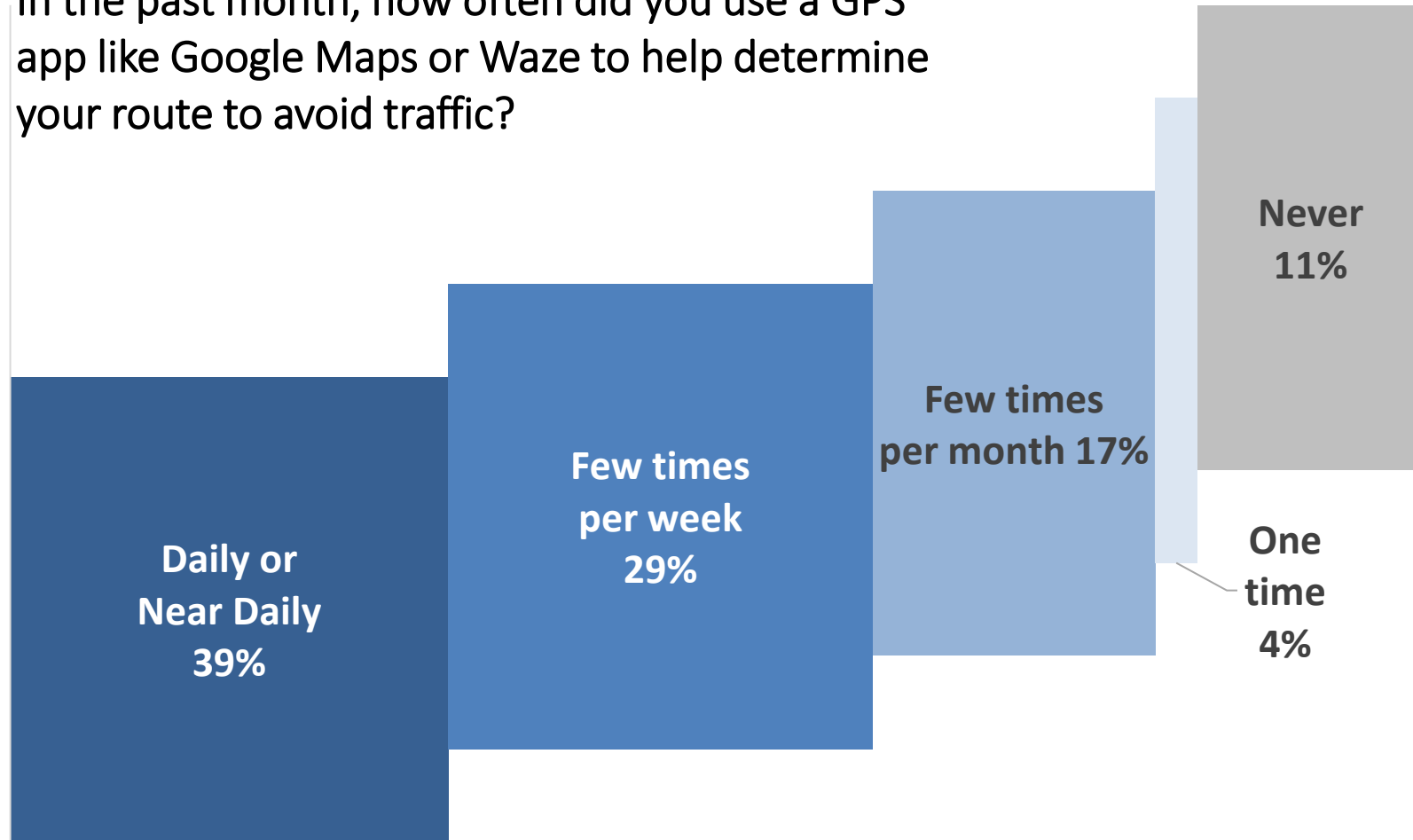
Parking subsidies and SmartBenefits continue to be the number one employer-offered transit benefit for Alexandrians.

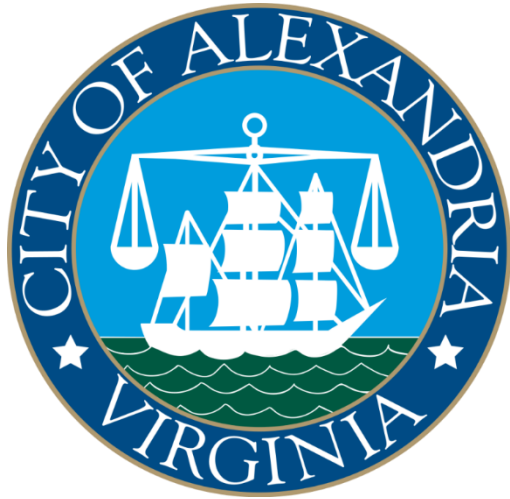
However, very few respondents receive *additional* transit benefits from their employer, like a Capital Bikeshare membership.



Traveling Tools to Assist Drivers

In the past month, how often did you use a GPS app like Google Maps or Waze to help determine your route to avoid traffic?



