



*Transportation Commission Meeting*

**April 19, 2023**

**6:00PM**

**Tour of DASH Facilities  
3000 Business Center Drive**

**7:00 PM**

**Commission Meeting  
DASH Facilities and Electronic**

**AGENDA**

1. Public Comment (Not to exceed 10 min)
2. Minutes of the March 15, 2023 meeting
3. Action Item: General DASH Updates and Consideration of Endorsement of the FY24 Transit Development Plan
4. Action Item: Endorsement of the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program Application and Electric Vehicle Program Updates
5. Action Item: Consideration of a Letter of Feedback to City Council on FY 2024 Operating Budget and FY 2024-2033 Capital Improvement Program (CIP)
6. Commissioner Updates
7. Items for Consent
  - A. RPCA Trail Wayfinding Grant Application
  - B. Duke Street in Motion Public Engagement
  - C. TMP Recommendation
  - D. Reconnecting Communities Program Grant Update
8. Other Business

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***Public hearing items are so noted on the agenda. The Commission may receive public comments on other agenda items at its discretion.***

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*Next Meeting: May 17, 2023*



The April 19, 2023, meeting of the Transportation Commission is being held at 7:00PM the DASH facilities and electronically. Members of 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 via Zoom by registering at the following link:

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_mJ8dexF0Twy8vtx9LOYL2Q](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mJ8dexF0Twy8vtx9LOYL2Q)

Or by phone: 301 715 8592  
Meeting ID: 941 4251 8562  
Passcode: 068073

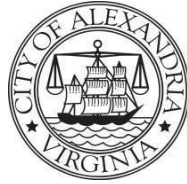
Prior to the regular Commission meeting, there will be a tour of the DASH facilities starting at 6:00PM.

If you plan to attend the tour, please register here:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/35a21265cff94205b1ef44fa8ed709b4>

Public comment will be received at the meeting. There will be a public comment period at the beginning of the meeting and written testimony can be provided until 3PM on 04/19/23 to Megan.Oleynik@alexandriava.gov

The City of Alexandria complies with the terms of ADA. An individual with a disability who wishes to request an accommodation may contact the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services at 703-746-4086 or TTY/TTD 703-838-5056.



**City of Alexandria**  
Transportation Commission

**Regular Meeting**

March 15, 2023  
7:00 p.m.  
Council Work Room

**MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present:** Chair Oscar Gonzalez, Commissioner Melissa McMahon, Commissioner Casey Kane (virtual), Commissioner James Maslanka, Commissioner Matthew McManus, Commissioner Jody Manor, Vice Chair Bruce Marsh, Commissioner Oleksandr Faryga, Commissioner Murat Omay,

**Staff Present:** Hillary Orr – Transportation Environmental Services Deputy Director, Megan Oleynik – Transportation Planning Division, Sharese Thomas – Transportation Planning Division.

Audio/Visual presentation is available online:

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/TransportationCommission>

Chair Gonzalez called the Transportation Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**1. Public Comment Period**

No public comment.

**2. February Minutes**

**Motion to approve the minutes:** Commissioner Marsh

**Second:** Commissioner Manor

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**3. ACTION ITEM: Consideration of a Grant for the FY 2023 Low or No Emission Grant Program (Low-No) and the Bus and Bus Facilities Program**

**ISSUE:** Consideration of endorsement of a grant applications to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for the FY 2023 Low or No Emission Grant Program (Low-No) and the Bus and Bus Facilities Program to advance electrification of the DASH bus fleet and associated infrastructure

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Transportation Commission provide an endorsement to City Council for applications to the FY 2023 Low or No Emission Grant Program (Low-No) and the Bus and Bus Facilities Program.

**DISCUSSION:** Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, presented an overview of these grant applications. Background information, summary of projects and funding cost for each grant were discussed. The feedback received on updating bus facilities were also presented to the Commission.

