



Transportation Commission Meeting

March 20, 2024

7:00PM

**City Council Workroom – City Hall
301 King Street**

AGENDA

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|--|-------------|
| 1. Public Comment (Not to exceed 10 min) | 7:00 – 7:05 |
| 2. Minutes of the February 21, 2024 meeting | 7:05 – 7:10 |
| 3. Discussion Item: AlexWest Transportation Recommendations | 7:10 – 7:40 |
| 4. Action Item: FY25 Alexandria Transit Strategic Plan | 7:40 – 8:10 |
| 5. Discussion Item: Proposed City FY 2025 Operating Budget and FY 2025-2034 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) | 8:10 – 8:25 |
| 6. Commissioner Updates | 8:25 – 8:35 |
| 7. Items for Consent | 8:35 – 8:50 |
| A. Repaving Update | |
| B. King-Bradlee Safety and Mobility | |
| C. Zero Fatalities | |
| D. Duke Street and Route 1 Intersections Public Comment Period | |
| E. Northern Virginia Transportation Authority - 70% Public Comment Period | |
| F. Holland Lane Corridor Project | |
| 8. Other Business | 8:50 – 9:00 |
| A. June Transportation Commission Meeting | |
| B. Retreat – May 11 | |
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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.

Next Meeting: April 17, 2024

The March 20, 2024 meeting of the Transportation Commission is being held at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Workroom on the second floor of City Hall (301 King Street) 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 in person or via Zoom by registering at the following link:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hLQfjHtST_ihXZP6eTF8XA

Or by phone: 301 715 8592
Meeting ID: 916 4868 8918
Passcode: 068073

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 3/20/2024 to christopher.ziemann@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 703-746-4083 or TTY/TTD 703-838-5056.



City of Alexandria
Transportation Commission

Virtual Meeting

February 21, 2024
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Chair Melissa McMahon, Vice Chair Matthew McManus, Commissioner James Maslanka, Commissioner Casey Kane, Commissioner Leslie Catherwood, Commissioner Tim Lovain, Commissioner Jody Manor, Councilman Kirk McPike

Staff Present: Christopher Ziemann – Transportation Planning Division Chief, Silas Sullivan – Transportation Planning Division, Amy Posner – Office of Climate Action

Audio/Visual presentation is available online:

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

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

1. Public Comment Period

Motion to close public hearing: Commissioner Manor

Second: Commissioner Catherwood

Motion carries unanimously.

2. January Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes: Commissioner Kane

Second: Commissioner Lovain

Motion carries unanimously.

3. DISCUSSION ITEM: Electric Vehicle Planning

ISSUE: Staff from the Office of Climate Action to provide update and information to Transportation Commission on electric vehicles.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive this presentation.

DISCUSSION: Amy Posner, Electric Vehicle Planner, presented information on Electric Vehicle Program.

4. ACTION ITEM: Consideration of Submitting Letter to WMATA on the FY25 Budget

ISSUE: Consideration of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) FY25 Operating and Capital budgets.

RECOMMENATION: That the Transportation Commission submit a letter to provide feedback on the FY25 budget.

DISCUSSION: Silas Sullivan, Urban Planner II presented information on the WMATA FY25 budget.

FY 2025 Proposed Operating Budget includes revenue of \$487 million, expenses of \$2,352 million, total subsidy of \$1,769 million, and \$95 million of federal relief funding.

The FY25 operating budget gap of \$750 million is proposed to be closed by a combination of revenue increases, expense reduction techniques (such as one-time cost saving measures, wage and hiring freezes, etc.), a temporary lifting of the 3% cap on operating subsidy growth, and increased funding assistance by Compact partners.

The District of Columbia (\$200 million) and the State of Maryland (\$150 million) have publicly communicated providing additional subsidy dollars to help cover the operating budget gap. The Commonwealth has budget amendments moving through the General Assembly which would provide an additional \$130 million in assistance, which would require a 50% match by jurisdictional partners.

The proposed operating budget avoids large service and frequency cuts to Metrobus and Metrorail, increases fares by 12.5% on Metrobus, Metrorail, and MetroAccess, and increases fares by up to 25% on late nights and weekends (\$2.50 cap).

Commissioner Catherwood recommended the letter include, in the second paragraph (second sentence), that maintaining current, frequent service levels is “a /the top priority” or “key feature” for the Transportation Commission.

Motion to recommend the Transportation Commission submit a letter to WMATA during the public comment period on the FY25 Budget with the suggested changes from Commissioner

Catherwood: Commissioner Kane

Second: Commissioner McManus

Motion carries unanimously.

