

**RESOLUTION NO. 2864**

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT PROPOSED TRANSPORTATION PROJECT  
APPLICATIONS FOR THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF RAIL AND PUBLIC  
TRANSPORTATION STATE AID GRANT PROGRAM FOR FY 2020**

**WHEREAS**, in 2018, the General Assembly passed HB 1539, which required the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) to update the State Aid Grant Programs for operating and capital assistance based on performance metrics beginning in FY 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, HB 1539 establishes separate prioritization processes for the Board's Six Year-Improvement Program, state of good repair projects, and major expansion projects and makes numerous changes to the administration of revenues for mass transit in the Commonwealth; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the State Aid Grant Program is to fund transportation projects through a prioritization process that evaluates each project's merits using key benefits related to congestion mitigation, economic development, accessibility, safety, environmental quality and land use; and

**WHEREAS**, the FY 2020 capital assistance projects will be scored and prioritized based on the new Transit Capital Prioritization Process to determine which projects attain and maintain a state of good repair for transit assets, while also supporting needs beyond state of good repair that would enhance transit utilization, efficiency, and reduce congestion; and

**WHEREAS**, the FY 2020 operating assistance projects will be evaluated solely based on performance metrics beginning in FY 2020 of which the Department of Rail and Public Transportation is currently in the process of developing; and

**WHEREAS**, in October 2018, Governor Ralph Northam announced the Commonwealth's investment of \$14 million into the Volkswagen Mitigation Trust (VW Trust) to fund the deployment of electric transit buses across Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Alexandria desires to submit applications for an allocation of funds up to \$85,000,000 million for both City of Alexandria and Alexandria Transit Company (DASH) projects, through the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation State Aid Program; and

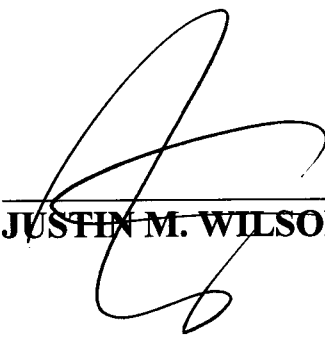
**WHEREAS**, the following state aid operating assistance application for the City of Alexandria include: 1) City of Alexandria Operating Assistance - \$20,170,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the following state aid capital assistance applications for the City of Alexandria include: 1) Potomac Yard Metro South Entrance - \$50,000,000; 2) Metroway Extension - \$1,000,000; 3) DASH Bus Replacements - \$8,260,000; 4) DASH Expansion Buses - \$3,500,000; 5) DASH Hybrid Bus Powertrain Reconditioning - \$900,000.

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

1. the City Council of the City of Alexandria hereby supports the applications for an allocation of up to \$85,000,000 million through the Virginia Department of Rail Transportation and the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority for the State Aid Grant Program; and
2. 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: January 22, 2019

  
**JUSTIN M. WILSON MAYOR**

ATTEST:

  
Gloria A. Sifton, CMC City Clerk



*City of Alexandria, Virginia*  
*301 King Street, Suite 2300*  
*Alexandria, Virginia 22314*



Justin M. Wilson  
Mayor

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January 7, 2019

The Honorable Ralph S. Northam  
Office of the Governor  
Patrick Henry Building  
1111 East Broad Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Governor Northam,

This letter serves to both thank you for your support for the development in and around Alexandria's planned Potomac Yard Metrorail station, as well as to provide an update to you and your team on this project.

We are grateful to you for the inclusion of the \$50 million in CMAQ funding in the Amazon HQ2 National Landing incentive package for a southern entrance improvement to the Potomac Yard Metrorail station. This will improve access to this new, infill Metrorail station for all residents and workers in the area, including those associated with the Amazon/Virginia Tech project. In particular, this enhancement will be of great value to Virginia Tech's planned Innovation Campus.

The City is moving forward with the \$320 million Potomac Yard Metro station project, which is currently under contract through WMATA with substantial construction activities forecasted to commence in early 2019. We are working to determine the best way to incorporate the new entrance funding into the project in a way that best meets the requirements of the Metrorail station project, the current needs of the community, and the future needs generated by Amazon/Virginia Tech project while minimizing any impacts to the existing project timetable.