**Motion for the Transportation Commission provide a letter of endorsement to City Council and a letter of support to the FTA for applications to the Low-No and Bus and Bus Facilities Programs:**

Commissioner Jim Maslanka

**Second:** Commissioner McMahon

**Commissioner Omay abstained due to conflict of interest**  
**Motion carries unanimously**

**4. DISCUSSION ITEM: Proposed City FY 2024 Operating Budget and FY 2024-2033 Capital Improvement Program (CIP)**

**ISSUE:** Consideration of the City Manager’s proposed FY 2024 - FY 2033 transportation budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Transportation Commission review and provide feedback on the proposed transportation related budget items.

**DISCUSSION:** Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, shared the proposed operating and capital budgets for FY24 that the City Manager presented to City Council on February 28, that included budget priorities and transportation operating highlights. Adoption of the FY24 budget is May 3. The Commission will prepare a budget feedback letter for City Council’s April meeting before the add/delete work session.

**5. DISCUSSION ITEM: Duke Street Update**

**ISSUE:** Staff update to Transportation Commission on Duke Street in Motion

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Commission receive the update and provide any feedback.

**DISCUSSION:** Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, recapped the status and presented the project updates for the Duke Street in Motion project and outlined the next steps for the Transportation Commission. Commissioners asked clarifying questions and received the update.

**6. Commissioner updates**

**Commissioner Faryga** – The Environmental Policy Commission is writing a letter of support for the DASH grant applications.

**Commissioner Gonzalez** – The High School Project is ongoing with no issues.

**Commissioner Kane** – The Traffic and Parking Board meet on February 27, and approved ten intersections for no turn on red located at the Patrick & Henry Corridor to include no turn on red signs.

**Commissioner Marsh** - The Potomac Yard Implementation Group received a video update in February. Construction is nearing completion and the finishing touches are being done.

**Commissioner Maslanka** – Listened to a webinar presented by the Eno Foundation that listed the President’s budget regarding Transportation.

**Commissioner McMahon** – The Planning Commission met on February 1 and discussed the sustainability strategy for the Potomac River Generating Site.

**Commissioner McManus** –Would like the City to consider a public private partnership for charging stations in public lots like the Florida Power Line Model.

**Commissioner Omay**- Friday, March 17 is Transit driver Appreciation Day.

**7. Other Business Consent**

April 19 meeting at DASH Facility

**8. Adjournment**

At 8:33 pm, the Transportation Commission adjourned.

DRAFT

# City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 19, 2023

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: HILLARY ORR, DEPUTY DIRECTION, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #3 – GENERAL DASH UPDATES AND CONSIDERATION OF ENDORSEMENT OF THE FY 2024 TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN (TDP)

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**ISSUE:** Commission will receive a general update from DASH staff on the DASH Free Fares Program, the Alexandria Transit Vision Plan, and several potential service changes in the FY 2024 – FY 2029 DASH Transit Development Plan (TDP). The Commission may consider providing a letter of support for the FY 2024 – FY 2029 DASH Transit Development Plan (TDP), which includes additional unfunded improvements from the 2022 Alexandria Transit Vision (ATV) Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Transportation Commission receive updates and provide a letter of endorsement for the DASH Board of Directors in support of the approval of the FY 2024 – FY 2029 Transit Development Plan.

### **BACKGROUND:**

#### *Fare-free Program and Ridership Updates*

In September 2021, DASH launched the fare-free New DASH Network as the first phase of the 2022 Alexandria Transit Vision Plan. The New DASH Network included new route numbers, new route alignments, and a “frequent network” with buses running every 15 minutes or better, all-day, seven days per week on multiple routes across the city.

#### *FY 2024 Transit Development Plan*

The DASH Transit Development Plan (TDP) is an annual process by which DASH identifies proposed service or fare changes for the subsequent fiscal year based on the anticipated city subsidy. A public hearing on the FY 2024 Transit Development Plan was held at the Alexandria Transit Company Board of Directors April meeting on April 5.

