

Transportation Commission

September 20, 2023

7PM



Notice

The September 20, 2023, meeting of the Transportation Commission is being held in the City Council Workroom on the second floor of City Hall (301 King Street) 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 by the public in-person or via Zoom



Commission Members

- **Leslie Catherwood** – Resident East
- **Oleksandr Faryga** – Environmental Policy Commission
- **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
- **Murat Omay** – DASH Board
- **John Chapman** – Council (non-voting)
- **Kirk McPike** – Council (non-voting)



Public Comment Period

Agenda Item #1



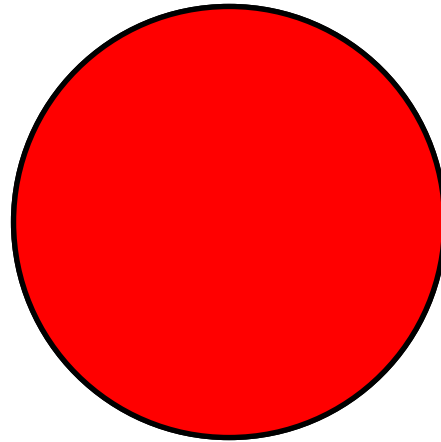
Public Comment

- 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



New Member Introduction

Agenda Item #2



Transportation Commission Minutes: June 21, 2023

Agenda Item #3



2024 State Legislative Priorities

Agenda Item #4



2024 Legislative Session

- Long session – starting January 10 and spanning about 60 days
- Identify legislative priorities by October 6
- Proposals should be:
 - Focused on needs
 - Consistent with the six City Council priorities
 - As actionable as possible
 - Indicative of how they could be scaled up or down
 - Depending on the political environment, budget, or other unknown variables
 - Prioritized if identifying more than one



2023 Legislative Priorities

1. Protect, preserve, and align transportation funding sources specifically to support public transportation and pedestrian and bicycle projects, and identify and commit to new long-term funding sources appropriate to replace repealed dedicated transportation-supportive taxes.
2. Expand automated speed and red-light enforcement allowances by jurisdictions.
3. Allow safety stops for bicycles.
4. Pursue Vision Zero goals specifically protecting vulnerable road users and increasing funding to achieve safety goals.



Recommendation

- Provide verbal feedback to Legislative Director on Legislative Priorities.

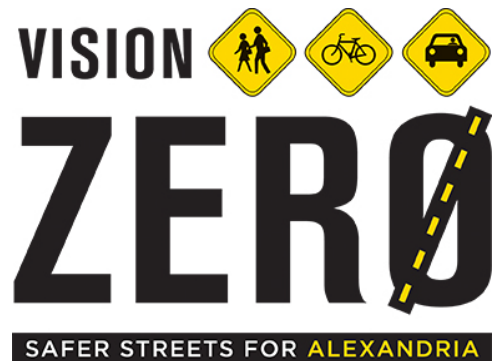


Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set Aside Grant Program

Agenda Item #5



Background



- **Alexandria Mobility Plan**
adopted by City Council in 2021
- **Safe Routes to School Walk Audits** conducted in 2017
- **Vision Zero Policy & Action Plan** adopted by City Council in 2017

Transportation Alternatives Grant Information

Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside program:

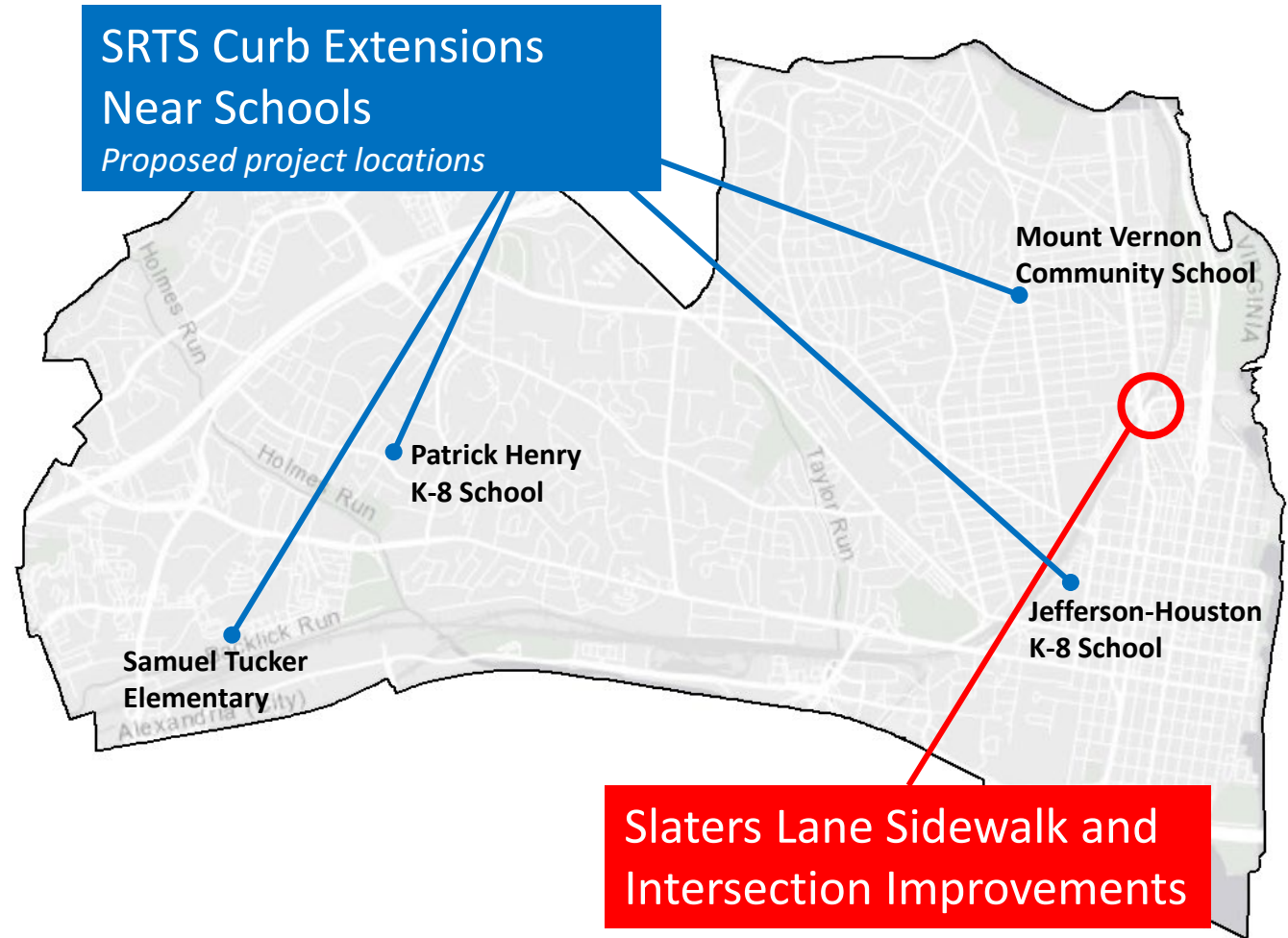
- Funding for infrastructure projects that support nonmotorized travel.
- Grants awarded every two years

