



City of Alexandria, VA

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Alexandria Joins Northern Virginia Regional Commission's Syrian Refugee Blanket Drive

For Immediate Release: November 6, 2015

For the second year, the City of Alexandria will join the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) in a regional effort to collect blankets and children's coats for Syrian and Iraqi refugees who have fled to Turkey. Alexandria Mayor William D. Euille, Arlington County Board Chair Mary Hynes, Fairfax County Board Chair Sharon Bulova, Loudoun County Board Chairman Scott York and Prince William County Board Chairman Corey Stewart are co-chairs for this year's effort.

This year's drive will take place from Saturday, November 7 through Saturday, December 5. The goal is to fill several shipping containers to be sent to a local relief agency in Turkey for delivery to the refugee families. Over the last two years, more than 40,000 blankets were collected and shipped to assist these refugees, and more than \$115,000 in donations was collected to help purchase blankets and supplies in Turkey.

Those wishing to make donations are asked to drop off new or gently used blankets (cleaned and folded; no sheets, please) and children's coats to one of the following City locations:

- **City Hall**
301 King St.
Market Square Lobby
Weekdays, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- **Beatley Central Library**
5005 Duke St.
Monday – Thursday, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday, 1-5 p.m.

Residents and businesses are urged to support this effort and encourage their neighbors, friends, community organizations, and others to help.

"I have looked into the eyes of families impacted by this tragedy and I know how much they are hurting after being violently displaced from their homes," said Mayor William D. Euille. "Every donation goes a long way in helping them achieve some peace in these very difficult circumstances."

For more information or to make a financial contribution, visit: www.helpsyrianrefugees.us

For media inquiries, contact Andrea Blackford, Senior Communications Officer, at andrea.blackford@alexandriava.gov or 703.746.3959.



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Alexandria Named #1 Digital City in the United States

For Immediate Release: November 6, 2015

The Center for Digital Government has named Alexandria the top "digital city" of its size in the United States, based on the 2015 Digital Cities Survey. The annual program evaluates cities' approaches to information technology, community engagement, policy and operations. This is the 11th consecutive year Alexandria has been ranked in the top 10, and the second time the City has earned first place recognition.

DIGITAL
CITIES
SURVEY

2015 WINNER

"Alexandria has long been a leader in the application of technology to provide efficient and meaningful public services," said Mayor William D. Euille. "As one of the first localities with an official Internet presence and the creator of the first citywide network of its kind in Virginia, our talented staff continues to implement next-generation technologies."

Digital Cities Survey judges credited Alexandria with a variety of public-facing and internal improvements. A new computer aided dispatch (CAD) system improves the City's 911 services and provides enhanced communications services for first responders. The new "[ParkLink](#)" feature of the City's website lets the public leverage the City's [geographic information system \(GIS\)](#) to locate parks and other open spaces based on location and amenities. The City's institutional network, or I-NET, which connects government offices and facilities, has been upgraded from 1-gigabit speed to 10-gigabit to keep pace with greater data use and modern applications. Network security features have been upgraded to reduce exposure to cyber attacks.

The Digital Cities Survey found growing use of cloud services, data analytics and mobile apps among technology leaders. "These cities are true innovators and we applaud their efforts to increase transparency and open government, encourage citizen participation, and enhance cybersecurity," said Todd Sander, executive director of the Center for Digital Government.

Councilman John Taylor Chapman represented the City to formally receive the award at the National League of Cities conference in Nashville on November 5. For more information about the Digital Cities Survey, including a full list of winners, visit <http://www.govtech.com/dc/digital-cities/Digital-Cities-Survey-2015-Winners-Announced.html>.

For media inquiries, contact Craig T. Fifer, Director of Communications and Public Information, at craig.fifer@alexandriava.gov or 703.746.3965.

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This news release is available at www.alexandriava.gov/88077.



Northern Virginia Transportation Commission

oral reports (City Council)
11-10-15

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

April 17, 2015

Contact: Karen Finucan Clarkson

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NVTC Launches Envision Route 7

Arlington, VA – “How do you Envision Route 7?” That’s the question the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) will pose to those who live, work and do business along the 13-mile stretch of Route 7 between Tysons Corner in Fairfax County and the City of Alexandria. The Envision Route 7 virtual kick-off on April 20 marks the public launch of the Route 7 Corridor Transit Study. Through the use of Twitter (<https://twitter.com/envisionroute7>), Facebook (www.facebook.com/EnvisionRoute7) and Instagram (<https://instagram.com/envisionroute7>), NVTC will solicit ideas and opinions as well as provide information about the study’s progress. Online polling and mapping tools on the Envision Route 7 website (www.EnvisionRoute7.com) will allow those interested to contribute to the study. Ideas also may be shared by calling 844-RT7STUDY.

“High quality, high capacity transit will serve people who live and work along Route 7, one of our nation’s oldest thoroughfares,” said David F. Snyder, NVTC chair and vice mayor for the City of Falls Church. “These tools will help everyone stay informed about the study and, more importantly, help us envision all that Route 7 can be for Northern Virginians.”

The study area encompasses several activity centers along Route 7, moving southeast from Tysons Corner in Fairfax County through the City of Falls Church, then into Seven Corners and Bailey’s Crossroads adjacent to Arlington County, before ending in the City of Alexandria. The idea is to connect future transit along Route 7 with Metrorail stations – such as Greensboro, Spring Hill, East Falls Church, and Van Dorn or King Street – as well as the planned West End Transitway and expanded transit being explored for the I-66 corridor. Envision Route 7 will assess Bus Rapid Transit and Light Rail Transit – the two modes to advance from the study’s first phase – to determine their ability to effectively and efficiently address existing transportation needs along the corridor and accommodate future travel demands. Ultimately, the study will recommend a specific transit mode, service alignment and location, and funding strategy.

