

DASH

5 YEARS FARE FREE

Meeting Will Begin Soon

Board of Directors

June 10, 2026



Calling of the Roll



David Kaplan

Chair



Jesse O'Connell

Vice-Chair



Ajashu Thomas



Matt Harris



Kursten Phelps



Jamal Schoby



Arish Gajjar



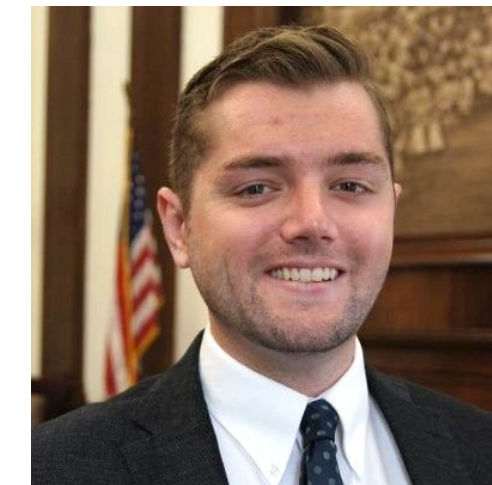
Praveen Kathpal



Hillary Orr



Kevin Greenlief



Arthur Wicks





Welcome & Introductions
Board of Directors Meeting
June 10, 2026



Public Comment

Those wishing to speak during the public hearing may pre-register at dashbus.com/ and join via Zoom.

Alternatively, attendees may use the “RAISE HAND” feature to be recognized for comment.



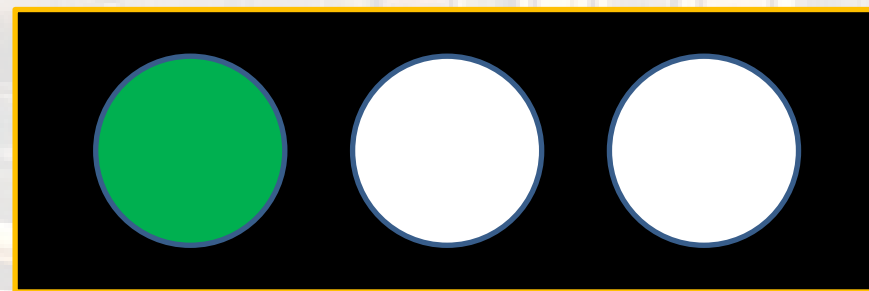


Public Comment

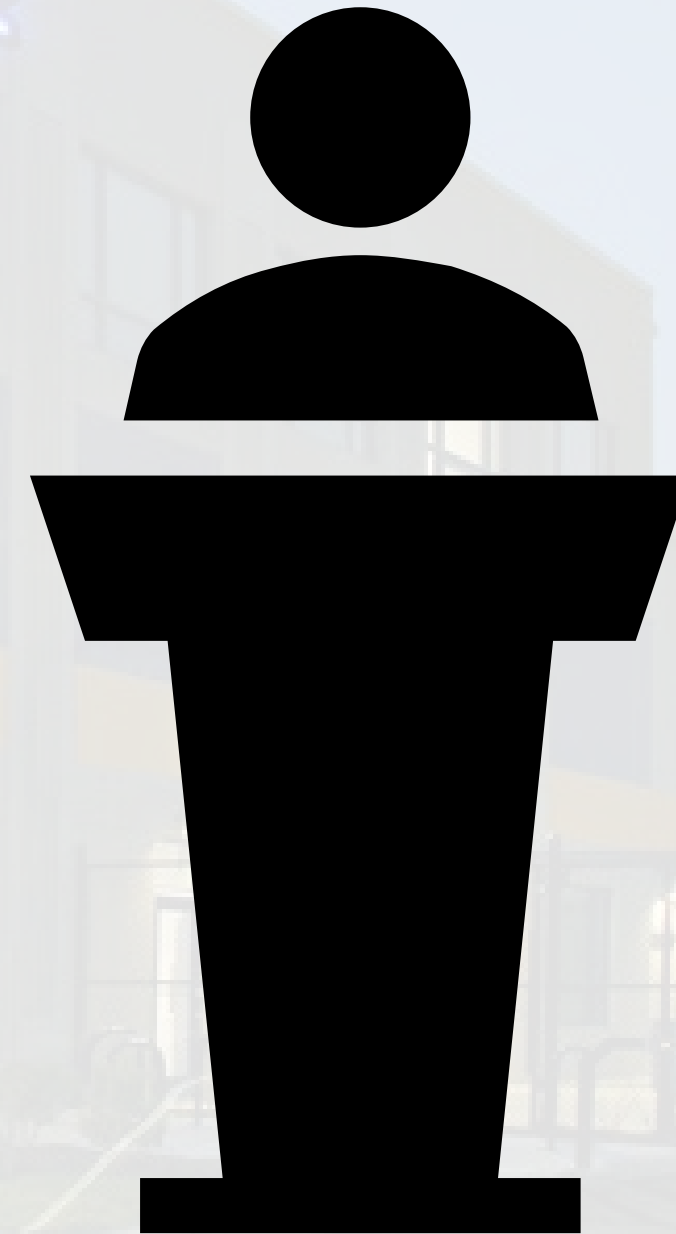
Each speaker is permitted 3 minutes for the public hearing.

