

RESOLUTION NO. 3083

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT STATE AID FOR MITIGATION
OF METRORAIL SHUTDOWN ON CITY OF ALEXANDRIA**

WHEREAS, the Virginia Secretary of Transportation authorized the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation to award assistance to jurisdictions affected by the closure of Metrorail;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Alexandria desires to submit an application to the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) Demonstration Project Assistance Program for up to \$1,000,000 to mitigate the effects of the Metrorail shutdown; and,

WHEREAS, in February 2022, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority announced a two phased Metrorail shutdown, beginning September 10, 2022 which starts with a closure of all rail stations in Alexandria.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, THAT:


1. The City Council of the City of Alexandria hereby supports the application for State Aid up to \$1,000,000 through the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation;
2. The City Council hereby commits to include funds for its local match of agency funds up to \$200,000 for the Mitigation grant, if awarded, in its Fiscal Year 2023 Budget; and,
3. The City Council of the City of Alexandria hereby grants authority for the City Manager to execute all necessary documents that may be required under this program.

Adopted: June 28, 2022



JUSTIN M. WILSON MAYOR

ATTEST:



Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk



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 15, 2022

Re: **Endorsement of Grant Application for mitigation funding from the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) to offset Metrorail service impacts during the Potomac Yard Rail Cutover and Yellow Line Bridge/Tunnel Work**

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its June 15 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse a grant application for mitigation funding of up to \$1,000,000 from the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) to offset Metrorail service impacts during the Potomac Yard Rail cutover and Yellow Line bridge/tunnel work.

As outlined by staff, elements of the plan could include the following types of mitigation measures:

- Robust communication, marketing and employer outreach, in partnership with WMATA
- Access to transportation options such as the water taxi, discounted Capital Bikeshare memberships, HOV lane changes, enhanced way-finding, and discounted or free travel on Virginia Railway Express (VRE)
- Enhanced support for data monitoring such as bike trail counters, StreetLight data

Transportation Commission understands that DASH buses are not anticipated to play the same role they did during the 2019 Platform Improvement Project due to a lack of operators to take on additional routes.

The Commission also understands that DRPT Mitigation funds require a 20% local match, and if the City's grant request is awarded, the match would be \$200,000. The match would be funded through unappropriated Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) 30% fund balance. The Commission encourage that staff time to manage and administer these projects be included in the applications where feasible.

This request will help the City meet goals of the Alexandria Mobility Plan including maintaining transportation choices for residents, employees, and visitors while there are Metrorail service

impacts. The Transportation Commission appreciates the opportunity to provide its endorsement to Council.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

**Oscar
Gonzalez**

Digitally signed by Oscar
Gonzalez
DN: cn=Oscar Gonzalez, c=US,
email=ojgonza@gmail.com
Date: 2022.06.15 22:52:57 -04'00'

Oscar Gonzalez

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission
Jim Parajon, City Manager
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager
Yon Lambert, Director, T&ES
Josh Baker, General Manager and CEO, DASH
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, Transportation Planning

City Grant Application to DRPT for Yellow Line Metrorail Impacts in 2022-23

June 28, 2022



Background



Two Phase Shutdown all stations in Alexandria (9/10-10/22) and Yellow Line bridge (10/22 – May 2023?)

Work to **bring track to Potomac Yard station before opening**, and to repair Yellow Line tunnel south of L'Enfant Plaza station

