


City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 21, 2009

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT A NEW ALEXANDRIA BUS PURCHASE PROJECT BE ESTABLISHED IN THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD SIX-YEAR IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

ISSUE: Establishing a project in the Six-Year Improvement Program for the purchase of buses for the Alexandria Transit Company.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council adopt the attached resolution requesting that the Commonwealth Transportation Board establish a new project in the Six-Year Improvement Program to fund the purchase of buses for the Alexandria Transit Company.

DISCUSSION: Alexandria’s primary source of State and federal funding for transportation projects is the Commonwealth Transportation Board Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP). In order to receive and expend funds in this program, project specific accounts are necessary. Current state allocation procedures require that a resolution requesting the addition of a new project be adopted by City Council in order to add a new urban highway project to the SYIP.

Alexandria has previously used Urban System funds to purchase buses for the Alexandria Transit Company, and there is a project in the current SYIP for this purpose (UPC 52175, City of Alexandria – Purchase of Buses). At the time this project was created, the Urban System program was fully funded with State transportation revenues; however, the Urban System program has since been “federalized,” and funding now comes from both federal and State revenues. In order to receive Urban System funds, projects must now be eligible for reimbursement under federal funding guidelines. The purpose of the attached resolution is to create a new project for the purchase of buses that will be eligible for federal reimbursement. While the intent of the City’s capital plans are to use these State and federal funds to purchase replacement buses, the creation of this new project category allows both the purchase of replacement, as well as new buses. If State funding is increased above projected funding levels, then the purchase of new buses can be considered.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact to the City to add this project to the Six-Year Improvement Program. At this time, it is contemplated that between \$2.0 million and \$2.4 million in State and federal funds will be available for the purchase of replacement buses in each year from FY 2009 to FY 2014. As Urban System funds are programmed for this project, the City will be required to provide a two percent local match.

ATTACHMENT: Resolution requesting that a new project be added to the Six-Year Improvement Program.

STAFF:

Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager

Rich Baier, Director, T&ES

Tom Culpepper, Deputy Director, T&ES

RESOLUTION NO. ____

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

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria desires to use urban system funds to purchase buses for use by its Alexandria Transit Company.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, requests that the Virginia Department of Transportation establish a new urban system project in the Six-Year Improvement Program for the purchase of buses for Alexandria Transit Company.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Alexandria hereby agrees to pay its share of the total cost for purchasing these buses 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 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.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Alexandria hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute any agreements necessary to advance this project.

ADOPTED: _____

William D. Eulle Mayor

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO.2317

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

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, requests that the Virginia Department of Transportation establish a new urban system project in the Six-Year Improvement Program for the purchase of buses for Alexandria Transit Company.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Alexandria hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute any agreements necessary to advance this project.

ADOPTED: February 2, 2009


WILLIAM D. EULLE MAYOR

ATTEST:


Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk