

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, the 2008 Transportation Master Plan identified three transitway corridors in the City including the Duke Street Corridor, which was reaffirmed the 2021 Alexandria Mobility Plan and included in the City's Master Plan.

WHEREAS, the City's Environmental Action Plan 2040, the Transit Vision Plan 2030, and the Landmark/Van Dorn Small Area Plan reaffirmed Duke Street as a future high capacity transit corridor.

WHEREAS, On March 8, 2022, Council created an Ad Hoc Duke Street Transitway Advisory Group (Advisory Group) to: Represent the perspectives of their representative constituencies and communicate back to their respective groups as appropriate; Consider and adopt the project vision and guiding principles; Provide comments and recommendations for corridor design alternatives; Recommend to Council to either adopt or reject the recommendation from the 2012 Transit Corridors Feasibility Plan; and Provide an endorsement of a preferred alternative for City Council consideration.

WHEREAS, the Advisory Group adopted a vision that "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."

WHEREAS, the Advisory Group has fulfilled its mission and charge by making a recommendation for the near-term and long-term plan for transit and multimodal improvements on Duke Street, which can be found in the June 27, 2023 Council Docket Item 'Duke Street Consideration of Preferred Alternative.'

WHEREAS, making Duke Street a bus rapid transit corridor advances the City's greenhouse gas reduction goals by making the bus a more attractive option and reducing single occupancy vehicle usage.

WHEREAS, making Duke Street a bus rapid transit corridor advances equity goals by making improvements to a bus system that is a lifeline to many minority and low-income riders today.

WHEREAS, making the bus a better option, it may be possible to reduce car ownership costs, making Alexandria more affordable.

WHEREAS, making Duke Street a bus rapid transit corridor advances congestion management goals by enabling more people to use the corridor in the same amount of space.

WHEREAS, the near-term recommendation is consistent with the City's Master Plan

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Council endorses the conceptual near-term plan for the corridor, as recommended by the Advisory Group and directs staff to advance the design consistent with the conceptual plan and the priorities laid out within the recommendation to the best of their abilities within the allotted funding awarded from the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that staff aim to follow the guidance provided by the Advisory Group when facing constraints due to budget or available space.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Council endorses the recommendation of the long-term plan for the corridor and directs staff to refine the long-term plan in the context of the Duke Street Small Area planning process, set to begin in 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that as design advances, changes to the roadway will be reviewed by the appropriate bodies, as required by law.

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

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**JUSTIN M. WILSON MAYOR**

ATTEST:

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Gloria Sitton, CMC, City Clerk and Clerk