

City of Alexandria, Virginia

19
11-26-02

MEMORANDUM

DATE: NOVEMBER 20, 2002

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER *PS*

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ESTABLISH AN URBAN HIGHWAY PROJECT FOR THE ADDITION OF PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES TO THE BRIDGE OVER DUKE STREET AT BEN BRENNAN PARK

ISSUE: Consideration of a resolution requesting the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to establish an Urban Highway project for the addition of pedestrian facilities to the bridge over Duke Street at Ben Brenman Park.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council:

- (1) Adopt the attached resolution (Attachment 1) and request staff to forward it to the Virginia Department of Transportation; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to sign related documents.

DISCUSSION: In 2000, the City applied for Congestion Management Air Quality (CMAQ) funding to add pedestrian and bicycle facilities to the bridge over Duke Street at Cameron Station (Attachment 2). Council reaffirmed this decision in its June 2001 approval of City transportation projects to be submitted to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB). This project is intended to increase pedestrian and bicycle safety by providing north/south access across Duke Street. The high volume of traffic on Duke Street makes it difficult for non-vehicular traffic to move in a north/south direction. This facility will also provide safe connectivity between the trail system in Cameron Station on the south side of Duke Street with the Holmes Run trail system on the north side of Duke Street.

FISCAL IMPACT: The total design and construction cost estimate for this pedestrian improvement project is \$400,000. The City has received Congestion Management Air Quality (CMAQ) funding through VDOT in the amount of \$320,000 for this project. The City has a 20 percent match of \$80,000. The City's match will be covered under the Street and Pedestrian Improvements portion of the FY2003 to FY2008 Capital Improvement Program.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1. VDOT Programming Resolution

Attachment 2. Location Map

STAFF:

Richard J. Baier, P.E., Director, Transportation & Environmental Services

Emily A. Baker, P.E., City Engineer

RESOLUTION NO. _____

ADDITION OF PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES TO THE BRIDGE OVER DUKE STREET AND
BEN BRENNAN PARK DRIVE

PROJECT PROGRAMMING RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in accordance with Virginia Department of Transportation construction allocation procedures, it is necessary that a request by council resolution be made in order that the Department program an urban highway project in the City of Alexandria;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia requests the Virginia Department of Transportation to establish an urban system highway project for the addition of pedestrian facilities to the bridge over Duke Street to Ben Brennan Park Drive.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Alexandria hereby agrees to pay its share of the total cost for preliminary engineering, right of way and construction of this project in accordance with Section 33.1-44 of the Code of Virginia, and that, if the City of Alexandria subsequently elects to cancel this project, the City of Alexandria hereby agrees to reimburse the Virginia Department of Transportation for the total amount of the costs expended by the Department through the date the Department is notified of such cancellation.

