

City Charter Section 9.06 Case #2021-00004 Closure of the 100 Block of King Street to Vehicular Traffic

Planning Commission October 5, 2021

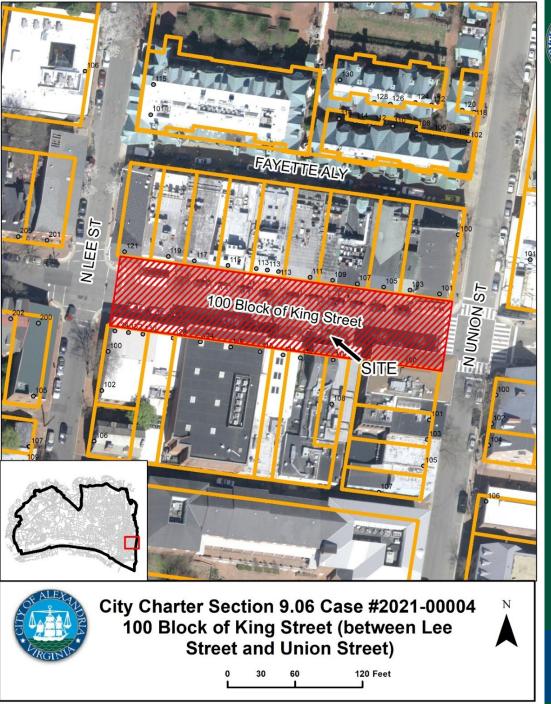


Proposed closure of the 100 block of King Street to vehicular traffic

- Section 9.06 of the City's Charter requires that the Planning Commission approve any changes to the use of a public street.
- Planning Commission is charged with ensuring that any change is consistent with the City's Master Plan.

Site Context

 Located within the Old Town Small Area Plan and adjacent to the Waterfront Small Area Plan





Background information



- 2015 Lower King Street Multi-modal Feasibility Study
- 2019/early 2020 King Street Place concept
 - hybrid concept with one travel lane open
- May 2020 Closed 100 block of King Street to all car traffic
 - Businesses permitted to use parking lane and sidewalk for restaurant or retail use





July 2019

Google Streetview



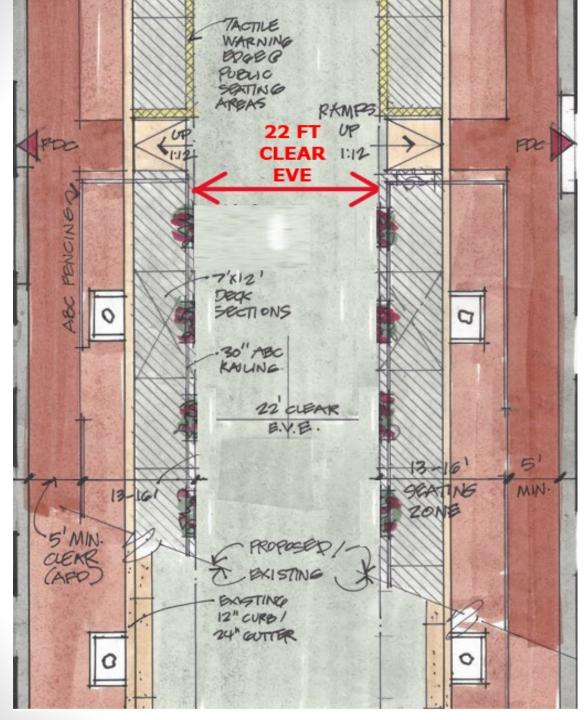
September 2020

Credit: Chris Cruz for Visit Alexandria

Consistency with Master Plan



- Increase and improve access to the public spaces of the Waterfront. Pedestrian connectivity along the Waterfront should be continuous.
- Maintain a living, active Waterfront that is a destination that attracts all Alexandrians and visitors and should be integral to the visitor experience in Alexandria.
- Provide a variety of uses, themes, activities, and experiences along the Waterfront.
- Improve the Waterfront's vehicular and pedestrian circulation.



Design Concept



- Maintain 22 foot center EVE and and restore 5 ft minimum clear path on both sidewalks (Fire Dept. Req't.)
- Allow businesses to use remaining sidewalk and parking lane through permit process
- Improved barricades and seating areas



Proposal

 Permanently close 100 Block of King Street to vehicular traffic

Next Steps:

- Refine design concept
- ARPA Funds
 - Improve barricades
 - Improve seating areas



Recommendation

Staff Recommends that the Planning Commission find the proposed change to the 100 block of King Street consistent with Section 9.06 of the City Charter and the City's Master Plan