

City of Alexandria, Virginia

# Progress Report on the Environmental Action Plan 2030

City Council Legislative Session  
April 22, 2014



**ECO-CITY**  **ALEXANDRIA**

# Eco-City Alexandria – Partnership Between the City, Alexandria Environmental Policy Commission, Virginia Tech and the Community



2007: Eco-City project started  
2008: Eco-City Charter  
2009: Environmental Action Plan 2030



ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR (EI)	CURRENT PERIOD FY2012 or 2012	% CHANGE 2012 vs. 2011
1. Air Quality Days - number of days with code red/ orange	7	0
2. Per capita energy use, MWh per person per year	20.31	-7.4%
3. City government operations energy use, MWh per year	116,608	-0.6%
4. Greenhouse gas emissions by City government operations, metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> per year	53,777	+0.9%
5. Greenhouse gas emissions by residents and businesses, metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> per year	1,755,395	-1.2%
6. Per capita greenhouse gas emissions, metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> per year	12.3	-3.1%
7. Percent of new developments committing to green building standard	84%	-12.5%
8. Percent tree canopy	33%	N/A
9. Number of acres protected since approval of Open Space Master Plan in 2003	100.5	+14.2%
10. Percent solid waste recycling rate	48.7	+0.6%

ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR (EI)	CURRENT PERIOD FY2012 or 2012	% CHANGE 2012 vs. 2011
11. DASH Public transit ridership - number of mass transit commuters per year	3,882,022	+3.5%
12. DASH Total passengers per mile / Total passenger per hour of service	2.6/24.6	-3.7/-0.8
13. Per capita water use, gallons per person per year	36,718	-0.0%
14. Per capita waste water treated, gallons per person per year	44,202	+10.5%
15. Number of stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) in the City	376	+7.7%
16. Number of respiratory health complaints received by the Alexandria Health Department	76	+28.8%
17. Percent of full service restaurants that are totally non-smoking	97.0	+0.1%
18. Percent of population living in a walkable community	73	0.0%
19. ACPS energy usage per square foot of building space, Btu/ft <sup>2</sup> /year	49,351	+3.3%
20. ACPS waste composting rate, Pounds per year	222,477	+30.7%

# Solid Waste Management

- City and Arlington County agreed to extend the COVANTA energy from waste plant lease agreement until 2038



- City's goal is to provide the opportunity to recycle at athletic fields and high traffic areas by installing permanent outdoor containers
- 80 recycling containers have been installed on King Street and athletic fields



# Environmental Remediation and Restoration



- Witter Recreational Facility development completed as part of the Virginia Voluntary Remediation Program

- Groundwater remediation system at the foot of Oronoco Street installed
- Chambliss stream restoration and crossing



# DASH Celebrated 30 Years of Service to Alexandria Residents

- DASH has 25 hybrid electric buses with plan to procure 21 additional hybrid electric buses in 2014



- DASH operates King Street Trolleys using five new 30-foot hybrid-electric trolleys

# Significant Achievements and Recognitions

- City received highest Platinum certification for Virginia Municipal League's Go Green Government Challenge for the sixth consecutive year
- City achieved Silver Level Bicycle Friendly Community designation by the League of American Bicyclists



- Alexandria City Public Schools was recognized as Certified (Silver Level) Green School Division by the Virginia School Boards Association
- Alex Renew received the Platinum Peak Performance Award by the National Association of Clean Water Agencies



# Emerging Issues & Challenges

- Short and long term issues related to impacts of TMDLs (Total Maximum Daily Loads) and City's new stormwater and combined sewer permits
- Hunting Creek bacteria TMDL requires updating the City's Long Term Control Plan for the combined sewer system



- City's strategy to meet 5% reduction in TMLDs by 2018 required by stormwater permit includes installation of pond 19 and retrofit of Lake Cook using a \$1.2 million grant

# Emerging Issues & Challenges

- Implementation of the Energy and Climate Change Action Plan
  - Continue to reduce the City's and community's energy use
  - Monitor scientific information on sea level rise and adaptation strategies

**ECO-CITY**  **ALEXANDRIA**

**City of Alexandria**  
**Energy and Climate Change Action Plan**  
Local Actions to Save Energy,  
Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and  
Prepare for the Impacts of Climate Change  
2012 – 2020



June 2011



Office of Environmental Quality  
Department of Transportation and Environmental Services