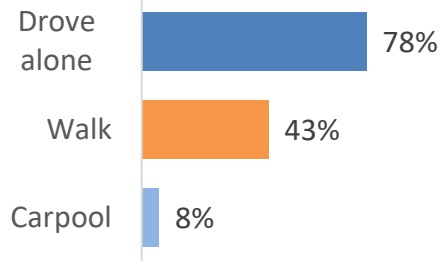


Mode Choices for Non-Commute Trips

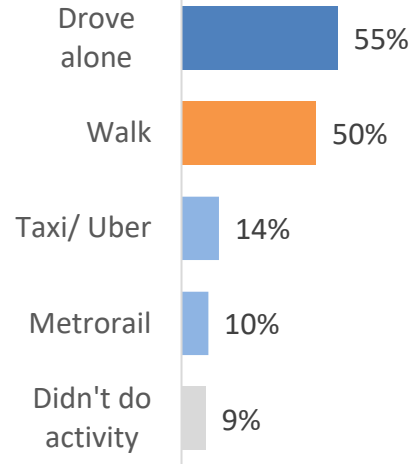


Non-commute modes

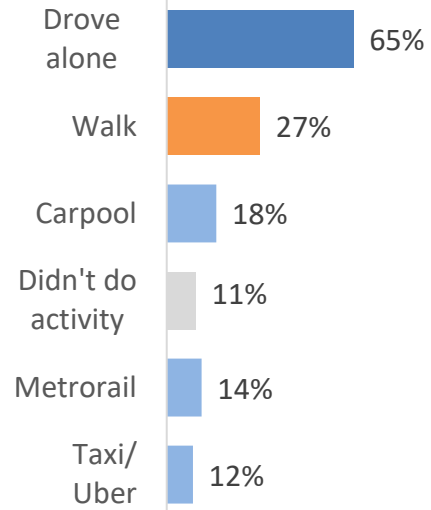
Grocery store



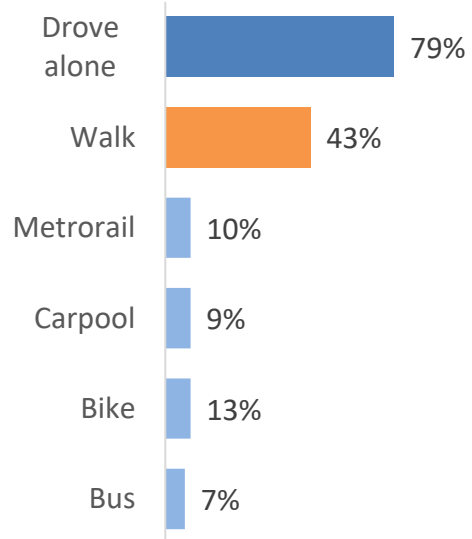
Restaurants



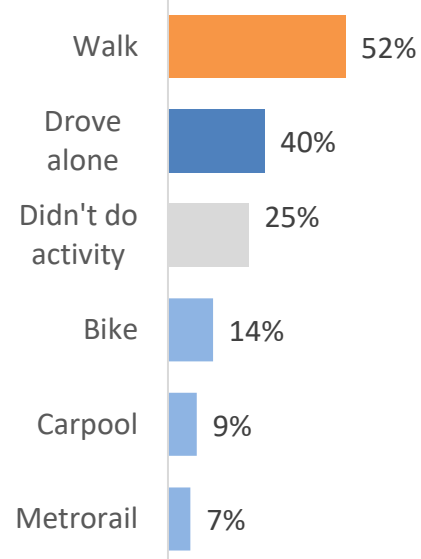
Visit friends or family



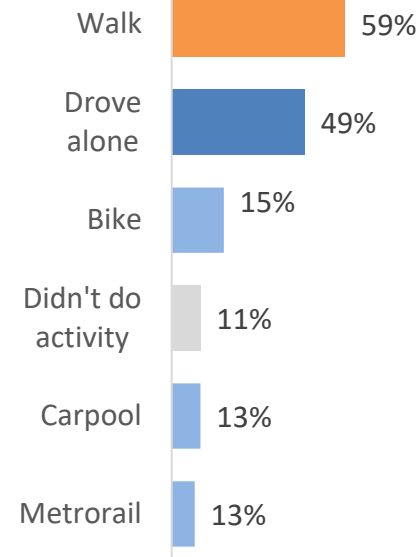
Non-grocery errands



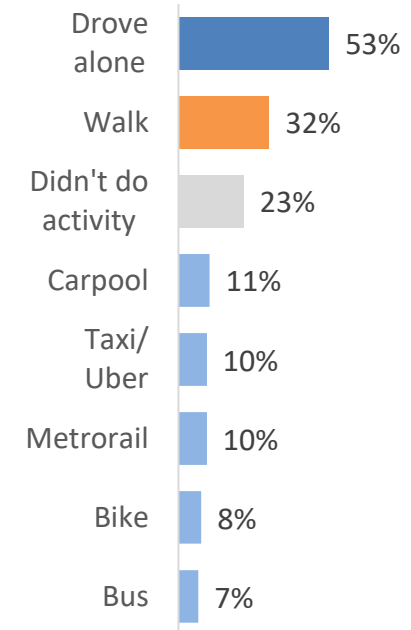
Parks & Rec centers

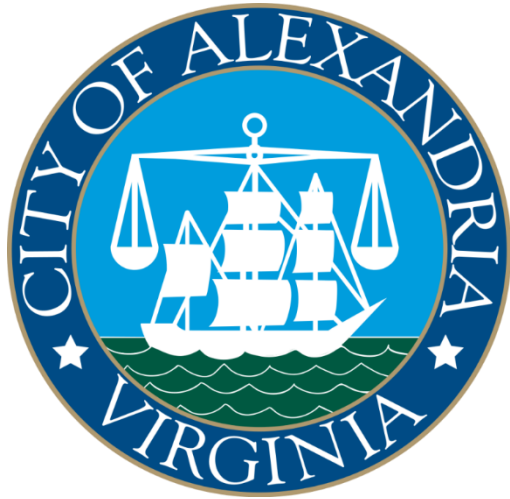


Fun or fitness



Other social activities

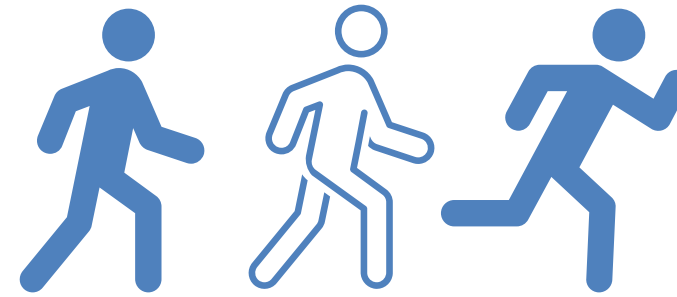




Active Transportation (Walking and Bicycling)