When the **YELLOW** light appears, 1 minute remains.

When the **RED** light appears, you are out of time.



Time Spoken Expired



Collaboration & Engagement

2b. Chairs Report

David Kaplan – Chair of the Board

2c. DASH Rider Advisory Committee (DAC) Updates

(as needed - DAC Chair or DASH Staff)

2d. T&ES Report

Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, Transportation & Environmental Services

2e. Other Member Reports

All



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DASH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Presented by
Nathaniel Cartagena, DAC Chair

June 10, 2026



MISSION & PURPOSE

- Established in 2021 to provide a critical communication link between DASH, its riders, and the Alexandria community.
- Composed of engaged community members and transit users, the DAC provides input on a wide variety of service-related matters, help to improve customer outreach and the overall DASH rider experience.
- The DAC is an advisory body, and does not set or establish DASH policy, alter service standards, influence contracts, modify service, routes, or affect personnel matters.



GOALS & OBJECTIVES

01 Public Engagement & Representation

Ensure that community members, particularly riders, have a voice in transit planning and decision-making.

02 Service Improvement & Evaluation

Provide feedback on transit service performance, accessibility, and customer satisfaction.

03 Policy & Budget Recommendations

Advise on policies budgets, infrastructure projects, and funding priorities to align services with community needs.

04 Equity & Accessibility Advocacy

Promote equitable access to transit for underserved populations, including people with different abilities, low-income riders, and marginalized communities.



STRUCTURE & COMPOSITION

Membership

- We seek members who reflect the diversity of Alexandria and DASH riders
- The DAC consists of at least nine (9) members, with a maximum of seventeen (17) --- currently there are sixteen (16) members
- May serve for up to three 2-year terms
- Chair and Vice Chair are elected annually by Committee members and may not serve more than four (4) consecutive terms

Meetings

- Meetings are scheduled quarterly, typically held at the DASH Facility
- May be held in-person, virtually, or in a hybrid format
- Summaries and recordings are posted on DASH's website



EVENTS & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Subcommittee Objectives

- Serve as DASH ambassadors at community events to drive public awareness and engagement
- Propose and organize community-facing initiatives and gatherings

Updates

- Represented DAC through participation in and support of community engagement events, including Space of Her Own, ALX Dog Walk, CTAV Roadeo, and DASH Nights Out
- In progress: Collaborate with the Membership and Recruitment Subcommittee to expand outreach initiatives and increase community engagement opportunities



MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT

Subcommittee Objectives

- Develop strategic initiatives for attracting new members
- Establish an onboarding process and manage member relations

Updates

- Conducted interviews of 8 potential DAC candidates
- Welcomed 5 new members to the DAC
- In progress: Create standardized interview guide and criteria for new DAC members



ADVOCACY & POLICY

Subcommittee Objectives

- Build relationships with policymakers, key stakeholders, and allied organizations to lobby for DASH and public transit improvements.
- Monitor legislative changes that impact DASH services.

Updates

- Coordinated DAC Budget input letters to the City Manager (Fall) and City Council (Winter) with DASH staff, consistent with the approved ATSP
- Advocated for DASH funding (NVTAL Legislative conference; meetings with a few Council members; Chair speaking at a budget hearing)
- In progress: Work with ACPS, T&ES, & DASH to expand transit education in ACPS



RIDER EXPERIENCE

Subcommittee Objectives

- Develop and promote accessible opportunities for the broader community to share their rider experiences.
- Provide service feedback based on first-hand experiences and rider input.

Updates

- Created formal DAC guidance channel
- All DAC feedback is documented and routed through DASH staff liaison
- Provide guidance and feedback on topical matters (e.g., signage, emergencies)



Collaboration & Engagement

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2e. Other Member Reports

All





City of Alexandria
Transportation and
Environmental Services



GO Alex

Strategic Plan

FY 2027 - 2031





Summary

Request: Consider the GO Alex Strategic Plan for FY 2027 - 2031

Council Action:

- Approve the Plan and forward recommendation to VA Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

Key Elements of the Proposal:

- Identifies target markets, programs, and projects for GO Alex over the next 5 years
- Identifies funding sources



GO Alex Vision

Alexandria is a community where everyone is **informed** about their transportation options and empowered to **choose** safe, seamless, and convenient ways to move.



