



Alexandria Transportation Commission
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

www.alexandriava.gov

Phone: 703.746.4025

Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council
City Hall
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

June 20, 2024

Re: Endorsement of Grant Application for the FY 2024 Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its June meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse the City's application for the Safe Streets & Roads for All (SS4A) program of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) for a Planning and Demonstration grant to support Vision Zero Safety Initiatives. The City's goal of this project is to enhance safety and accessibility for all modes of transportation, aligning with the goals outlined in the Eisenhower West Small Area Plan. The Eisenhower Avenue Transportation Study, conducted jointly by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the City, identified critical safety concerns raised by the community. To implement interim improvements along the corridor the City is seeking funding from the SS4A program with a proposed budget of up to \$750,000.

The Transportation Commission understands the SS4A grant program requires a 20% local match, and that if the City's grant request is awarded, the match would be approximately \$150,000. The match would be funded through the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) 30% fund balance.

The Transportation Commission enthusiastically supports staff proposal to request funding for this planning project which supports many of the City's goals within the Vision Zero Action Plan by targeting high-injury corridors and intersections. The project will advance the goals of the Alexandria Mobility Plan while aligning with the grants objectives to promote safety on public roadways and prevent crashes resulting in death or serious injury.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa McMahon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melissa McMahon

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission
City Manager James F. Parajon
Adriana Castañeda, Director, T&ES
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, Transportation, T&ES
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, Transportation Planning, T&ES

ALEXANDRIA TRANSIT COMPANY

Chair James Lewis and Members of the Traffic & Parking Board
City of Alexandria
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

June 12, 2024

Re: Endorsement of the Eisenhower Avenue Transportation Improvements Project

Dear Chair Lewis and Members of the Traffic and Parking Board:

On behalf of the Alexandria Transit Company (ATC) Board of Directors, I am expressing strong support for the City's Eisenhower Avenue Transportation Improvements Project. This project supports the adopted Alexandria Transit Vision Plan by significantly enhancing safety and access for DASH bus riders along Eisenhower Avenue.

Eisenhower Avenue is served by DASH line 32, which today provides service every 30 minutes during peak hours, and every 1 hour during non-peak hours. However, this route is planned to operate more frequently in the future, providing service every 15 minutes during peak and off-peak periods. There are few crosswalks along the corridor, which forces riders to make risky crossings across as many as five undivided lanes to access the bus. This is antithetical to the City's vision that transit be safe, convenient, and accessible.

Reducing the number of general-purpose lanes, providing median refuge islands, slowing vehicle speeds, and providing protected bicycle lanes as proposed by City staff would dramatically improve safety for people accessing the bus on Eisenhower Avenue and entice more people to choose sustainable modes of transportation, like taking transit. This project aligns with the City's adopted Alexandria Mobility Plan, Alexandria Transit Vision Plan, and Eisenhower West Small Area Plan, all of which envision a safer, more multimodal, livable future for Eisenhower Avenue.

The ATC Board of Directors strongly endorses the Eisenhower Avenue Transportation Improvements Project and urges the Traffic & Parking Board to recommend approval of the staff recommendation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



David Kaplan, ATC Board of Directors, Chair



703.746.3274



dashbus.com



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Alexandria, VA 22314