89%



Walk, jog or run for fun or exercise

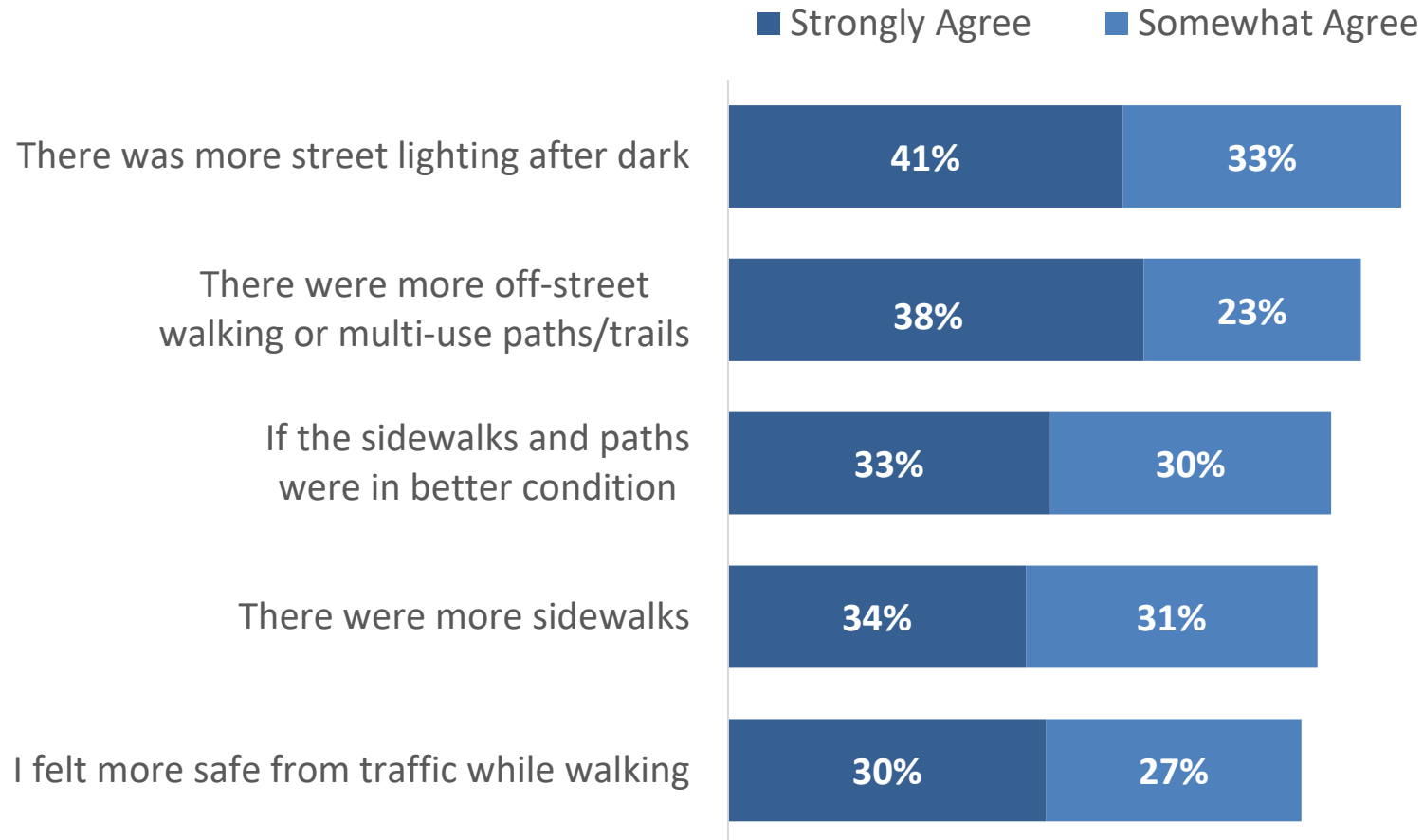


34%

Bike for fun or exercise



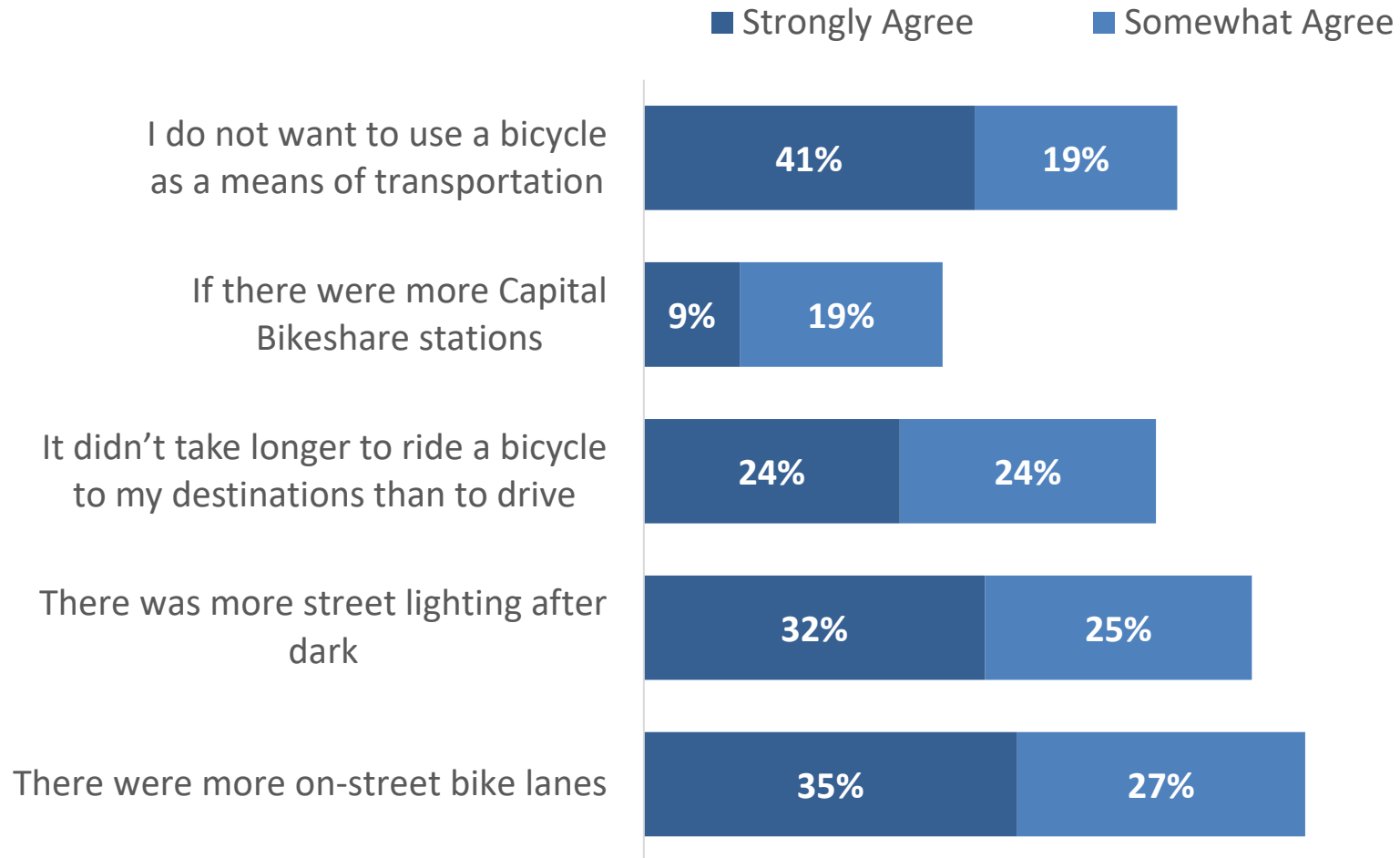
Barriers to Walking



Lighting and access to **more off-street paths and trails** remain key barriers to walking in Alexandria.

