Duke Street Transitway

Planning Commission June 22, 2023







Tonight's Agenda

01

Background & Project Vision

02

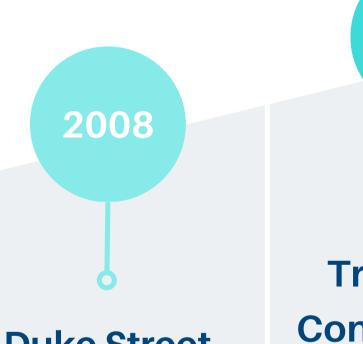
Process & Engagement Overview 03

Advisory Group Preferred Concept 04

Next Steps & Future Commission Action

Background & Project Vision

DUKE STREET TRANSITWAY TIMELINE



Duke Street Identified as future transit corridor

Transitway Concept Plans Approved

2012

2018 & 2020

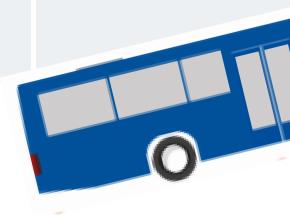
• \$12M Planning funding

awarded

• \$75M **Construc**tion funding awarded

Phase I -Community Visioning

2021



Phase II -Concept Planning -Community **Priorities & Tradeoffs**

2022

2023

Phase III -

- Concept Refinement
 - & Curb
 - **Features**
- Council **Action**

Why Duke Street?

CHALLENGES

- Traffic congestion
- Cut-through traffic on residential streets
- Safety
- Bus experience

OPPORTUNITIES

- Improve options for people to use other modes
- Redesign intersections for safety
- Use technology to better manage traffic
- Build on strong transit ridership



Why Duke Street?

Over 3,000 average weekday riders (March 2023)...

~120% of pre-pandemic ridership





...stuck in traffic that is anticipated to increase as the region grows Volumes projected to increase by 10% by 2030

Project Vision *Advisory Group adopted

This project will provide an efficient and desirable bus rapid transit (BRT) option along **Duke Street by improving the transit** experience for current and potential riders.

With multimodal enhancements to the corridor, **Duke Street will become a safe,** efficient, and desirable community connector for people riding the bus, walking, biking, and driving.



Plan Alignment

2008 **Transportation** Master Plan

2012 Transitway **Feasibility** Study

2021 Alexandria **Mobility Plan** & All Alexandria Initiative

Duke Street Transitway

2020 Environmental **Action Plan & Transit Vision** Plan

2017 Vision Zero Policy & Action Plan



Q













Process & Engagement Overview

Process

PHASE I

PHASE II

INPUT

- Current Challenges
- Future wants
- Priority transit
 - improvements

INPUT

 Space and time tradeoffs & priorities on concept ideas

Vision & Guiding Principles Refined Concepts



INPUT

How concepts aligned with guiding principles
Likes & dislikes



Preferred Concept & long-term vision

Outreach Summary

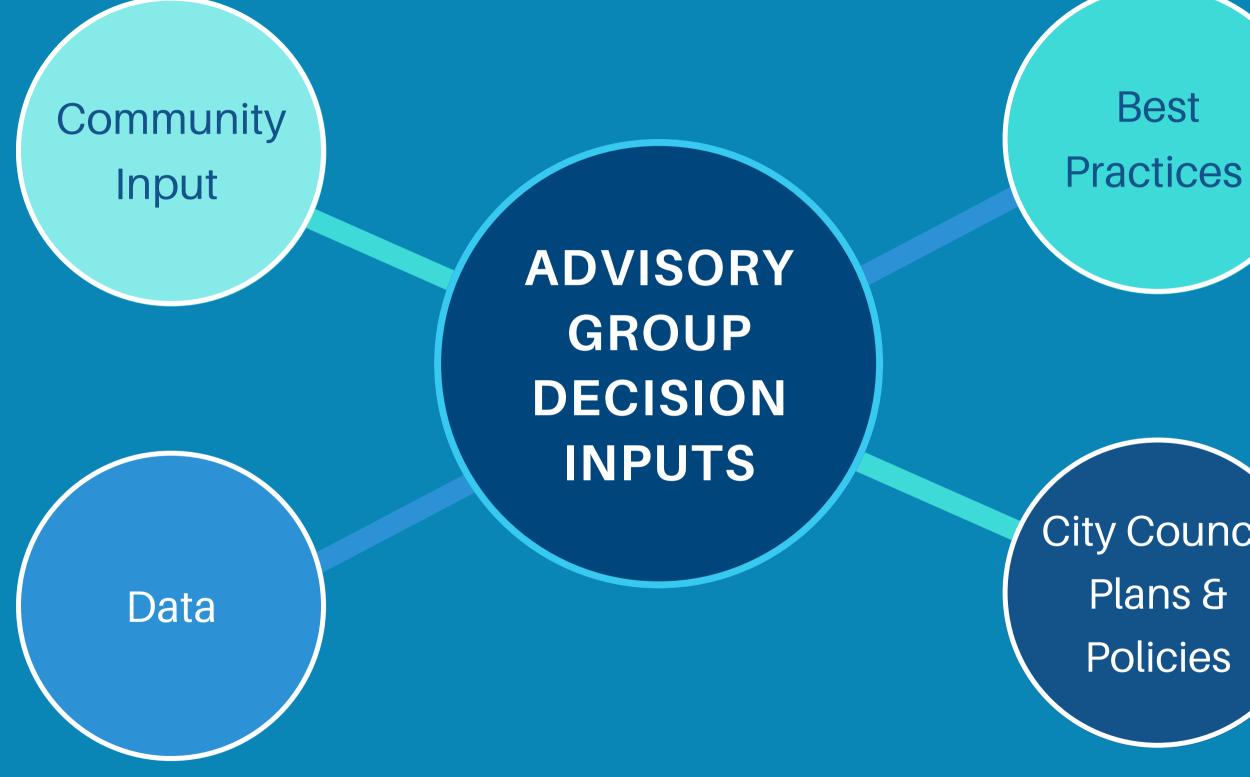
<pre> Control Contro Contro Control Control Control Control</pre>	Duke Street Meetings	Image: Weight of the second	Pop-up Events	Mailings	Businesses Contacted
Feedback form + emails	Open houses and public forums with Q/A components	Presentations and Q/A as part of other meetings	Shared multilingual information throughout the corridor	Postcards with project information and links	Drop ins, follow up calls, and emails
 3,445 feedback form responses 165 email comments 	 12 hosted live meetings 270+ attendees 3 webinars 850+ views 	 16+ community groups 7+ boards and commissions 	 37 events 3,950+ interactions 638 polls completed 	• 17,623 direct mailings	• 115+