5. Commissioner updates

Commissioner Kane – Traffic and Parking Board approved No Turn on Red restrictions on Duke Street and the intersections of N. Ripley, S. Reynolds, N. Paxton, Pickett, and the entryway of Foxchase.

Commissioner Maslanka – Wants to pose questions about the Transportation Analysis of the Arena proposal during the upcoming meeting.

Councilman McPike – Manager’s Budget will be revealed to the public next week.

6. Items of Consent

- Sanger Avenue Improvements
- Glendale Contraflow Bicycle Lane

7. Other Business

8. Adjournment

At 8:25 pm, the Transportation Commission adjourned.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 20, 2024

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: MICHAEL D’ORAZIO, URBAN PLANNER, DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #3 – ALEXANDRIA WEST SMALL AREA PLAN UPDATE

ISSUE: Draft Plan recommendations and maps for the future Alexandria West Plan were recently released and the draft Plan is scheduled to be released in early Summer 2024 for community review.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive this presentation and provide feedback on the draft Plan recommendations.

BACKGROUND: In Fiscal Year 2023, City Council prioritized the Alexandria West planning process to update the long-term vision for the 1992 Alexandria West Small Area Plan and to integrate the 2012 Beauregard Small Area Plan (BSAP). The Alexandria West Plan area accounts for approximately 13% of the City’s land area and 17% of the City’s population. Notably, 38% of the City’s market-affordable units are located within the Plan area. This planning update allows the City to address issues facing the community, such as housing vulnerability and affordability, transportation network gaps, and the need for adequate open space.

The Alexandria West planning process was officially launched in November 2022. Since then, City staff have engaged over 1,500 community members and over 30 community organizations. After a robust community listening phase, which included pop-up events, formal community meetings, and polls, staff developed and proposed draft concepts for community review at a series of forums in Fall 2023.

Staff recently released draft Plan recommendations at the March 4, 2024 community meeting, after over a year of engagement with the community. The recommendations are currently open for community feedback until March 31.

DISCUSSION: Staff will present an overview and timeline of the Alexandria West planning effort, with a focus on recently released transportation-related recommendations and a focus on consistency with the Alexandria Mobility Plan (AMP).

The draft recommendations cover five different topics: Land Uses, Housing, Mobility, Public Parks and Open Space, and Sustainability, Infrastructure, and Community Facilities. The draft recommendations can be found on the Alexandra West project page [here](#). They can be viewed in the [interactive story map](#) or via [PDFs](#) on the main project page. The recommendations also include related figures and maps. All recommendations and figures and maps are also attached with this memo.

The Mobility recommendations encourage a robust transportation network that provides safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, and drivers. The street network map includes a number of new connections, in addition to those previously proposed in the Beauregard Small Area Plan. Of note are the planned streets that are solely located within the Focus Area, an area where staff anticipates a concentration of redevelopment and growth.

The recommendations also include more guidance on an enhanced transit facility at Southern Towers and safety improvements at the intersection of Seminary Road and North Beauregard Street. Additionally, a map of mobility enhancements study areas highlights intersections and corridors in the Plan area that may warrant further evaluation for multimodal safety, access, and connectivity.

Highlights of the Mobility recommendations include the following:

22. Development will provide the streets, blocks, and connections as generally depicted on Figure 4 (“Street Network Map”) as part of development. All new streets in the Plan area will be constructed and dedicated as public streets unless otherwise approved as part of the development review process.

25. Development will provide a network of bike facilities as generally depicted on Figure 6 (“Bicycle Network Map”). Development that occurs in Area 2 and Area 3, as depicted on Figure 1 (“Land Use Strategy Map”), will provide new bicycle connections that link to the network depicted on Figure 6.

28. When possible, the City will work with property owners to add additional bicycle connections not shown on Figure 6 to other parks and routes.

30. The intersection of Seminary Road and Beauregard Street will be improved to better accommodate and ensure the safety of all users as generally depicted on Figure 7 (“Enhancements to Seminary and Beauregard Intersection”).

32. The City will explore options for improving safety and accessibility for all users on Seminary Road, generally from Mark Center Drive to Library Lane.

33. As part of multimodal transit enhancement, a new bus facility will be established within Neighborhood 4 at the location as generally depicted on Figure 13 (“Neighborhood 4”).

The draft recommendations are consistent with the guiding principles and overarching policies of the AMP, such as promoting an equitable transportation network for all users and highlighting the need for a safe and well-connected network.