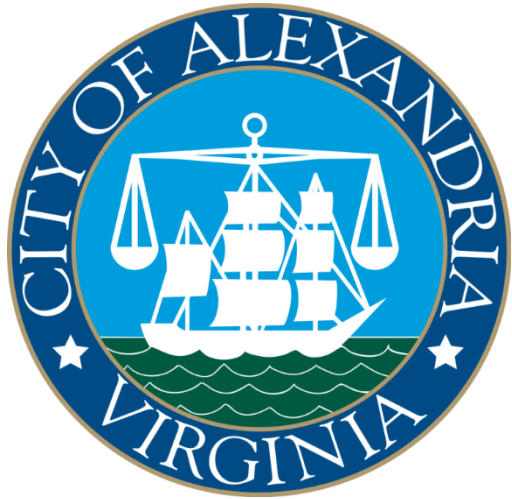


Barriers to Biking



Lighting and access to on-street facilities remain a key barriers to biking in Alexandria

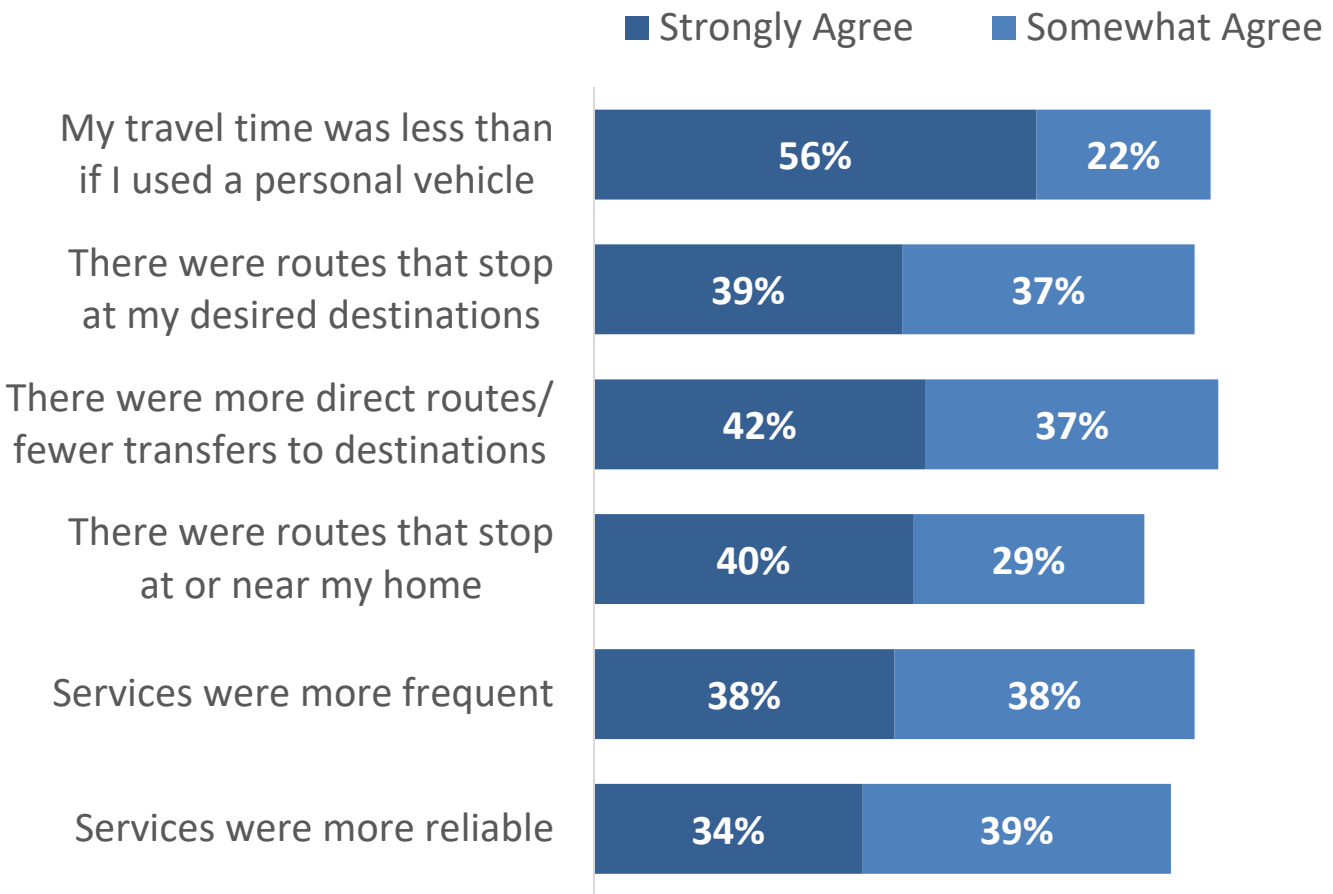




Public Transportation

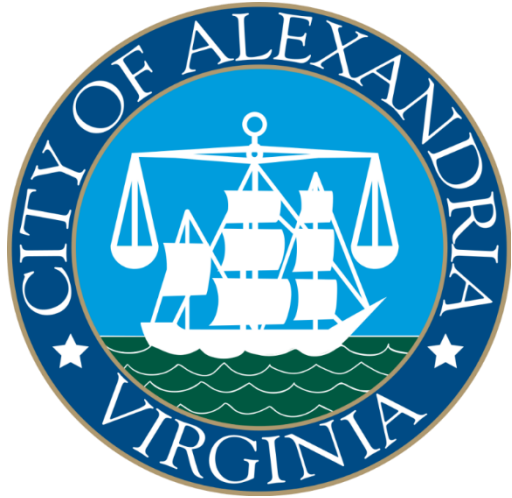


Barriers to Public Transportation (bus or metro)



