

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION TO DEFER AND WITHDRAW THE PRIOR APPLICATION FOR UPPER KING STREET MULTIMODAL IMPROVEMENTS FROM SMART SCALE ROUND 4 (FY 2026 AND 2027) AND TENTATIVELY PLAN TO APPLY IN A SUBSEQUENT ROUND PENDING ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC ANALYSIS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Alexandria reaffirms its commitment to safety, multimodal transportation, improvements to stormwater infrastructure, and beautification in the area around Upper King Street; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Alexandria recognizes the importance of Upper King Street as a gateway to Alexandria for residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Alexandria desires to seek funding for critical improvements to this corridor, and had previously, at staff's recommendation, authorized submission to the Commonwealth of Virginia's SMART SCALE Round 4 program; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of SMART SCALE is to fund the most effective transportation projects through a prioritization process that evaluates each project's merits using key factors, including: improvements to safety, congestion reduction, accessibility, land use, economic development and the environment. The evaluation focuses on the degree to which a project addresses a problem or need relative to the requested funding for the project; and

WHEREAS, projects are scored based on an objective and fair analysis applied statewide. SMART SCALE also requires that project benefits be analyzed relative to project cost. CTB policy requires the project benefits be analyzed relative to the amount of SMART SCALE funds requested, so the final SMART SCALE score is based on the project cost to the state; and

WHEREAS, one of the City's initial submissions to SMART SCALE Round 4, the Upper King Street Multimodal Reconstruction project, requires more detailed traffic analysis and community engagement to develop a Council-approved preferred alternative for the corridor; and

WHEREAS, because significant changes to key elements of the project as submitted by the City could result in a future re-scoring and re-ranking that could result in the loss of some or all future potential SMART SCALE funds;

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 deferral and withdrawal of its \$39.9 million Upper King Street Multimodal Reconstruction grant application to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) SMART SCALE Round 4 (FY 2026-2027) program;
2. The City Council of the City of Alexandria tentatively plans to resubmit an Upper King Street project for SMART SCALE (FY 2028- 2029) funding consideration after the necessary civic engagement has been undertaken and a preferred alternative approved by City Council; and
3. The City Council of the City of Alexandria hereby grants authority for the City Manager to execute all necessary documents that may be required by this action.

Adopted: _____

JUSTIN M. WILSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk