

Letters of Support

1. Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities
2. Alexandria Commission on Aging
3. Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee



Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities

Chuck Benagh, Chair
703.746.3148 Voice

Office of Human Rights
421 King Street, Suite 400
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

711 Virginia Relay
703.838.4976 Fax

March 6, 2013

Hillary Poole, LEED Green Associate
Complete Streets Coordinator
Department of Transportation & Environmental Services
421 King Street, Suite 300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Ms. Poole:

The Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) in recent years, on an ad hoc basis, has noted several intersections, pedestrian crossings, or access points that are dangerous or difficult for persons with disabilities.

The City of Alexandria has been very responsive when the ACPD has made a request for infrastructure modifications. However, like other municipalities, budget constraints limit the amount of projects that can be addressed during any fiscal year. Additionally, preserving the historic heritage of the City often presents additional cost requirements.

All these factors make the ACPD very excited about being able to further enable all of our residents to have access to pedestrian pathways and public transportation throughout our City. We are enthusiastic about contributing our efforts and experience to this fine project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C Benagh".

Chuck Benagh, Chair

Alexandria Commission on Aging

March 13, 2013

Hillary Poole
Complete Streets Coordinator
Department of Transportation & Environmental Services
421 King Street, Suite 300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Ms. Poole:

The Alexandria Commission on Aging enthusiastically supports the city's request for New Freedom funds to make Alexandria safer for all those who traverse its streets. "The Alexandria of Our Future: A Livable Community for All Ages," the city's strategic plan on aging, establishes that the availability of a range of mobility options for older residents is a major priority. Our goal reflects the requirement, for those who are aging--and everyone else--for "safe, walkable, transit-oriented development."

We have found, however, that many of Alexandria's intersections and crossings are currently in great need of repair and are hazardous for many. The city fell behind in installing needed repairs and accommodations for those with disabilities during years of financial stress. We are very hopeful that an infusion of additional funds will accelerate the city's ability to make our intersections safer.

Most Alexandrians want to stay in the city as they age, but many will find their mobility options limited if measures to protect their safety on our sidewalks and crossings are not completed. Diminished hearing, vision and agility are common in older adults, but their freedom to move safely around their neighborhoods and in the city is crucial to their well-being.

We are collaborating with the Commission on Persons with Disabilities, whose members have identified the most pressing needs for intersection improvements. We hope that your review of the city's proposal will meet with your approval.

Sincerely,

Jane King
Jane King, Chair
703-519-7843

Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

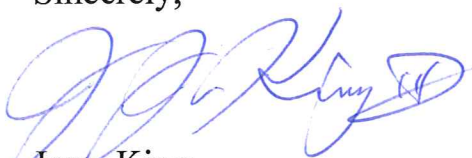
March 8, 2013

Hillary Poole, LEED Green Associate
Complete Streets Coordinator
Department of Transportation & Environmental Services
421 King Street, Suite 300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Ms. Poole:

The Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee strongly supports the grant application for pedestrian safety upgrades at four major intersections with transit stops in Old Town. As you realize our Committee is a strong advocate of reasonable improvements for pedestrians in our city. With budget constraints limiting most city expenditures we agree requesting grants is a cost effective alternative to fund these necessary projects. These upgrades will benefit our residents, especially those with disabilities. They also will encourage more use of the city's transit system which will in turn decrease vehicle traffic.

Sincerely,



Jerry King
Chair