Approx. 80% of respondents would use public transportation if the routes were “more direct”

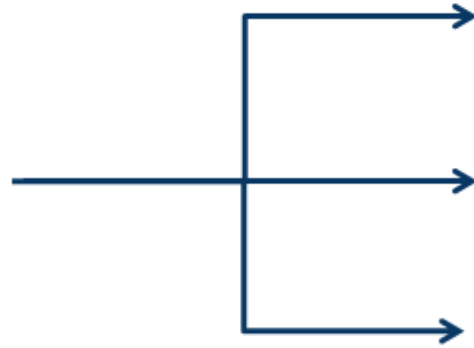
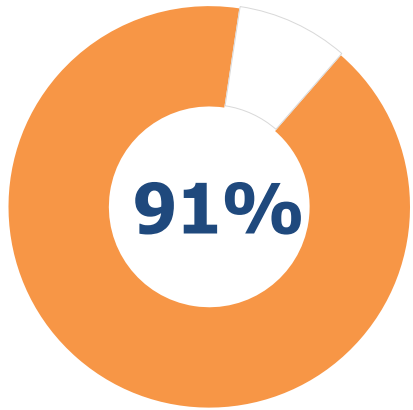




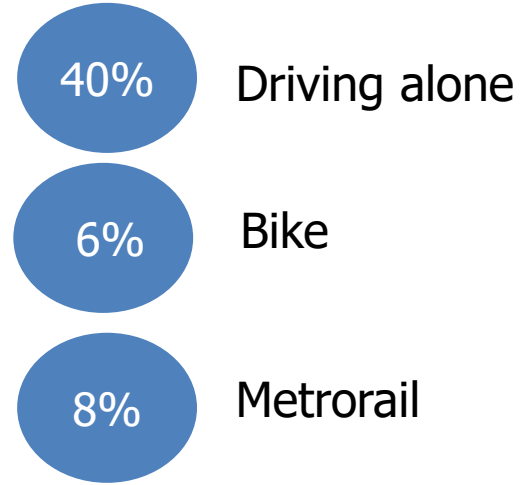
Factors Influencing Mode Choices



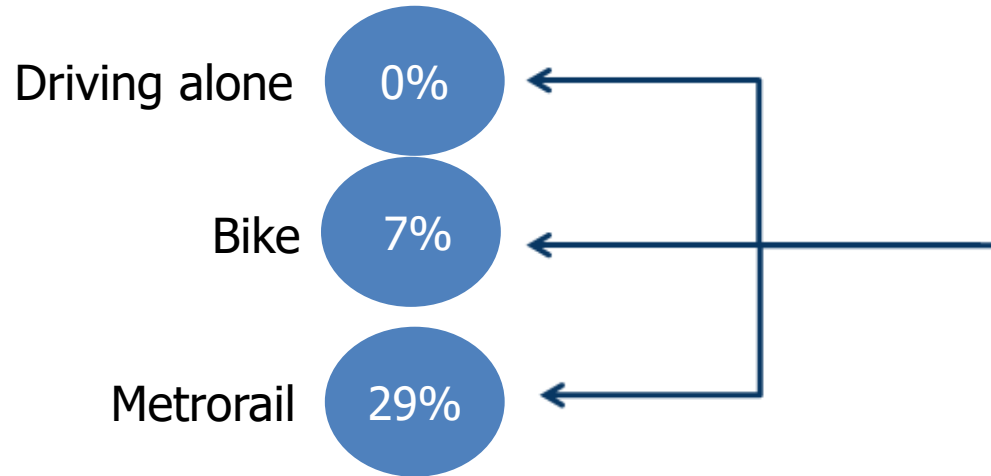
Households **with** a passenger vehicle



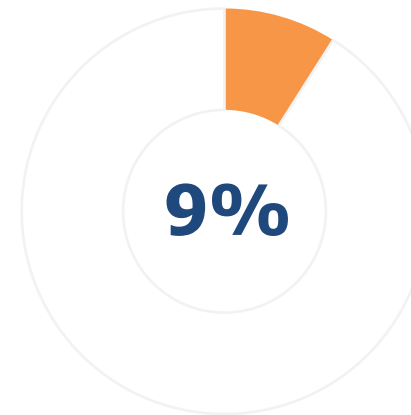
Commuting Modes

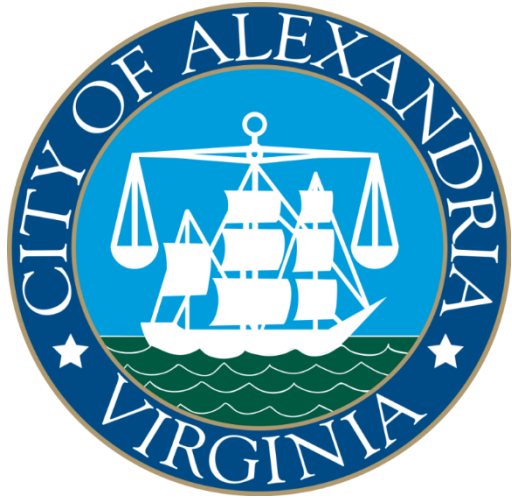


Commuting Modes



Households **without** a passenger vehicle

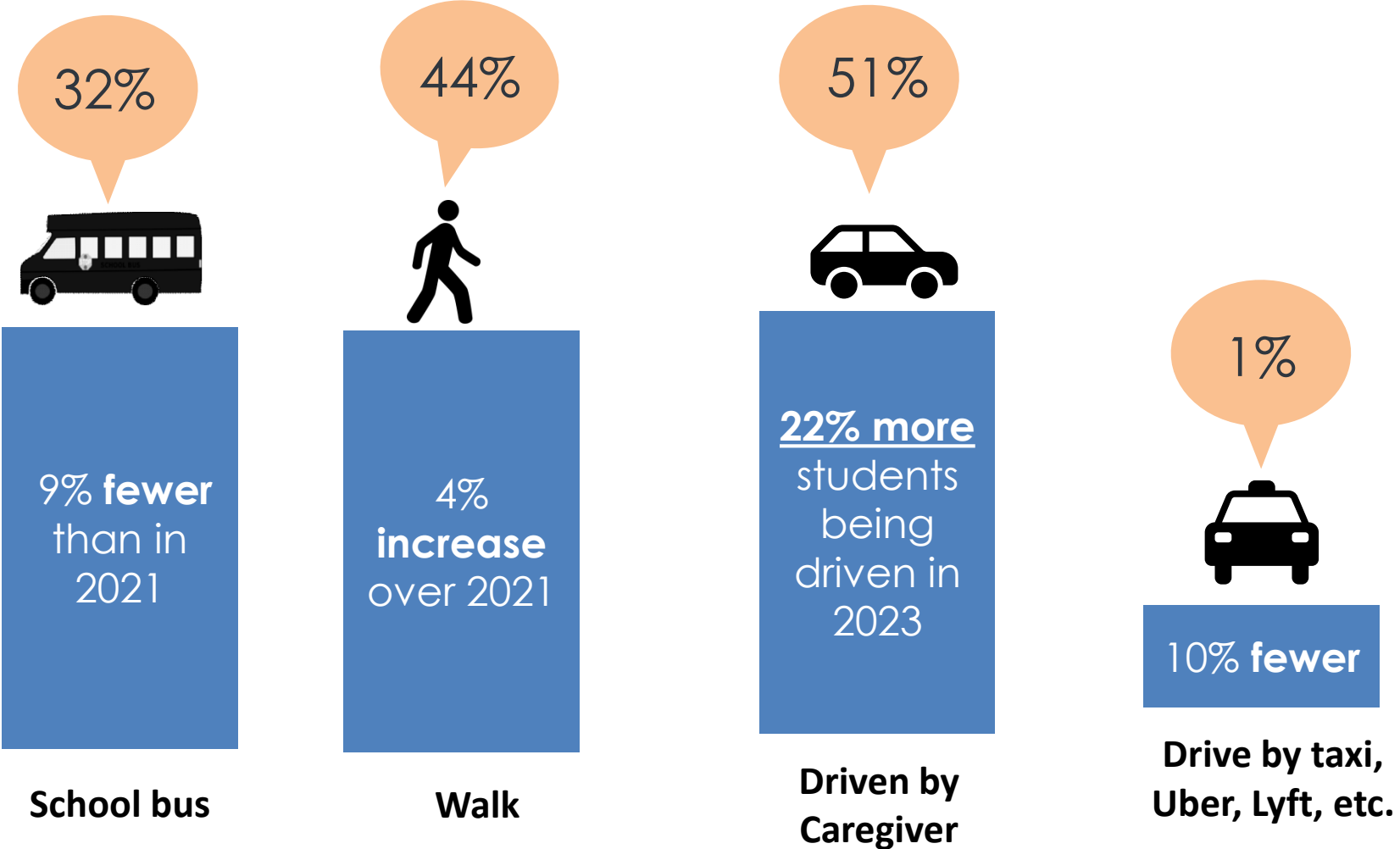




Transportation of School-Aged Children



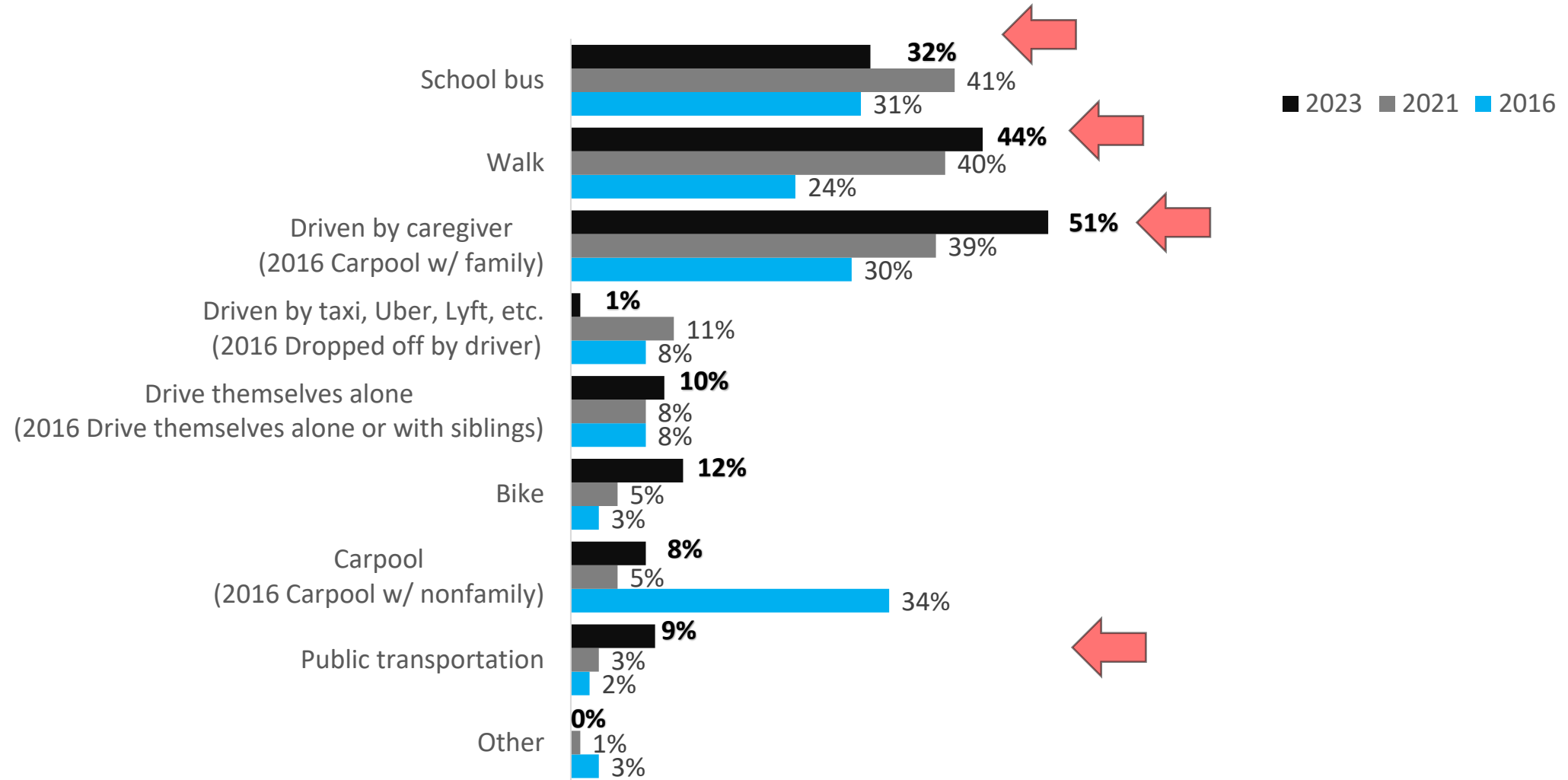
Transportation to School



More children are both **walking** and **being driven** to school in 2023



Typical Modes of Transportation for Children Traveling to/from School



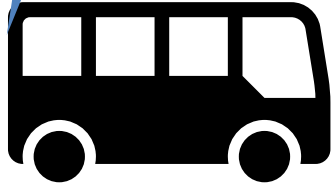
Why Drive to School?

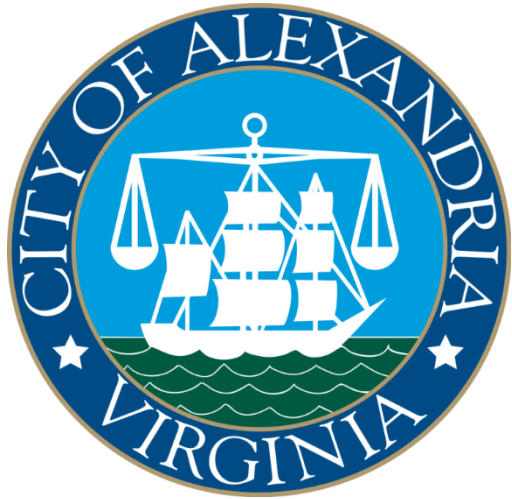
Distance to school
46%
(- 21% from 2021)

Takes too long
30%

Not safe
37%
(+8% from 2021)

No sidewalk or bike-lanes
21%





Questions?



Draft Long-Range Plan (LRP) Commissioner Scores

Agenda Item 5



Long Range Transportation Plan (LRP)

LRP- *Unconstrained* list of transportation projects, programs and studies

1. Project List – capital projects which are not funded (prioritized by the Transportation Commission)
2. Studies List
3. Developer Contingent Project List



2024 Schedule

April

Review LRP Process and Projects List

- Introduction at Retreat and Review Scoring Criteria
