



# City of Alexandria

## Transportation Commission

### Regular Meeting

May 4, 2011

7:30 p.m.

City Council Workroom

### MINUTES

**Commissioners Present:** Donna Fossum, Jesse Jennings, Jennifer Mitchell, Phil Voorhees and Louisa Ward

**Staff Present:** Karen Callaham -T&ES, Jeff Farner – P&Z, Sandra Marks - T&ES, Jim Maslanka - T&ES, Robert Fulk – T&ES, Steve Sindiong - T&ES, Michael Stewart – OMB, Steve Kaii-Ziegler - P&Z, Maya Contreras – P&Z

A quorum being present, the Chair called the Transportation Commission meeting to order at 7:32 pm.

#### **1. April 6, 2011 Minutes**

Vice Chair Mitchell asked if there were any changes to be made to the April minutes. There being no changes, a motion for approval of the minutes was recommended and seconded. The April minutes were voted on and unanimously approved.

#### **2. King Street Metro Improvements – PUBLIC HEARING**

T&ES staff, Jim Maslanka, reported that the project is a culmination of the Departments of Planning and Zoning and T&ES efforts to address input received in the community meetings. The City is redesigning part of the King Street metro station grounds to improve access to all users of the facility. The Public Hearing is on the agenda to obtain Transportation Commissioners and public input for the proposed redesign as the next step will be the final engineering design. Mr. Maslanka proceeded to point out components of the redesign. The final design is expected in Summer 2011. Bid documents and advertising should be completed by January 2012. The project is expected to be awarded in April 2012 with construction expected to be completed summer 2013. Taxi drivers, bicyclists and handicap spokesperson commented on the redesign during the public hearing portion of the meeting. The Commission asked staff to provide an update at the June 1 meeting.

### **3. Funding Update**

City Council passed a resolution on April 12, 2011 endorsing the Crystal City Potomac yard busway. The City has prepared comments to the Commonwealth Transportation Board's draft 6 year plan. The Transportation Planning Board received an update on the federal transportation reauthorization legislation and efforts within the region to develop improved bus facilities. The WMATA Board approved the exercise of a Metro Access Contract Option for 2 years which enabled them to save \$4.3 million in operating expenses. The WMATA Board also released a set of revised by-laws for public comment. The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission's Board provided staff input regarding metrics a consultant can use to establish the benefit of WMATA to the region. The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority approved the FY 2013-FY 2017 RSTP-CMAQ allocation plan. City Council did not approve the add-on tax, but instead approved part of the base real estate tax paid by property owners to be reserved and used to fund transportation. The previous project list for the add-on tax will be reviewed and revised by staff and brought back to the subcommittee prior to being brought back to the full Transportation Commission at its June meeting.

### **4. Long Range Transportation Plan Update**

T&ES staff Sandra Marks explained the Long Range Transportation Plan that identifies the City's long range transportation needs that the Transportation Commission adopted in April 2010. The Commission discussed that projects that have been on the list for an extended period of time (such as 20 years) or those that scored low, should be re-evaluated.

### **5. Staff Updates**

A written staff update on BRAC-133 was provided to the Transportation Commission. The Commission accepted the staff updates, and noted that the project list may need to be re-examined at a future meeting.

### **6. Commission Updates**

Vice Chair Mitchell asked for updates from Commission subcommittees. Commissioner Fossum reported the Complete Streets Subcommittee decided the checklist approach to complete streets should be augmented with a design manual. It was agreed that a letter be submitted to Council to request funding. The language for that letter was voted on and unanimously approved. Commissioner Fossum informed all of a work session of the Transitway work group being held for Corridor C at John Adams Elementary School the following evening.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made at 9:15 pm, seconded and unanimously accepted.