Mission

GO Alex **connects** residents, employees, and visitors with a range of **transportation options** that make it easier to move around the city and region.



What is GO Alex?

- **Connects people to transportation options** – Helps residents, employees, and visitors easily navigate walking, biking, public transportation, and other ways to travel throughout the city and region.
- **Partners with employers to support commuting choices** – Provides tools and benefits that make it easier for employees to access efficient, cost-effective travel options, supporting Alexandria's economic vitality.
- **Administers and guides Transportation Management Plans (TMPs)** – Ensures new developments implement and supports strategies that reduce congestion and enhances multimodal travel.
- **Informs and empowers better travel decisions** – Delivers targeted engagement, resources, and programs that help people choose safe, seamless, and convenient ways to move.

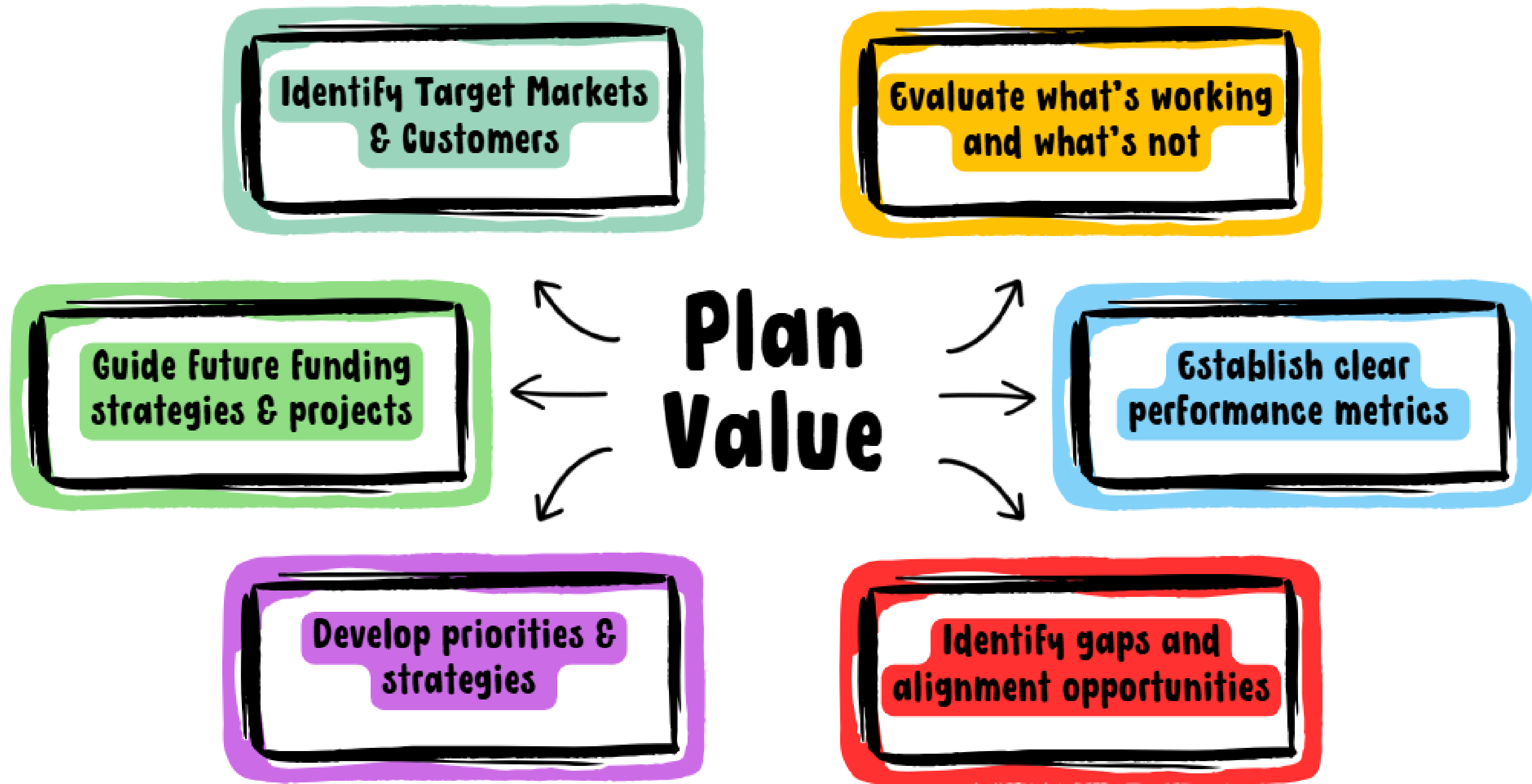


Overarching Success Indicators

Overarching Metric	Reporting Frequency	Desired Trend	Source
Non-SOV mode split percentage	Annually	↑	US Census ACS, State of the Commute or City of Alexandria surveys, worksite Commute Survey
Capital Bikeshare ridership	Quarterly	↑	Capital Bikeshare
DASH Ridership	Quarterly	↑	DASH
Metrorail Entries at Alexandria Stations	Quarterly	↑	WMATA
Metrobus Ridership	Quarterly	↑	WMATA
Shared Mobility Trips	Quarterly	↑	Shared Mobility Operators
Number of zero or one-car households per capita	Annually	↑	US Census ACS, State of the Commute or City of Alexandria surveys, worksite Commute Survey
Number of e-bikes per capita	Annually	↑	AlexMoves Survey, City of Alexandria Resident Report