- Project List Review at Commission Meeting

May

Discuss draft LRP/Scores

- Receive Commissioner Scores
- Staff Compiles Commissioner and Staff Scores
- Present Draft Ranked List at Public Hearing (May 15)
- Move to bring to June hearing for Adoption

June

Consider for Adoption

- Present final LRP at Public Hearing



Draft Project Scores

	Proj. ID	2018 Rank	2020 Rank	2022 Rank	2024 Rank	Name	Dan Beattie	Leslie Catherwood	Casey Kane	Tim Lovain	Jody Manor	Jim Maslanka	Melissa McMahon	Matthew McManus	Draft Average Score	Staff Priority
	P-1	3	3	4	1	Upper King Street Multimodal Redesign (Quaker Lane to N. Hampton)	75		60	72	62	58	60		64.5	1
	P-20	NA	NA	6	2	I-395 Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge	75		59	72	58	62	60		64.3	2
	P-14	5	6	3	3	Trail projects in the Pedestrian and Bicycle Chapter of the Alexandria Mobility Plan	75		63	70	59	62	55		64.0	2
	P-10	9	14	17	4	Norfolk Southern Rail spur in OTN converted into multi-use path	75		57	68	65	63	56		64.0	1
	P-22	NA	NA	7	5	Safe Routes to Schools Walk Audit Implementation	74		62	72	54	58	63		63.8	1
	P-12	17	12	9	6	Multimodal Bridge over Norfolk Southern Tracks to Connect Eisenhower Avenue and S. Pickett Street	71		61	68	61	58	60		63.2	3
	P-13	2	2	1	7	Priority Sidewalk AND BICYCLE projects in the Pedestrian and Bicycle Chapter of the Alexandria Mobility Plan	71		65	71	47	63	60		62.8	1
	P-5	12	4	2	8	Sanger Avenue Bridge	71		64	70	49	61	60		62.5	3
	P-23	NA	NA	14	9	Vision Zero High Crash Intersection Improvements	67		61	72	54	58	63		62.5	1