Community members are encouraged to submit feedback on these recommendations within the interactive story map or by visiting the [online comment form](#) (this link is in English, but the form is also available on the main project page in the Amharic, Spanish, and Arabic languages).

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment 1 – AlexWest Maps and Recommendations

Alexandria West SAP Draft Recommendations

List of Figures and Maps

March 2024 | Working Draft

Figure 1:	Land Use Strategy Map
Table 1:	Focus Area Criteria
Table 2:	Area 2 Criteria
Figure 2:	Land Uses Map
Figure 3:	Building Heights Map
Figure 4:	Street Network Map
Figure 5:	Mobility Enhancements Study Areas
Figure 6:	Bicycle Network Map
Figure 7:	Enhancements to Seminary and Beauregard Intersection
Figure 8:	Public Parks and Open Space Map
Table 3:	New Parks
Figure 9:	Neighborhood Map Key
Table 4:	Neighborhood Development Table
Figures 10-20:	Neighborhood Plan Framework Elements

Figure 1: Land Use Strategy Map

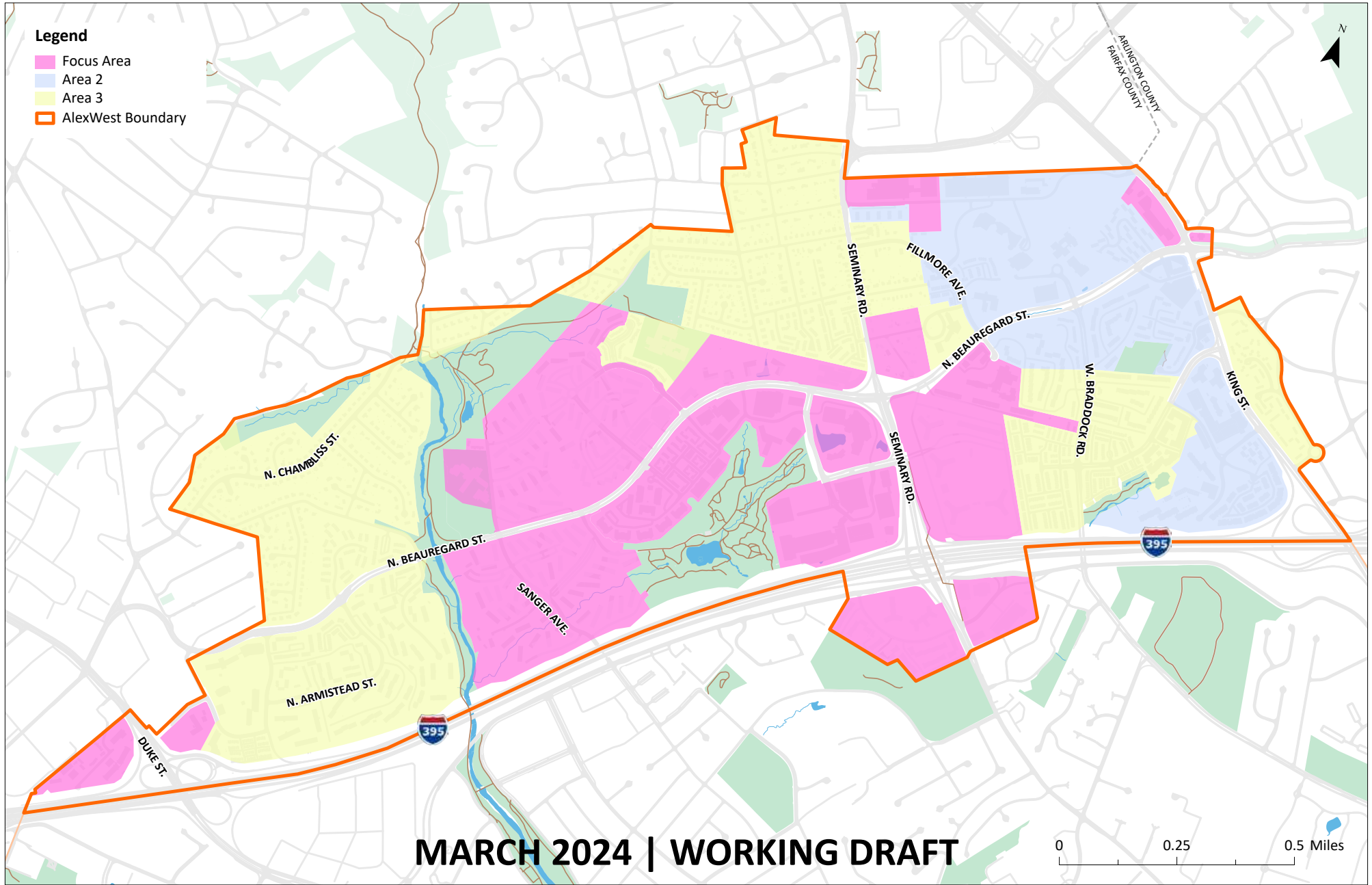


Table 1: Focus Area Criteria

March 2024 | Working Draft

Land Use(s)	Figure 2
Building Heights	Figure 3
Design	Will be subject to Design Standards
Public Open Spaces	Figure 8
Floor Area Ratio (FAR)	3.0
Street Connections	Figures 4 and 6