Additionally, later this year we plan to begin drawing down on the \$50 million Virginia Transportation Infrastructure Bank loan that was awarded by the Commonwealth Transportation Board in support of this project during Governor McAuliffe's tenure in 2015. We are appreciative of your administration's patience as we through complicated contracting, permitting and fund acquisition processes.

We are aware that members of the Alexandria community have been in contact with your office and state agencies, including the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ), to

The Honorable Ralph S. Northam  
January 7, 2019  
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express concerns about the environmental impacts of the Metrorail station project, particularly impacts to wetlands.

We want you to know that the project has gone through an extensive multi-year Environmental Impact Statement process, which included considerable evaluation of impacts to wetlands. We also executed an agreement with the National Park Service (NPS) which provides wetlands mitigation funding to NPS in full compliance with Federal law. We are working with VDEQ to ensure the City provides the information in our permit application process necessary to address any concerns the agency may have. We are committed to delivering a project that complies with all Commonwealth and Federal environmental requirements and continue to work with our residents to keep them informed of the project and our compliance with environmental regulations.

As a community, Alexandria embraces the value of both economic development and environmental protection and is committed to mitigating the impacts of this development on our neighborhoods and the environment. It should be noted that this new Metrorail station will result in thousands of transit rides per day, which will not only reduce single occupancy vehicle usage, but also support environmentally sustainable development in adjacent areas.

We continue to believe this project shows the considerable merit of the leadership of the Commonwealth in crafting an Amazon HQ2 package that is comprised largely of investments in education and transportation which will benefit Virginia residents for decades to come.

Thank you for your continued support. Please let me know if you have any additional questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,



Mayor Justin M. Wilson  
City of Alexandria

cc: Matthew J. Strickler, Secretary of Natural Resources  
David K. Paylor, Director, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Shannon Valentine, Secretary of Transportation  
Jennifer Mitchell, Director, Department of Rail and Public Transportation  
The Honorable Richard L. Saslaw, Virginia State Senate  
The Honorable George Barker, Virginia State Senate  
The Honorable Adam P. Ebbin, Virginia State Senate  
The Honorable Charniele Herring, Virginia House of Delegates  
The Honorable Mark H. Levine, Virginia House of Delegates  
The Honorable Members of City Council, City of Alexandria  
Mark B. Jinks, City Manager  
Stephanie Landrum, President & CEO, Alexandria Economic Development Partnership



Alexandria Transportation Commission  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

[www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov)

Phone: 703.746.4025

Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council  
City Hall  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

January 16, 2019

Re: Endorsement of The FY2020 DRPT Operating and Capital Grant Applications

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its January 16, 2109 meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse the staff-recommended Grant Applications to the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) for the FY 2020 State Aid Grant Programs as consistent with the Transportation Master Plan:

Operating Assistance

- Operating Assistance for DASH and DOT Paratransit - The amount of operating assistance being produced by **approximately \$20,000,000** of operating expenses for FY2020.

Capital Assistance

- Potomac Yard Metro Southern Entrance – **approximately \$50,000,000**
- Metroway Extension – **approximately \$1,000,000**
- DASH Bus Replacement – **approximately \$8,000,000**
- DASH Bus Expansion – **approximately \$3,500,000**
- DASH Hybrid Bus Powertrain Reconditioning – **approximately \$900,000**

The Transportation Commission recognizes that the specific details of the grant applications have not yet been confirmed, but still endorses these grant requests as consistent with the Transportation Master Plan. The Commission appreciates the opportunity to review staff recommendations for the FY2020 DRPT Grant request formulated to procure DRPT operating and capital funds.

May you have any questions; do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



S.J. Klejsa  
Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission  
Mark Jinks, City Manager  
Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager  
Yon Lambert, Director, T&ES  
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES  
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief  
Jim Maslanka, Grant Manager