City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 2, 2012
TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL
FROM: RASHAD M. YOUNG, CITY MANAGER
SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF THE LONG RANGE PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

ISSUE: Adoption of the long range planning work program for FY 2013.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council approve the proposed FY2013 planning initiatives and work program as described in this memorandum. The proposed work program is consistent with the FY2013 budget in regard to staffing and other budget resources and reflects the City Council’s comments at the April 24, 2012 work session.

Interdepartmental long range planning initiatives include:

- Landmark North, including Landmark Mall redevelopment
- Begin Eisenhower West or GenOn/Old Town North Small Area Plan
- Waterfront Plan implementation
- Beauregard Small Area Plan implementation
- Principles and Tools for Public Engagement
- Potomac Yard Metro Station and Crystal City/Potomac Yard/Braddock Transitway
- Implementation of adopted small area plans, including Potomac Yard, Arlandria and Braddock; the Housing Master Plan; the ARHA Strategic Plan; the Sanitary Sewer Master Plan; the King Street retail studies; and the Citywide Transportation Signage and Wayfinding System
- Census data analysis, reporting, and forecasting.

BACKGROUND: The Department of Planning and Zoning, Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, Department of Recreation Parks and Cultural Activities, and the Office of Housing presented a proposed work program to the City Council on October 25, 2011 and again on April 24, 2012. The purpose of the second work session was to review the changes made to the proposed long range planning work program based upon: Council input from the October work session, resources available for the work program in the proposed FY 2013 Operating Budget and proposed FY 2013 – FY 2022 Capital Improvements Program, and updated estimates of the duration of current and planned projects.
Details of the proposed work program that was presented at the April 24, 2012 work session are provided in Budget Memo #35, dated April 12, 2012, and is included as Attachment 1. The Long Range Planning Work Program bar chart/timeline reflecting this work program is included as Attachment 2.

During the April 24 work session, Council members provided guidance related to the goals and approach of the community engagement project and noted that the Landmark North project is an excellent opportunity to model some of the proposed community engagement principles (such as being clear upfront about the scope and duration of the project and the public’s role). Council members acknowledged that staff resources are increasingly being applied to plan implementation and they discussed the role that the small area plans have in supporting the health of the tax base and, in turn, the ability of the City to provide quality public services. Council members suggested a future work session on this topic in Council chambers, so that it could be broadcast to a wider audience.

Council members noted the change in the planned start for the next small area plan (either Eisenhower West or Gen-On/Old Town North) to mid calendar year 2013 and suggested that, in both cases, there is important preliminary work that can and should be completed ahead of the formal start of the plan. In the case of Eisenhower West, it is the transportation analysis to address VDOT/FHWA issues and in the case of Gen-On, it is the investigation of environmental conditions on the site. Because the timing of the planning for the Gen-On site depends, to some extent, on the readiness of the owners, the actual start date of a Gen-On plan is not at all firm. As Council members typically review the long range planning work program in every year in late fall and late spring, Council members will have two more opportunities to adjust the work program prior to the scheduled start of the next small area plan.

As Council members at the work session did not request specific changes to the proposed work program, staff recommends approval of the work program as presented.

ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment II: Long Range Planning Work Program Bar Chart

STAFF:
Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager
Faroll Hamer, Director, Department of Planning and Zoning
Rich Baier, Director, Department of Transportation and Environmental Services
Jim Spengler, Director, Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities
Mildrilyn Davis, Director, Office of Housing
On October 25, 2011, the City Council held a work session to review a set of proposed long range planning initiatives for the City of Alexandria and to provide feedback on the proposed priorities.

The purpose of this memorandum is to review the relationship of the City Manager’s proposed FY 2013 General Fund operating budget and proposed FY 2013 – FY 2022 Capital Improvement Program to the interdepartmental long range planning work program. How the proposed budget impacts the long range planning work program is highlighted. A revised (“April 2012”) bar chart/timeline of the long range planning work program is attached, as is the version from the October 2011 work session.

As in past years, staff will bring the long range planning work program to the City Council, first as a work session on April 24 and then as a docket item in May.