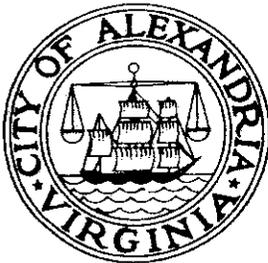
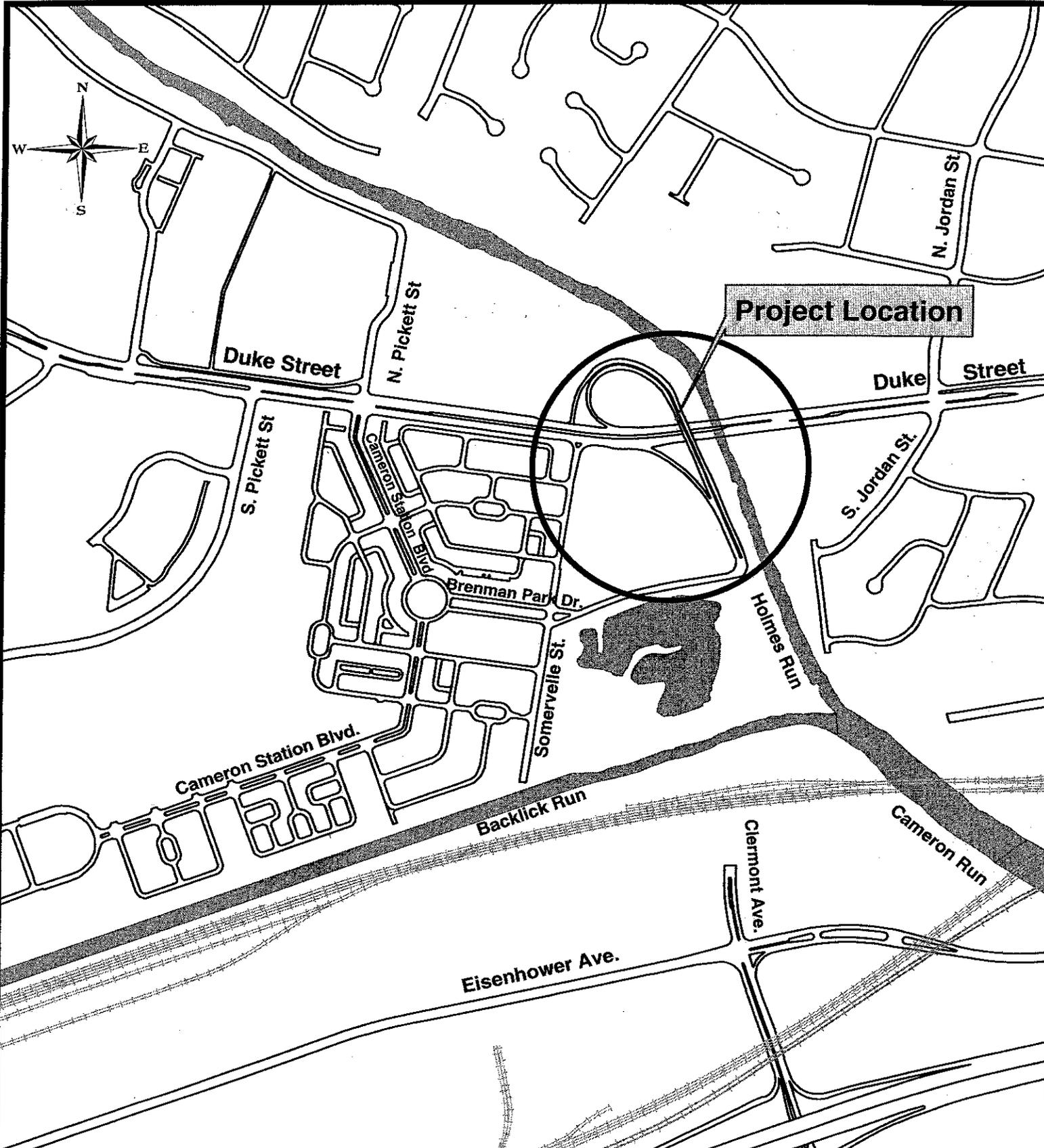
Adopted this ____ Day of _____, 20__

City of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST

Clerk of Council

By _____
Mayor/Manager



**DUKE STREET
PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS
LOCATION MAP**

Prepared by: Dept. of Transportation & Environmental Services
Date Prepared: November 7, 2002

RESOLUTION NO. 2047

ADDITION OF PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES TO THE BRIDGE OVER DUKE STREET
AND BEN BRENNAN PARK DRIVE

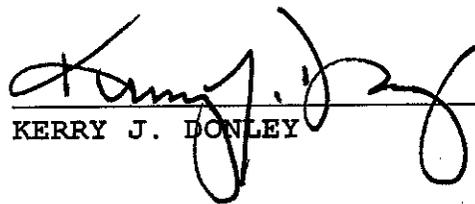
PROJECT PROGRAMMING RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in accordance with Virginia Department of Transportation construction allocation procedures, it is necessary that a request by City Council resolution be made in order that the Department program an urban highway project in the City of Alexandria;

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ADOPTED: November 26, 2002


KERRY J. DONLEY MAYOR

ATTEST:


Beverly I. Jett, CMC City Clerk

EXHIBIT NO. 2

19
11-26-02



jb900@yahoo.com

11/25/02 10:29 AM

To: Beverly I Jett@Alex
Subject: We Support Docket Item #19

Hi Bev,

I forgot to send a copy to you when I sent this to City Council last night.

Joe

Mayor and City Council

We support the resolution authorizing construction of pedestrian/bike paths on the bridge/roadway connecting Duke St. and Ben Brenman Park.

The current structure/roadway does not have these features and can be a hazard and discouragement for non-vehicle users. Also, these enhancements would help improve the overall appearance.

Furthermore, funds permitting, we encourage City staff to design more esthetic features into the rest of the bridge and roadway surface. This would make them look more like an inviting gateway into a beautiful park, rather than like the truck entrance into an Army depot, which it was.

Joe Bennett, President
Cameron Station Civic Association, Inc

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