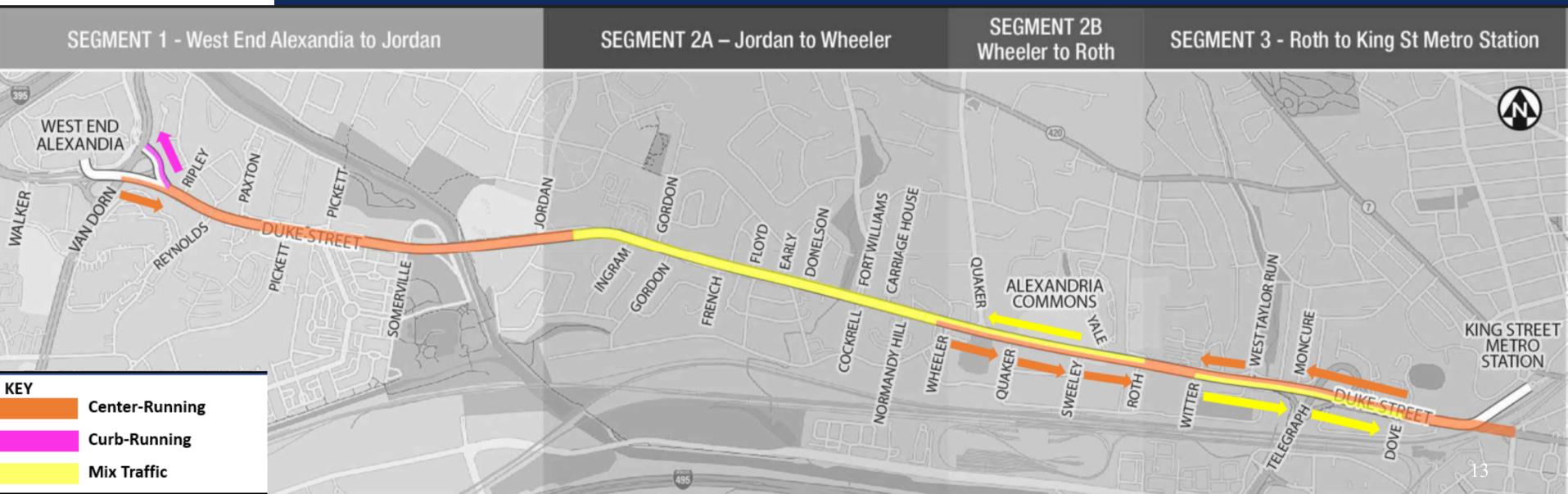
Advisory Group Preferred Concept

City Council

AG Busway Recommendation - Concept A Signal technology + stop consolidation + dedicated lanes to

- optimize bus service
- If cost becomes an issue near term, Roth-Quaker could become mixed traffic

SEGMENT 2A – Jordan to Wheeler



AG Curb Feature Recommendation -Concept Y

• Preference for **separated ped/bike facilities** Options in constrained right of way Recognize need to work with service road communities to refine options





AG Recommendation - Long Term

- The long-term plan for the corridor should include center running bus lanes for the entirety of Duke Street with separate spaces for pedestrians and cyclists.
- This long-term plan would be partially **dependent on** redevelopment and available funding and should be assessed further during the **Duke Street Small Area Plan** process.

Who Benefits? **People Riding the bus** • More family time, job security with: • Up to 9.5 minutes of travel time savings per trip Improved reliability • Stations that are more comfortable and easier to access • Bus stations at signalized crossings



Who Benefits?

People Walking

- Safer, more accessible crossings
- Reduced crash risk
- Wider, more comfortable & shaded paths



Who Benefits?

People Driving

- Reduced travel times for many trips
- Fewer cars on the road with increased bus ridership
- Safer access to businesses and homes



Who Benefits?

People using wheels

- 4 miles of new linear path
- Sections of separated facilities
- Low-stress option provides opportunity for current and potential cyclists





Next Steps & Future Commission Action

Next Steps







• Finalize Concept

- Survey
- Begin Design

Design

- Environmental
- Duke SAP
- Council Action on Final Design

- Design
- Right-of-way
- Begin
 - Construction
- PC Action on **Duke SAP***



2026



Construction

Fully ulletoperational BRT



Questions & Comments?