

**City of Alexandria, Virginia
FY 2027 Proposed Operating Budget & CIP
Budget Questions & Answers**

March 31, 2026

Question:

What DASH route expansions or modifications were not included in the FY 2027 budget, and what are their costs and equity scores? What would it cost to increase DASH Line 32 frequency as follows:

- 30 mins 7 days a week (current hours)
- 30 mins 5 days a week (current hours)
- 15 mins during peak hours on weekdays
- 15 mins during peak hours on weekdays only between Landmark and Van Dorn Metro

Additionally, what would it cost to convert DASH Bus Line 32 to 24 hours? Additionally, what would it cost to extend DASH Line 34 down Mount Vernon Avenue and to convert DASH Bus Line 32 to 24 hours?

Response:

The service improvements identified in the Alexandria Transit Vision Plan (ATV) and the Alexandria Transit Strategic Plan (ATSP) that remain unfunded and are not included in the FY 2027 budget are identified below. Estimated annual operating costs, ridership impacts, and equity metrics for these potential improvements are summarized.

DASH Line 32 Frequency Scenarios:

Staff analyzed the following frequency scenarios for DASH Line 32. Estimated annual operating costs, projected additional ridership, and equity metrics are shown below.

Requested Scenarios						
Route	Service Improvement	Annual Cost	Additional Ridership	Low Income %	Minority %	Equity Score*
32	30-minute frequency, 7 days a week	\$ 619,920	56,000	9%	54%	17.57
32	30-minute frequency, weekdays only	\$ 280,000	40,000	9%	54%	16.40
32	15-minute frequency, weekday peak only, full route	\$ 900,060	57,000	9%	54%	14.64
32	15-minute frequency, weekday peak only, main segment only	\$ 490,000	22,000	12%	63%	14.77
Remaining Unfunded Alexandria Transport Strategic Plan (ATSP) Improvements						
Route	Service Improvement	Annual Cost	Additional Ridership	Low Income %	Minority %	Equity Score*
31	Extend all trips from King Street to Braddock Metro, off peak, 7 days a week	\$ 1,200,000	92,000	7%	39%	13.24
30	Implement off-peak service levels to every 15 minutes	\$ 2,600,000	207,000	11%	54%	19.78
34	Extend route from Potomac Yard Center to Arlandria	\$ 604,000	69,000	19%	85%	33.00
103	Improve weekday peak headways from every 30 to every 20 minutes	\$ 500,000	41,000	9%	46%	16.44
104	Improve weekday peak headways from every 30 to every 20 minutes	\$ 500,000	41,000	5%	27%	9.34

*Equity score is a combined factor of low income %, minority %, and alignment with stakeholder adopted ATV principles

Cost of DASH Line 34 Extension Down Mount Vernon Avenue:

The cost to extend line 34 down Mount Vernon Avenue to provide service to Arlandria is \$604,000 annually. This would extend the route on a full-time basis (7 days a week), maintaining the same service levels. This is included in the table above as the service improvement “Route 34 Extend route from Potomac Yard Center to Arlandria”.

Cost to Convert Line 32 to 24-hour service:

The annual cost to operate line 32 on a 24-hour basis is \$715,000. This amount reflects the cost of extending service to 24-hour coverage at the existing service levels 7 days a week.