### **DISCUSSION:**

#### *Fare-Free Program and Ridership Updates*

The first 18 months of the New DASH Network and free fares have been extremely successful from a ridership perspective. Average daily ridership has more than doubled with the biggest gains coming during off-peaks and weekends, and DASH is now the only major transit agency in

the Washington, DC region that is exceeding pre-pandemic ridership levels. In February, DASH recorded nearly 340,000 boardings which is the highest February ridership total in DASH's 39-year history. Passenger survey data indicates that increased service frequency is the largest factor contributing to these trends with free fares also playing a major role.

*FY25 Transit Development Plan*

The FY 2024 DASH service proposals seek to build upon the early success of the New DASH Network by implementing additional service improvements that were included in the 2022 Alexandria Transit Vision Plan but not implemented in FY 2022 or FY 2023 due to budget constraints. The potential FY 2024 service changes are unfunded ATV improvements, including 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.

More information on the FY 2024 DASH Transit Development Plan (TDP) can be found at [www.dashbus.com/tdp](http://www.dashbus.com/tdp).

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: Draft Endorsement Letter to City Council for the FY 2024 Alexandria Transit Company (DASH) FY24 Transit Development Plan (TDP).



Alexandria Transportation Commission  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22414

Phone: 703.746.4025

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 unfunded 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

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

DRAFT

# City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 19, 2023

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: AMY POSNER, ELECTRIC VEHICLE PLANNER

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #4 – ENDORSEMENT OF THE CHARGING AND FUELING INFRASTRUCTURE DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION AND ELECTRIC VEHICLE PROGRAM UPDATES

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**ISSUE:** Request for endorsement of the City’s application to the U.S. Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA) Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant (CFI) Program and an update on the City’s electric vehicle (EV) program.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Transportation Commission sign a letter of support for the City’s application to the FHWA’s CFI Program to install publicly accessible charging infrastructure at multiple sites on City property.

**BACKGROUND:** In May 2021, the City finalized the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Readiness Strategy (EVRs), which acts as a roadmap for how the City can promote electric vehicle adoption in the community, as well as meet the electric vehicle charging infrastructure and technical needs of City residents, workforce members, and visitors, so everyone in our community can benefit from Alexandria’s electric vehicle ecosystem.

In order to fill gaps in publicly accessible charging, the City plans to apply for the U.S. Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA) Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant (CFI) Program. The CFI Program is a new competitive grant program created by President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to strategically deploy electric vehicle charging and alternative fueling infrastructure. The Bipartisan Infrastructure law provides \$2.5 billion over five years with up to \$700 million this year. For community charging, priority will go to projects that expand access to EV vehicle charging infrastructure within low- and moderate-income neighborhoods and communities with low ratio of private parking to households or high ratio of multiunit dwellings to single family homes.

**DISCUSSION:** Since joining the City, the Electric Vehicle Planner has been working with departments across the City to prioritize and evaluate how to implement the remaining EVRS recommendations and has initiated efforts related to developing a right of way charging pilot, partnering with DASH and the City fleet to advance fleet electrification efforts, scoping a

transportation electrification workforce development program, establishing an inter-departmental EVRS Implementation Group, and addressing public charging needs.

The proposed Community project will support the implementation of 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.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: Draft Endorsement Letter to City Council for the application to the U.S. Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant (CFI) Program



**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  
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

# City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 15, 2023

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: HILLARY ORR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #5: CONSIDERATION OF LETTER OF FEEDBACK FOR CITY FY 2024 OPERATING BUDGET AND FY 2024-2033 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP)

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**ISSUE:** Consideration of the transportation elements of the City Manager’s proposed FY 2024 Operating Budget and FY 2024-2033 Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Transportation Commission review and provide feedback on the proposed transportation related budget items.

**BACKGROUND:** Each year, the City Manager presents a proposed City Budget to the City Council for consideration and action. As part of the budget process, a ten-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is developed, programming funding for major capital projects in the City. Funding for the CIP comes from the City’s general fund, grants and other non-City sources of funding including developer contributions.