Phase 1 Plan



Free Shuttle Service

Effective: September 16 - October 22, 2022

EXPRESS SHUTTLES

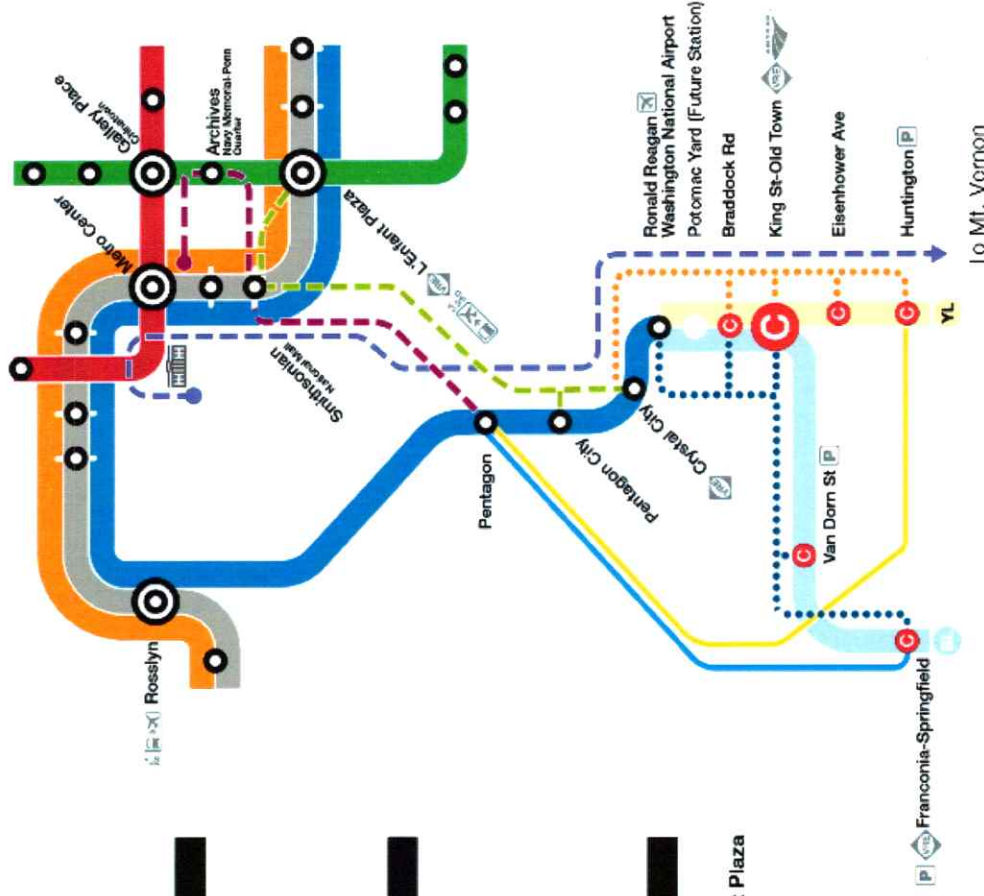
- Blue Line Express: Franconia - Pentagon**
Between: Franconia-Springfield & Pentagon
- Yellow Line Express: Huntington - Pentagon**
Between: Huntington & Pentagon

LOCAL SHUTTLES

- Blue Line Shuttle: Franconia-Springfield - National Airport**
Between: Franconia-Springfield, Van Dorn St, King St-Old Town, Braddock Rd, & National Airport
- Yellow Line Shuttle: Huntington - Crystal City**
Between: Huntington, Eisenhower Ave, King St-Old Town, Braddock Rd, & Crystal City

DC SHUTTLES (Weekday Rush Hour Only)

- VA-DC Shuttle 1: Crystal City - L'Enfant**
Between: Crystal City, Pentagon City, Smithsonian, & L'Enfant Plaza
- VA-DC Shuttle 2: Pentagon - Archives**
Between: Pentagon, Smithsonian, & Archives
- VA-DC Shuttle 3: Mt. Vernon - Potomac Park (11Y Route)**
Between: Mt. Vernon, Alexandria, & Potomac Park
(Peak Direction Only)