Online input from those who travel the Route 7 corridor will help guide study decisions and shape the vision for enhanced transit. Public meetings, which will take place later in the year, will do the same. Until then, www.EnvisionRoute7.com is the ideal place to turn for information and interaction. There people can:

- Sign up to receive project updates and meeting notices via email.
- Submit a question or comment.
- Tell NVTC about individual travel needs on Route 7 by pinning destinations to a map.
- Request a group presentation by a member of the study team.

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NVTC brings the region together to ensure that Virginia businesses and residents are served by a network of transit systems that allows our diverse region to thrive economically. NVTC funds and promotes transit in the counties of Arlington, Fairfax and Loudoun and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church, a 1,000 square-mile region with a population of 1.7 million. NVTC includes six bus systems – DASH, ART, CUE, Fairfax Connector, Loudoun County Transportation, and Metrobus – as well as Metrorail and the Virginia Railway Express. For more information, visit www.NoVaTransit.org or call 703-524-3322.



ENVISION ROUTE 7

The Goal of Envision Route 7

Identify the best transit option for the corridor. One that...
connects people and businesses to economic opportunity
improves mobility and relieves congestion

Creating a Vision for Route 7

Requires that we...

- identify the mode of transit and route for service
- determine the level of public support
- assess the financial, economic and technical viability
- identify steps to move the project forward

Exploring the Options for Route 7

Phase I narrowed the transit alternatives to three modes...



Light Rail Transit
(LRT)



Bus Rapid Transit
(BRT)



Standard Buses

Possible routes depend on the mode selected, but include...

LRT from Tysons to Van Dorn Street Metrorail Station
via East Falls Church Metrorail Station

BRT from Tysons to Van Dorn Street Metrorail Station
via East Falls Church Metrorail Station

BRT from Tysons to Van Dorn Street Metrorail Station

BRT from Tysons to King Street Metrorail Station
via East Falls Church Metrorail Station

Learn more at www.envisionroute7.com/transit_options

INTERESTING FACTS

Route 7/Leesburg Pike

...began as a buffalo trail connecting the Potomac River in present-day Old Town Alexandria to the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains at Leesburg.

...called the Great Eastern Ridge Road by the Necostin Indians until they abandoned it in the late 1670s to traders, colonists and early postal carriers.

...included in Lord William Fairfax's original royal grant and first appeared on a plat prepared for him in 1739.

...became home in 1837 to Hachaliah Bailey, one of the nation's first elephant owners and the father of the American circus. Bailey's son Lewis, a clown whose circus would stop in Alexandria, made Hachaliah aware of the 536 acres for sale.

...saw tolls levied beginning in 1785 to pay for maintenance but the advent of the Civil War put an end to the practice.

...supported a Confederate fort that was stocked with faux artillery, tree trunks made to look like weapons. Called "Quaker guns," after the religious sect's aversion to war, the tree trunks fooled the Union army.

...was the site of President Abraham Lincoln's 1861 formal military review of 50,000 Union troops, a spectacle that inspired Julia Ward Howe to write "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

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WHY ENVISION ROUTE 7?

To ensure transit options that...

accommodate 2040 growth

- the population will increase by 42% to 368,667
- there will be a need for 54,491 new residential units
- the number of jobs will grow by 50% to 299,118
- there will be a need for 16.3-million square feet of new office space to meet additional demand and replace obsolete space

support all households

- 7% live below the poverty level
- 10% have annual incomes less than \$25,000
- 14% earn between \$25,000 and \$49,999 annually
- 28% have annual incomes between \$50,000 and \$99,999
- 47% earn more than \$100,000 annually

Improve mobility and access

- relieve congestion
- connect business to workers
- improve commute times
- improve travel-time reliability

Visit our website
EnvisionRoute7.com

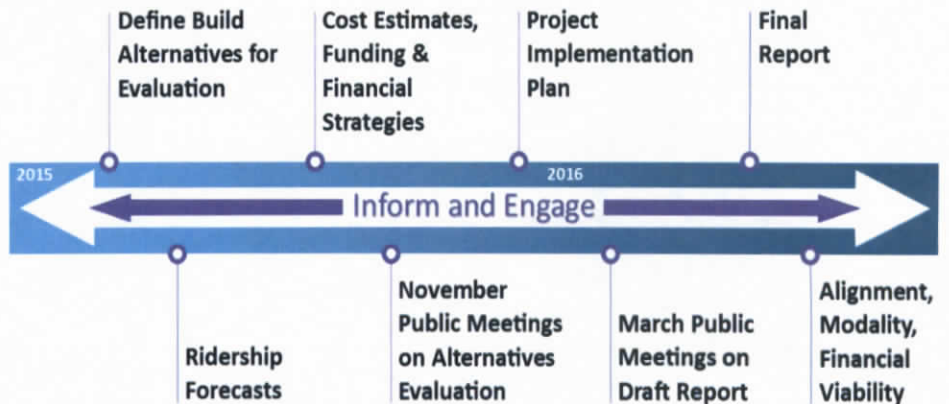
There you can

- ...sign up for email updates
- ...submit questions or comments
- ...request a presentation or meeting for your organization or community group



ENVISION ROUTE 7

Envision Route 7 Timeframe



Help Us Envision Your Route 7 follow us...



@EnvisionRoute7



@EnvisionRoute7



"Envision Route 7"

email us at EnvisionRoute7@nvtcd.org

or call our comment line at any time and leave us a message
1-844-RT7-STUDY



Comment Via Crowdsourcing

Tell us where you travel, what transit options you'd like to see, where the best places are for transit stops and where transit-oriented development makes sense. The Crowdsourcing map is on the web at EnvisionRoute7.com