	P-24 (New)	NA	NA	NA	10	West End Transitway Phase 2	61		60	72	56	60	64		62.2	2
	P-2	10	13	11	11	Commonwealth Avenue nonmotorized bridge	71		59	69	61	53	59		62.0	3
	P-3	11	7	8	12	Madison Street Bike facility	77		60	66	63	49	54		61.5	2
	P-11	15	9	15	13	Connection between Potomac Yard Park to Mount Vernon Trail	73		60	67	58	51	59		61.3	3
	P-21	NA	NA	12	14	Telegraph Road Bicycle & Pedestrian Connection	70		60	67	56	55	58		61.0	3
	P-19	NA	NA	9	15	Union Street Pedestrian and Safety Enhancements	63		58	68	59	58	56		60.3	2
	P-4	14	10	13	16	Non-motorized bridge over Cameron Run	69		58	68	60	50	54		59.8	2
	P-17	NA	5	5	17	Permanent Pedestrian Crossing Improvements on Eisenhower Avenue at Metrorail Station	71		60	72	43	57	55		59.7	1
	P-24 (New)	NA	NA	NA	18	Duke and Van Dorn - East	72		58	65	47	61	55		59.7	1
	P-24 (New)	NA	NA	NA	19	Eisenhower Pipeline Study Recommendations	76		54	67	43	59	56		59.2	1
	P-16	NA	11	16	20	Interim Bike Facility on Eisenhower Ave	55		60	69	58	51	56		58.2	2
	P-6	18	17	20	21	S. Van Dorn Intersection Improvements	59		60	67	49	58	52		57.5	3
	P-25 (New)	NA	NA	NA	22	Mill Road	56		61	66	45	57	58		57.2	2
	P-18	20	19	18	23	I-395 access to West End Town Center	59		48	68	50	62	55		57.0	1
	P-25 (New)	NA	NA	NA	24	Shirlington Circle	62		51	66	43	56	53		55.2	2
	P-8	19	16	21	25	Edsall Road Connector to Farrington Avenue and South Pickett Street (Farrington connector)	61		55	67	39	51	52		54.2	3
	P-14	8	18	19	26	Commonwealth Ave. Green Street	53		53	66	23	50	56		50.2	3