Interdepartmental long range planning initiatives for FY 2013 include:

- **Landmark North, consisting of Landmark Mall redevelopment**: No future funds are needed in the proposed FY 2013 budget for this project because the study to develop infrastructure cost and development revenue estimates can be funded with $100,000 reserved from FY 2012 year end fund balance. Developer funding is being sought for P&Z and T&ES staffing needs and transportation analysis study. The attached bar chart shows a change in the duration of the project, from 12 to 18 months. The additional time is acceptable to the Howard Hughes development organization and will allow more opportunities for public input.

- **Eisenhower West OR GenOn/Old Town North small area plan**: The Eisenhower West small area plan will begin when the Landmark North project is completed, now anticipated to be June 2013. FY 2012 available funds in the amount of $175,000 have been reserved for transportation analyses supporting the Eisenhower West Plan as part of the FY 2013 budget. These transportation analyses would be a precursor to subsequent land use studies.
In October, staff showed both Eisenhower West and GenOn/Old Town North beginning after Landmark North concludes. Now the proposed work program shows that work would begin on one or the other, but not both. Since October, it has become clear that there is a shared expectation that Waterfront Plan implementation move forward vigorously, and this level of effort will occupy the resources that could otherwise be applied to a GenOn/Old Town North plan, at least for the time being. In addition, neither GenOn nor PEPCO are ready to commit to starting a planning effort and they have indicated that they are focused on issues related to the plant closure and the remaining electrical substation.

- **Waterfront Plan implementation:** The Union Street congestion study has been docketed for appropriation in FY 2012 with $300,000 from surplus revenues. The operating budget adds staff resources in a proposed Office of Project Implementation, with Waterfront Plan implementation representing the major role of this new office. Capital projects related to the waterfront include:
  
  o Preliminary design and engineering for flood mitigation and other capital investments (FY 2013): $0.75 million
  
  o Contingency for to-be-determined studies of $0.1 million (FY 2013)
  
  o Immediate open space acquisition needs in FY 2013: $1.0 million
  
  o City Marina utility upgrades in FY 2016 & FY 2017: $1.25 million
  
  o City Marina seawall repairs in FY 2016 & FY 2017: $1.7 million
  
  o City Marina dredging ($3.1 million in FY 2014 & 2015; $3.1 million in FY 2020 & 2021) and on-going City Marina maintenance ($90,000/annually)
  
  o Windmill Hill Park funding in FY 2016 & 2017 - $4.0 million - along with $1.3 million in existing allocated and unallocated project balances.

- **Beauregard Corridor Small Area Plan implementation:** The proposed CIP includes $24.2 million for Transit Corridor “C” (Beauregard) construction and rolling stock. Funds including developer contributions for other implementation projects will be considered for future CIPs. The bar chart has been changed to reflect an anticipated plan approval in May 2012.

- **Public engagement:** No new funds are needed for this project, which will develop principles and tools for ensuring broad and meaningful public involvement in long range planning. As shown in the attached bar chart, the timing of this project is unchanged from what was presented in October.

- **Interdepartmental support for new school construction and long range planning for ACPS school facilities:** No new funds are needed for City department participation in long range planning for schools.
• Potomac Yard Metro Station and the Crystal City/Potomac Yard/Braddock Transitway: The proposed CIP includes $273.8 million for a new Metrorail station in Potomac Yard. No additional capital construction funds are needed for the Crystal City/ Potomac Yard/Braddock Transitway. For rolling stock for this transitway, some $4.0 million is budgeted in the FY 2013 CIP and $1.0 million is planned in FY 2014 of the Transportation Improvement Program to begin operating the service.

• Citywide Transportation Signage and Wayfinding System: The proposed CIP includes the $2.27 million in funding to complete this project. All of the planned Old Town wayfinding signs (Phases 2 and 3) would be completed by FY 2015.

• Begin implementation of the forthcoming Housing Master Plan, the Sanitary Sewer Master Plan, and the ARHA Strategic Plan: The proposed CIP includes $35.2 million for sewer capacity expansion.

• Continued Census data analysis, reporting and forecasting: No additional funds are needed to be budgeted for this project.

• Elimination of funding for outside technical expertise (P&Z): The Department of Planning and Zoning’s FY2013 budget contains no funds for outside technical expertise (i.e., consultants). As part of departmental budget reductions, $100,000 was removed from the P&Z budget, with those funds more than replaced (as described above) using FY 2012 carryover and CIP funding.

ATTACHMENTS:
October 2011 Draft FY 2013 Interdepartmental Long Range Planning Work Program
April 2012 Draft FY 2013 Interdepartmental Long Range Planning Work Program

cc: Chair and Members of the Planning Commission
Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager
Rich Baier, Transportation and Environmental Services
Jim Spengler, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities
John Catlett, Department of Code Administration
Mildrilyn Davis, Office of Housing
Lance Mallamo, Office of Historic Alexandria
Val Hawkins, Alexandria Economic Development Partnership
Stephanie Brown, Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association
### SMALL AREA PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION
- Arlandria Action Plan (P&Z) and 4MR Implementation (RPCA/T&ES)
- Beauregard Corridor Small Area Plan (P&Z)
- Braddock Plan Implementation (P&Z)
- Eisenhower West Small Area Plan (P&Z)
- Gen-On/Old Town North Small Area Plan (P&Z)
- Landmarks/Van Dorn Corridor Plan (P&Z)
- Public Engagement Process (P&Z)
- Waterfront Small Area Plan (P&Z/RPCA/T&ES)

### OTHER LONG RANGE PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION
- ARHA Strategic Plan (Housing)
- Housing Master Plan (Housing)
- Sanitary Sewer Master Plan (T&ES)
- School Facilities Planning (City/ACPS)
- Transit Corridor Feasibility Studies (T&ES)
- Transit Corridor C Implementation (T&ES)
- Transit Corridor A Implementation (T&ES) (see note 1)

### ONGOING IMPLEMENTATION WORK/SPECIAL PROJECTS
- AEDP Strategic Plan
- BRAC-132 Road and Transit Improvements (T&ES)
- Census, Forecasting and Demographics (P&Z)
- Eco-City Alexandria/Green Building Phase II/ Energy and Climate Change (P&Z/T&ES/General Services)
- Fort Ward Park (RPCA/OHA/T&ES)
- Parking (T&ES, P&Z)
- Wayfinding Signage (T&ES)
- Historic Preservation Management Plan (OHA)
- King Street Initiatives (P&Z)
- Public Art Master Plan (RPCA)

### KEY
- Preparatory staff work for a planning project
- Plan development/Plan implementation (significant public participation throughout)
- Plan approval process
- Plan Implementation

Note 1: Includes Potomac Yard Metro EIS, Crystal City/Potomac Yard/Braddock Transitway environmental studies, and the Route 1 Streetcar planning.
**APRIL 2012 Draft FY2013 Interdepartmental Long Range Planning Work Program**

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### SMALL AREA PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION
- Arlandria Action Plan (P&Z) and 4MR Implementation (RPCA/TAES)
- Beauregard Corridor Small Area Plan (P&Z)
- Braddock Plan Implementation (P&Z)
- Eisenhower West Small Area Plan OR Gen Col/Whitcomb Town North Small Area Plan (P&Z)
- Landmark North (P&Z)
- Public Engagement Process (P&Z)
- Waterfront Small Area Plan (P&Z/RPCA/TAES)

### OTHER LONG RANGE PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION
- ARHA Strategic Plan (Housing)
- Housing Master Plan (Housing)
- Sanitary Sewer Master Plan (T&ES)
- School Facilities Planning (City/ACPS)
- Transit Corridor Feasibility Studies (T&ES)
- Transit Corridor C Implementation (T&ES)
- Potomac Yard Metro/Corridor A Transit (T&ES) (see note 1)

### ONGOING IMPLEMENTATION WORK/SPECIAL PROJECTS:
- AEDP Strategic Plan
- IBRAC-133 Road and Transit Improvements (T&ES)
- Census, Forecasting and Demographics (P&Z)
- Eco-City Alexandria/Green Building Phase III: Energy and Climate Change (P&Z/T&ES/General Services)

### KEY
- Preparatory staff work for a planning project
- Plan development (significant public participation throughout)
- Plan approval process
- Plan implementation

### FUNDING DEPENDENT
- Historic Preservation Management Plan (OHA)
- King Street Initiatives (P&Z)

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**Note 1:** Includes Potomac Yard EIS, Crystal City/Potomac Yard/Braddock Transitway environmental studies, and the Route 1 Streetcar planning.