Additional Information:

- Maximum \$2.5M award per project
- 20% local match required
- Applications due October 2, 2023
- Award announcements expected in 2024

Recommended Projects:

- **Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Crossing Improvements** at up to seven intersections near as many as four schools
- **Slaters Lane Sidewalk and Intersection Improvements**
New sidewalk on Slaters Lane between Route 1 and Powhatan Street, plus intersection safety improvements.



Proposed school locations:

- Mount Vernon Community School
- Patrick Henry K-8 School
- Samuel Tucker Elementary School
- Jefferson-Houston K-8 School

Funding Request Summary

Project	Total Funding Request	Local Match (Total)	Local Match Source
SRTS	Up to \$2.5m	Up to \$500,000	SRTS CIP FY24-25
Slaters Lane	Up to \$1.5m	Up to \$300,000	NVTA 30% or other non-city revenue

Recommendation

That the Transportation Commission provide a letter of endorsement to City Council for the the TA grant application for FY 2025-2026

FY 2025 Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (VHSIP)

Agenda Item #6



Background

- VHSIP program provides **systemic safety funding** for localities in Virginia
- There are **six systemic initiatives** for which localities are encouraged to apply
- Alexandria is focusing on the specific criteria that supports safety enhancement at all its **T- intersections**



Application Details

- Grant would include the following type of activities that would be applied at signalized **T- intersections** City wide:
 - Structural upgrades Leading Pedestrian Intervals (LPI)
 - Traffic controller upgrades
 - No Turn on Red Signage
 - Audible push buttons
 - Smart Detection devices
 - Intersection signage and signal upgrade
 - High-visibility, dynamic signage
 - High Visibility Backplates for the traffic signal heads
- Design and construction estimated to be up to **\$2M**
 - Scalable
 - Intersections would be prioritized based on safety and need



Recommendation

That the Transportation Commission provide a letter of endorsement to City Council for the FY 2025 VHSIP grant application.



FTA Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Grant

Agenda Item #7



Grant Background

- TOD Planning Grant Program is a competitive pilot program created by the USDOT to provide funding to communities to integrate land use and transportation planning on transit corridors
- Evaluated by USDOT and FTA
- The FTA will prioritize projects that will:
 1. Renew transit systems
 2. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
 3. Advance racial equity
 4. Maintain and create jobs with a free
 5. Connect communities



Project

- **Duke Street Small Area Plan** will be next long range plan update
 - Mid-2024
- Proposed planning effort will comprehensively **analyze and update land use** for the areas adjacent to the **planned Duke Street bus rapid transit (BRT) corridor**



Application Details

- Technical assistance for:
 - Land use and housing analysis
 - Economic analysis
 - Infrastructure and transportation studies
 - Open space planning
 - Urban design
 - Sustainability review
- Community engagement and outreach
- Maximum Project request - \$750,000
 - Requires 20% local match
 - \$250,000 already budgeted in CIP for Duke Street Planning Process



Recommendation

That the Transportation Commission provide a letter of endorsement to City Council for the FTA Transit Oriented Development grant.



Commissioner Updates

Agenda Item #8



Commission Members

- **Leslie Catherwood** – Resident East
- **Oleksandr Faryga** – Environmental Policy Commission
- **Casey Kane** – Traffic and Parking Board, Eisenhower West/Landmark/Van Dorn Advisory Group
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Items for Consent

Agenda Item #9



Chair and Vice Chair Elections

Agenda Item #10



Recommendations

- That the Transportation Commission put forth nominations and vote on Vice Chair.
- That the Transportation Commission put forth nominations and vote on Chair.



Other Business

- FY23 Annual Report Available on Commission Website



Adjourn Transportation Commission Meeting

Next meeting: October 18, 2023

