



# ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

## County Board Agenda Item Meeting of July 15, 2023

**DATE:** July 6, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Capital Funding Applications to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2029 Six Year Program (SYP)

### C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

1. Adopt the resolution (Attachment A) authorizing Arlington County's applications to the NVTA for \$32,700,000 for two projects.
2. Authorize the County Manager, or his designee, to execute all documents associated with a Standard Project Agreement (SPA) for the subject projects upon funding award and subject to approval of such agreements as to form by the County Attorney.

**ISSUES:** There are no known issues at the time of this report.

**SUMMARY:** County Board authorization and a resolution of support are required to submit applications for regional transportation funding to the NVTA for the FY 2024-2029 SYP update.

The attached resolution (Attachment A) directs that applications be submitted to the NVTA for the FY 2024-2029 SYP update for the following projects and indicates the Board's support for the applications:

- A. CC2DCA Multimodal Connection: \$21,100,000
- B. Shirlington Bus Station Expansion: \$11,600,000

**BACKGROUND:** The NVTA issues a [Call](#) for Regional Transportation Projects every two years. Additional information on the NVTA's funding sources and application evaluation process may be found in a [staff report](#) accompanying the County's 2019 funding application. For the FY 2024-FY 2029 SYP update, applications are due to the NVTA on July 28, 2023. Governing body resolutions of support not included with the applications are due on October 28, 2023. Applications must be for projects included in the NVTA regional long-range transportation plan, called TransAction, and resolutions of support must include the TransAction project names and identification numbers.

County Manager:

MJS / MJC

County Attorney:

MNC

Staff: Rich Roisman, DES-Transportation

**DISCUSSION:** Staff recommends applying for funding for two projects in the SYP update, described below:

A. [CC2DCA](#) Multimodal Connection<sup>1</sup>: \$21,100,000

This project is currently undergoing federally required National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis. On May 13, 2023, the County Board [endorsed](#) the Preferred Alternative for CC2DCA and amended the consultant contract for NEPA to exercise the option of Preliminary Engineering Services. The project received an \$18,000,000 award of NVTa Regional funding in the [FY2020-FY2025 SYP](#). As NEPA concludes and preliminary engineering begins, the concept plans and associated project cost estimates from NEPA will be refined with additional detail. At the time the County submitted the application for the FY 2020-FY 2025 SYP, the facility type and location were unknown, and the estimated cost was based on an average cost of several facility types/locations. The more detailed cost estimate is expected to increase the total project cost, and as such the County is applying for additional NVTa funding based on estimates derived from conceptual plans for the Preferred Alternative.

The goal of the project is to create an intermodal connection designed to meet the needs of a broad range of pedestrians, bicyclists, and micro-mobility users of all ages and abilities between the core of Crystal City (including the Crystal City Metrorail Station and Crystal City Virginia Railway Express [VRE] Station), the Mount Vernon Trail, and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA). The CC2DCA Multimodal Connection is one of the five transportation projects partially or fully funded by the Commonwealth of Virginia as part of the agreement to bring Amazon's HQ2 to the area.

B. Shirlington Bus Station Expansion: \$11,600,000

The Shirlington Bus Station located at 2975 S. Quincy St. is Arlington County's only enclosed public bus station and the principal transfer point for Arlington Transit (ART) bus service, Washington Area Metropolitan Transit Authority (WMATA) Metrobus service, and DASH (Alexandria Transit Company) bus service in South Arlington. The station houses a Commuter Store and includes an indoor waiting area with customer seating, a partially covered outdoor plaza, and covered parking for bicycles and other shared mobility devices such as for-hire electric scooters. There are seven bus bays located at the station: five on the east side of South Quincy St and two east of the station building on an internal roadway.

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<sup>1</sup> The County project homepage names the project as the Crystal City to Reagan National Airport Multimodal Connection (CC2DCA). The approved FY2023-FY2032 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and the NVTa name the project as the CC2DCA Intermodal Connector. All references are to the same capital project. CC2DCA Multimodal Connection is used throughout the report for consistency with the County's project name and homepage. The resolution (Attachment A) uses the phrasing "CC2DCA Multimodal Connection, formerly known as the CC2DCA Intermodal Connector" based on guidance from NVTa staff.

With the ongoing planning efforts of Arlington Transit via the Arlington Transit Strategic Plan (ATSP) and WMATA via the Better Bus Plan, Shirlington Bus Station will play an even more critical role in serving as a hub for increased services and connections which serve Arlington, Alexandria, and Fairfax County. This capital project focuses on adding bus bays at the Shirlington Bus Station to meet future demand. Active planning work to determine more precise future operational needs and the size and scale of station and bus bay expansion is also ongoing.

In addition to being served by four ART routes and four Metrobus routes, Shirlington Bus Station is also served by DASH Routes 36A and 36B. DASH and the City of Alexandria plan to add more service to the Shirlington Bus Station following the implementation of the West End Transitway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) [project](#) between the Van Dorn Street Metrorail Station and the Pentagon. The West End Transitway is currently in design and has \$96 million in allocated State and NVTAF funding. Arlington County will seek resolutions of support from both the Alexandria City Council and the DASH Board of Directors to complement the NVTAF funding application for Shirlington Bus Station Expansion.

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:** *Level of Engagement: Communicate*

*Outreach Methods:* Candidate projects for the NVTAF SYP update are selected based on reviewed program eligibility requirements and project evaluation criteria as well as major County, State, and regional transportation plans. The resulting list of projects is reviewed for each bi-annual funding cycle by the Transportation Commission (TC).

*Community Feedback:* The TC reviewed this item at their meeting on June 29 and voted nine to zero to approve the County Manager's recommendation.

The CC2DCA Multimodal Connection has been using the *Involve* level of engagement throughout its activity; the Shirlington Bus Station Expansion is anticipated to use the *Consult* or *Involve* level of engagement as project development progresses.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** NVTAF Regional funding does not have a local match requirement, so there is no immediate direct fiscal impact from submitting these applications. The Authority's evaluation process does consider overall project funding and leveraging of non-Authority funding sources. Both projects are in the approved FY 2023 - FY 2032 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) (in the Crystal City, Pentagon City, Potomac Yard Streets program and Arlington Transit program, respectively) and will have their funding plans and cost estimates reviewed and updated as part of the ongoing development of the FY 2025 – FY 2034 CIP.

**Attachment A**

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT AND AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION  
TO THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
FY 2024– FY 2029 SIX YEAR PROGRAM UPDATE**

WHEREAS, the County Board of Arlington County, Virginia (“County Board”) desires to submit applications to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (“NVTA”) for two projects totaling \$32,700,000 as part of the FY 2024 – FY 2029 Six Year Program Update; and

WHEREAS, \$21,100,000 of these funds will be requested for the CC2DCA Multimodal Connection, formerly known as the CC2DCA Intermodal Connector (TransAction Project Title and ID: Crystal City Metrorail Station Second Entrance, 89); and

WHEREAS, \$11,600,000 of these funds will be requested for the Shirlington Bus Station Expansion (TransAction Project Title and ID: Shirlington Bus Station Expansion, 322)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the County Board hereby supports the making of applications and authorizes and directs the County Manager to make an application to the NVTA for \$32,700,000 for the above described projects as part of the FY 2024 – FY 2029 Six Year Program Update, and further authorizes the County Manager, or his designee, to execute a Standard Project Agreement for each approved project subject to approval of such agreement as to form by the County Attorney.

ADOPTED this 15th day of July, 2023.