



City of Alexandria, Virginia
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Alyia Gaskins
Mayor

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The Honorable Sean Duffy
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Duffy:

I am writing to express the City of Alexandria's support for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) PROTECT Grant application, which addresses critical infrastructure needs for essential transportation corridors in the National Capital Region (NCR). This project will assess flood vulnerability, estimate potential physical damages and service disruptions, evaluate economic impacts, and develop technical solutions to reduce flood risks across WMATA's transit system. The King Street-Old Town Station in Alexandria is one of the seven stations included in this endeavor.

In the City of Alexandria, we work closely with WMATA to ensure the continuity of our region's transportation network. Unfortunately, our region has experienced a significant increase in extreme rainfall events, with mounting risks to the reliability of critical transportation infrastructure.

The proposed *Projected Flood Vulnerability Plan* is crucial given recent infrastructure disruptions from severe weather events. The potential economic impacts from service interruptions can cascade throughout the region's economy, affecting business operations, federal government functions, and regional commerce. This project represents a strategic investment in protecting key transportation assets that serve multiple regional hubs, including Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, Amtrak stations, and Virginia Railway Express terminals.

This project will help ensure reliable transit operations for millions of daily commuters and visitors while supporting continued economic growth. The assessment prioritizes critical transfer stations and high-traffic corridors that serve as essential links in the regional transportation network. Protecting these vital connections will strengthen our region's economic competitiveness and operational resilience.

Alexandria encourages you to support WMATA's PROTECT Grant application. This investment in infrastructure resilience planning will safeguard critical transportation assets and strengthen our region's economic vitality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alyia Gaskins".

Alyia Gaskins
Mayor
City of Alexandria