Table 2: Area 2 Criteria

Land Use(s)	Residential
Building Heights	Figure 3
Design	Will be subject to Design Standards
Public Open Spaces	A new consolidated public park of 20,000 square feet will be provided for each 90,000 square feet of land developed
Floor Area Ratio (FAR)	2.0
Street Connections	Will be subject to Design Standards

Figure 2: Land Uses Map

Note: See Plan Framework Elements by Neighborhood Graphics (Figures 10 - 20) for specific locations of required retail.

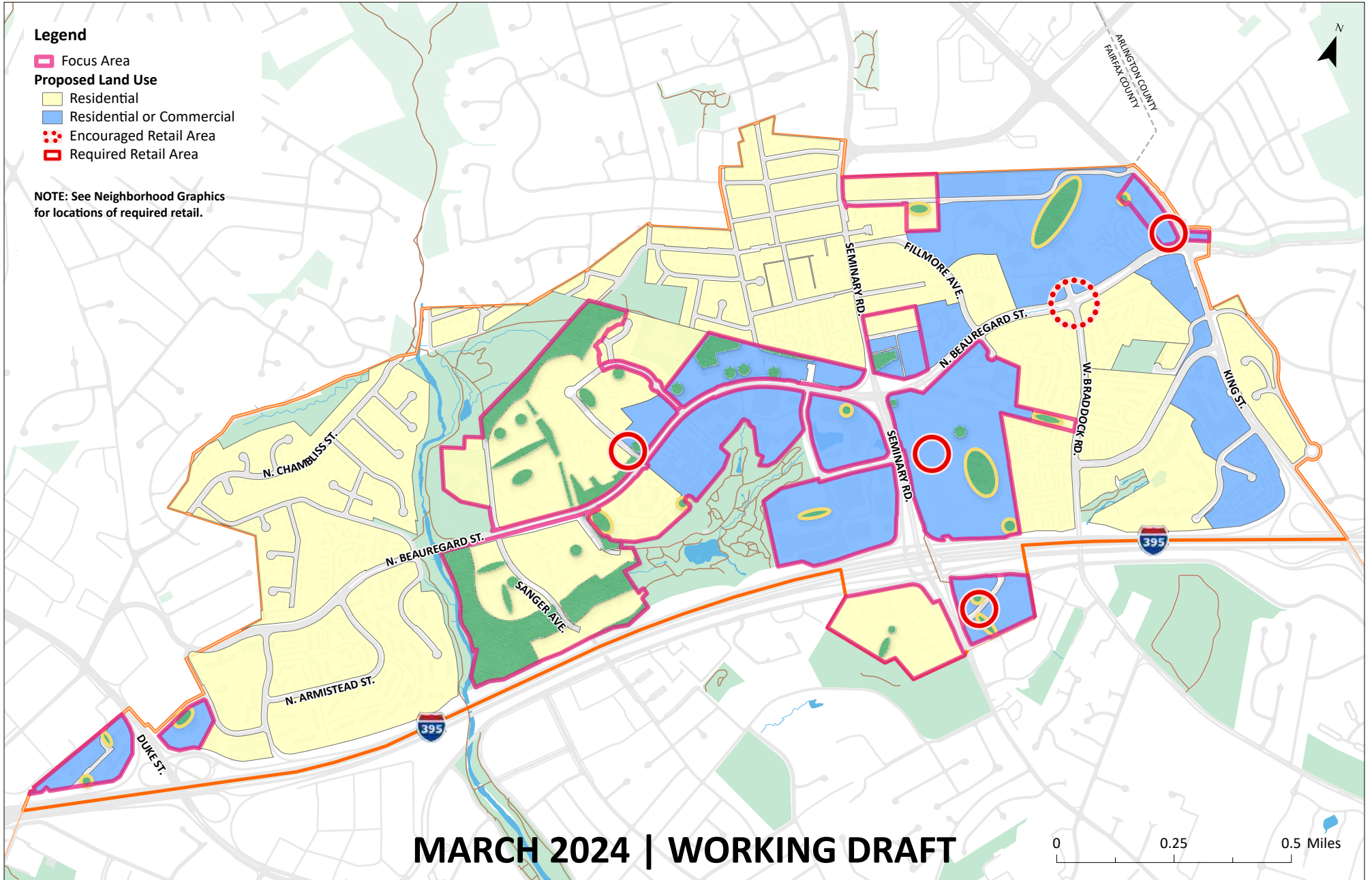


Figure 3: Building Heights Map

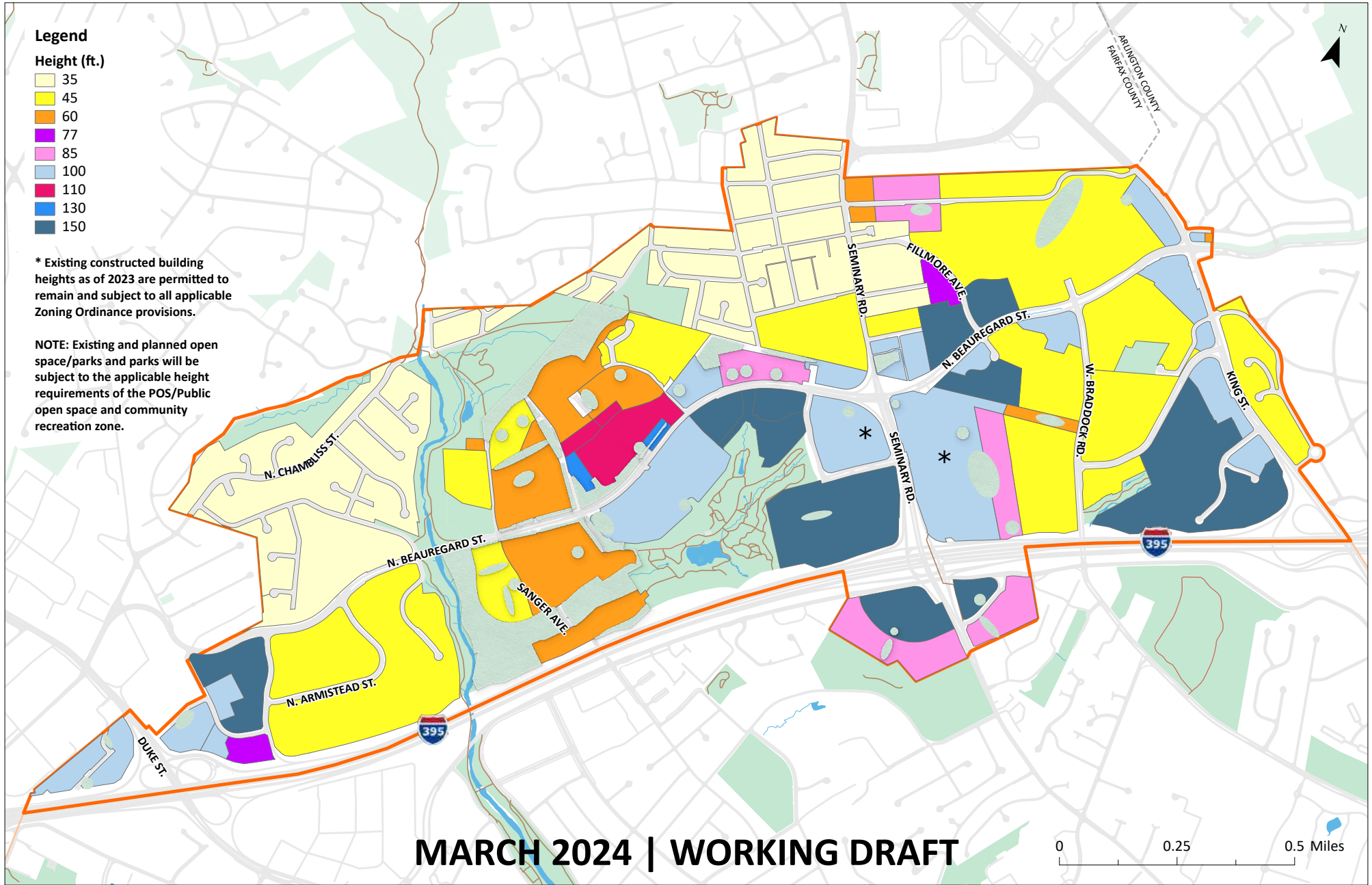


Figure 4: Street Network Map