Tier 1 High priority for Staff
 Tier 2 Medium priority for Staff
 Tier 3 Low priority for Staff

Discussion

- Did you have any questions about a project that made you unsure how to score it?
- Do you have any questions about any of the staff tiering?
- Does your individual ranking of any project vary significantly from the group?
 - Do you want to ask questions of why others scored a certain project a certain way?
 - Do you want to change any of your scores?
- Does the prioritization align with larger City goals (equity, sustainability, pandemic recovery, maintaining infrastructure)?

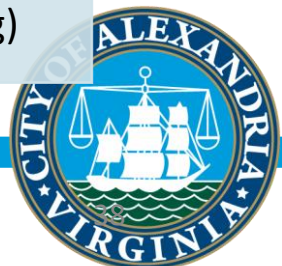
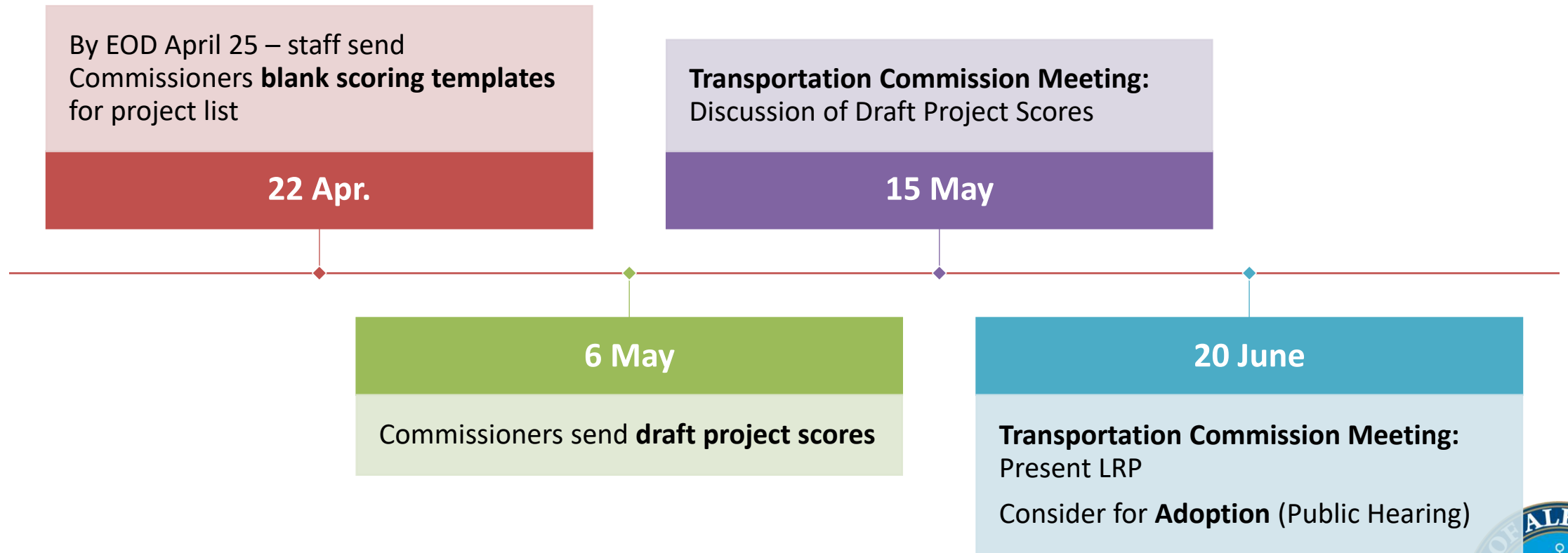


2022 Scoring Criteria

- Sustainability
 - What is the impact on environmental sustainability in the affected area?
 - Does the project support environmental sustainability and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in Alexandria and the region?
- Connectivity
 - What is the effect on neighborhood connectivity and the City as a whole?
 - What is the effect on regional mobility?
- Land Use, Neighborhood Livability, & Economic Development
 - How well does the project focus investment near existing or proposed population and employment centers?
 - How well does this project address neighborhood livability for current and future residents and workers?
 - How well does project focus investment near opportunities for economic development?
- Mode Choice
 - Does the project improve or add multimodality?
 - Does the project encourage non-SOV travel?
- Infrastructure
 - Does the project improve aging infrastructure?
 - Does the project make Alexandria's transportation infrastructure more resilient to climate change?
- Operations and Technology
 - Does the project improve system efficiency through an appropriate use of technology?
- Safety
 - What effect will the project have on crash risks and safety?
 - What effect will the project have on perceived personal safety?
- Equity
 - What is the impact of the proposed project on equity?
 - What is the impact of the proposed project on geographic equity?



Next Steps



LRP Discussion:

- **Scoring Criteria**
- **Projects**



Recommendation

- That the Transportation Commission approve the proposed updated scoring criteria and updated Project, Developer Project, and Studies lists for the LRP.



Commissioner Updates

Agenda Item #8



Commission Members

- **Dan Beattie** – Environmental Policy Commission
- **Leslie Catherwood** – Resident East
- **Casey Kane** – Traffic and Parking Board, Eisenhower West/Landmark/Van Dorn Advisory Group
- **Tim Lovain** – Resident East with Transportation Expertise
- **Jody Manor** - Planning Commission
- **Jim Maslanka** – Resident West
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- **Matthew McManus** – Resident West, DASH Advisory Committee
- **John Chapman** – Council (non-voting)
- **Kirk McPike** – Council (non-voting)



Items for Consent

Agenda Item #9



Other Business

Agenda Item #10



Adjourn Transportation Commission Meeting

Next meeting: April 17, 2024