On February 28, City Manager James Parajon presented City Council with a proposed operating and capital budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024. The FY 2024 budget adoption is scheduled for Wednesday, May 3. The proposed budget includes a General Fund Base Operating Budget of \$881.1 million (beginning July 1), as well as a \$2.39 billion 10-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY 2024 – 2033.

On March 15, 2023, City staff presented on the FY24 Budget to Transportation Commission and the Commission provided feedback to be incorporated into a letter to City Council.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Transportation Commission’s generally found the proposed Manager’s budget to be a “status quo” budget when it comes to transportation. Below are 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.

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. A draft letter summarizing these concerns is provided in Attachment 1.

Next Steps:

- April 25 - City Council tax rate public hearing
- May 1 - City Council final add/delete
- May 3 - Budget adoption

Additional details are provided on the [budget website](#).

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: Draft Letter of endorsement to City Council for the Alexandria Transit Company (DASH) FY24 Transit Development Plan (TDP) with Alexandria Transit Vision Implementation



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

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

*City of Alexandria, Virginia*

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**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: APRIL 19, 2023

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: HILLARY ORR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #7 – ITEMS FOR CONSENT

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**ISSUE:** Staff update to Transportation Commission on various projects.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Commission receive the items for consent.

**A. RPCA Applying for Trail Wayfinding Grant**

City of Alexandria staff are preparing a Virginia Recreational Trails Program grant application to improve wayfinding on City trails and at locations where trails and streets connect. The goal is to use grant funding to design and install signs that clearly indicate where trails go and how they connect to the City’s street network. The application covers decorative panel signs, map/kiosk signs, and MUTCD compliant signs for street/trail connections on a portion of the City’s shared-use paths network, including: Four Mile Run Trail, Potomac Yard Trail, Holmes Run Trail, and Backlick Run Trail.

Staff from Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities (RPCA) are taking the lead on the grant application with support from Transportation & Environmental Services staff.

[The grant opportunity](#), administered by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, is a federal 80-20 matching reimbursement program for building and rehabilitating trails and trail-related facilities. The grant deadline is May 9.

**B. Duke Street in Motion Public Engagement**

On March 16, the project team presented updated designs to the Advisory Group for the two corridor concepts currently under consideration. The Project Team will be presenting more information about these concepts during the third and final round of public engagement April 13-April 30 before the Advisory Group makes a recommendation to Council on a preferred corridor concept.

An open house with opportunity for written and oral comments will be held on **April 20th from 5-9PM at Bishop Ireton**. A recorded webinar will also be available along with other materials on the website.

See [Advisory Group #9](#) materials for more information on the March update.

**C. TMP Recommendation**

On March 30<sup>th</sup>, the Planning Commission recommended that the City Council approve the proposed Transportation Management Plan (TMP) zoning and policy updates. City Council will consider this proposal at their April 15 public hearing. The proposal, which was last seen by the Commission in October 2022, was deferred by the Planning Commission in December. The Planning Commission requested additional outreach and refinements of some of the proposed elements related to the funding split and existing shuttles. The City's [TMP webpage](#) includes a presentation with a summary of the updated proposal and responses to the feedback as well a recording of the Planning Commission hearing on the item. The final proposal recommended that the Transportation Commission receive an annual report on the program and approve the proposed work plan for the upcoming fiscal year. Staff plans to bring this plan to the Commission each fall, once the funding amounts for the upcoming year are clear.

**D. Reconnecting Communities Program Grant Update**

In October 2022, the City applied for \$300,000 through the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program from the Federal Highway Association (FHWA) to conduct a feasibility study for a bicycle and pedestrian bridge from the former Landmark Mall site, across I-395, to the neighborhoods to the west. Unfortunately, in March 2023, the City was notified that funding was not awarded for the City's application. The City anticipates a debrief on this decision and will continue to look for other funding opportunities to pursue the potential bicycle and pedestrian connection across I-395.