

Alexandria Transportation Commission 301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

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www.alexandriava.gov

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

December 21, 2022

Re: Endorsement of Application for FY24-FY25 I-395/95 NVTC Commuter Choice Grant

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council:

At its December 21, 2022, meeting, the Transportation Commission voted to endorse the City's proposed I-395/95 Commuter Choice Grant applications. The proposals seek a total of up to \$26,500,000 over a two-year period for the continuation of service enhancements on two DASH routes in the new 2022 Alexandria Transit Vision (ATV) Plan that provide important transit connections for the West End, and the purchase of 10 electric buses for additional bus capacity on Line 35.

The proposed top priority project, "DASH West End – Pentagon Bus Service Enhancements", would allow DASH to continue to provide weekday, Saturday, and Sunday service enhancements for the new DASH "Line 35". This route provides frequent, all-day service in West Alexandria from the Van Dorn Metro to the Pentagon via Beauregard Street. This project will continue to build on major recent ridership growth in West Alexandria along the planned West End Transitway corridor, maintain a potential future source of operations funding for the transitway, and support the implementation of the 2022 ATV Plan. Total project cost for FY 2024 – 2025 is roughly \$7,500,000.

The second-priority project, "DASH West End – Potomac Yard Bus Service Enhancements", proposes to continue the weekday, Saturday, and Sunday service enhancements for "Line 36". "Line 36" provides service to key destinations along the I-395 corridor including the Mark Center, Shirlington, Arlandria, and the future Potomac Yard Metro Station. The total two-year cost of the project is \$4,000,000.

The third priority project, "DASH Bus Purchases for Additional Capacity from West End to Pentagon" would fund the purchase of 10 new, large 100% electric buses that would be used to provide additional passenger capacity along the Line 35 corridor in West Alexandria. Due to major ridership increases, Line 35 sees frequent crowding on buses that could be mitigated with the purchase of additional 40- and 60-foot buses. The total funding request for this project is up to \$15,000,000.

The Commission recommends that Council support these grant requests.

Sincerely,



Jan 20, 2023

Oscar Gonzalez

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

ce: Alexandria Transportation Commission James F. Parajon, City Manager Yon Lambert, Director, T&ES Josh Baker, General Manager, DASH