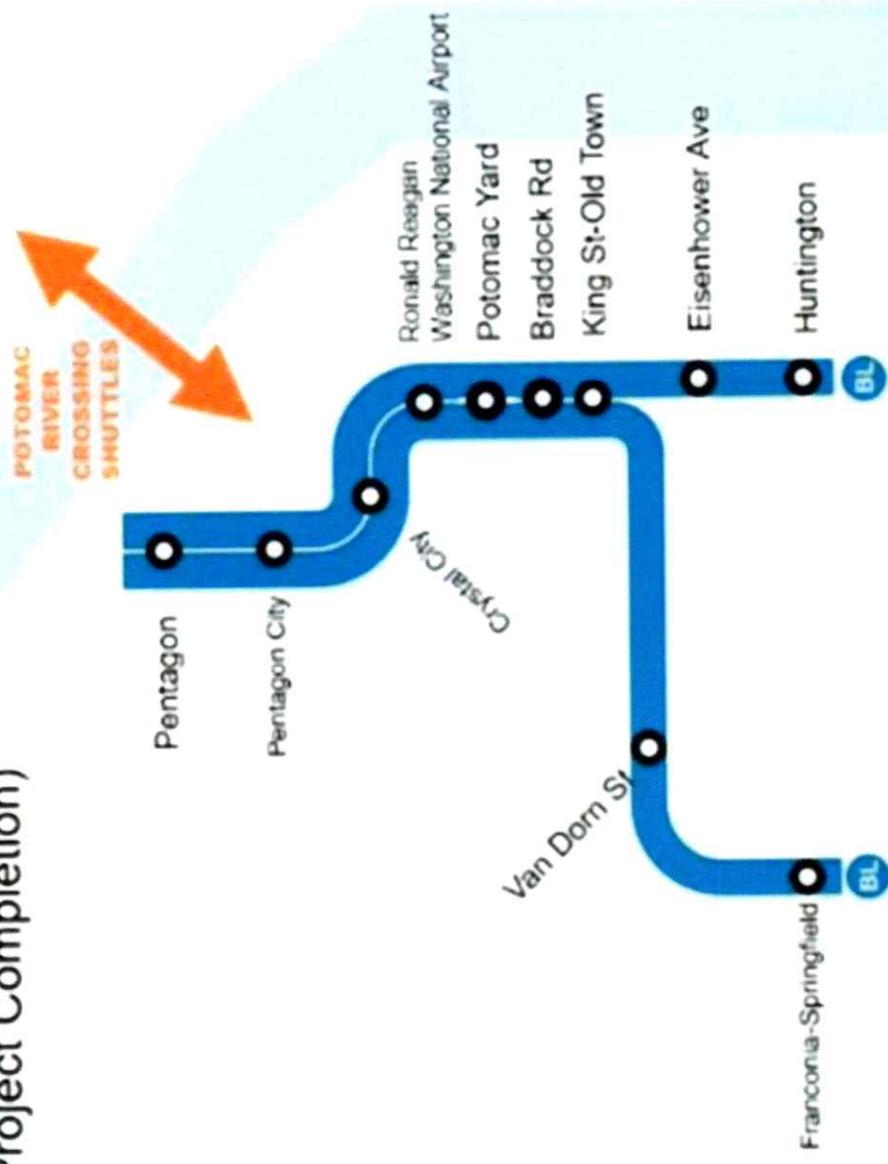
- Station Closed
- Station Open
- Transfer Station



No service south of Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport
ADA shuttles available upon request between impacted stations

Phase 2 Rail Plan

Phase 2 Shuttle and Metrobus Operations
Oct 23, 2022 – Spring 2023
(Project Completion)



WMATA Mitigation Plan

Planned Increase Rail Service

- Phase I: 7–9-minute headways on all Blue Line trains
- Phase II: 6-minute headways Phase 2
- All stations south of Pentagon are Blue Line, use Rosslyn tunnel to enter DC
- Plan assumes 7000 series trains are back in service

Enhanced Bus:

- Seven free shuttles will be offered during Phase One, including local and express shuttles in Virginia and three limited-stop shuttles crossing the Potomac River
- Fare free shuttle service on former 11Y route and Metroway

City Mitigation Plan

VRE Fare buy-down

Converting Washington Street HOV lanes from HOV 2+ to HOV 3+ for improved bus service

Additional bus stop and wayfinding signage

Cycling classes and signage

Police Department Traffic Support

Morning water-taxi service (phase I)

Transit incentives for using the PY Metro station (Phase II)

Funding Request Summary

Cost	Funding Request
Total Mitigation Cost	Up to \$1,000,000
Local Match	Up to \$200,000
Local Match Source	General Fund

Recommendation

That the City Council approve a resolution to:

- **Support** the submission of a grant application for up to \$1 million for mitigation of impacts of the Metrorail Shutdown
- **Authorize** the City Manager to enter into any agreements with DRPT to accept and implement the grant.