Strategic Plan Purpose





Strategic Plan Goals



Inform and Educate

Raise awareness of transportation choices to reduce SOV mode-share.



Enhance and Invest

Leverage GO Alex's strengths and direct investments accordingly.



Prove and Celebrate

Share GO Alex's impacts through data and storytelling.



Target Markets & Customers



LIVE
Residential Engagement

Student
Everyday Trips
Wannabe Car-light
Households
New Residents near transit



WORK
Employer Engagement

Large Alexandria Employers
Regional Commuters



VISIT
Visitor Engagement

Visitors and Tourists



Grant Operations

Training & Education

Youth & Adult Bike Safety
Transit Education

Incentives

SmartBenefits
eBike Incentives

Events & Outreach

Bike to Work Day
Roll and Park at City Events

Pilot Programs

eBike Lending Library
Water Taxi Study

Marketing

Campaigns
Social Media

Administrative

Salaries
Technology

Recognition & Celebration

MWCOG Employer Awards
Best Workplaces for Commuters



Strategic Funding Opportunities FY 2027 - 2031



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments





FY 2027 – 2031

Success Areas

Indicators

- Ridership growth for Capital Bikeshare, DASH, Metrorail, Metrobus, and Shared Mobility
- Increased zero or one-car households per capita
- Expansion of e-bikes per capita
- Increased youth and adult training participation
- High-impact engagement events

Continual Improvement

- Leveraging Customer Relationship Management (CRM) to strengthen baseline data and improve program evaluation
- Scale success stories and storytelling to boost visibility and prove impact



Next Steps

City Council

May

VA DRPT

June

Implementation

July



Recommendation

- ▶ Approve the GO Alex Strategic Plan for FY 2027 - 2031

Collaboration & Engagement

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(as needed - DAC Chair or DASH Staff)

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2e. Other Member Reports

All



Regular Business

3a. Consideration of Approval – Meeting Minutes

Action Item: Consideration of approval of May 2026 Meeting Minutes

3b. Financial Reports - Q&A as needed

Edward Ryder, CFO



Action Items

4a. Consideration of Approval: Alexandria Transit Strategic Plan

Update by Stevie Mathews

4b. Consideration of Approval: FY 2027 ATC Budget

Update by Edward Ryder

4c. Consideration of Approval: ATC Board Strategic Plan

Update by Raymond Mui & Executive Leadership Team



ATSP Table Updated

DASH BUS REPLACEMENT & EXPANSION SCHEDULE													
Funding Year	Type	Quantity	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	FY32	FY33	FY34	FY35	FY36
Delivery Year			FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	FY32	FY33	FY34	FY35	FY36	FY37
2011 Gilligs	Hybrid	10											
2011 Gilligs (Trolley)	Hybrid	5											
2012 Gilligs	Hybrid	10											
2014 Gilligs	Hybrid	7	7										
2015 Gilligs	Hybrid	13		13									
2015 Gillig (Trolley)	Hybrid	1		1									
2017 Gilligs	Hybrid	6				6							
2018 Gilligs	Low Emission	14					14						
2019 New Flyers	Low Emission	13						13					
2020 New Flyers	Low Emission	8							8				
2020 New Flyers	Electric	3							3				
2021 New Flyers	Electric	4								4			
2021 Proterra	Electric	7								7			
2023 New Flyer	Low Emission	10										10	
2025 New Flyer	Low Emission	6											
2025 New Flyer	Electric	2											
2026 New Flyer	Low Emission	2											
2027 Gillig	Electric	10											
2027 Gillig (Trolley)	Electric	5											
Total Retirements			7	14	0	6	14	13	11	11	0	10	0
Replacement Buses (LE			0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Replacement Buses			7	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Replacement Buses			0	0	0	6	14	13	11	11	0	10	0
Total Replacement			7	14	0	6	14	13	11	11	0	10	0
Expansion Buses (LE			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Expansion Buses (Electric)			0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0
Total Expansion Buses			0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0



Action Items

4a. Consideration of Approval: Alexandria Transit Strategic Plan

Update by Stevie Mathews

4b. Consideration of Approval: FY 2027 ATC Budget

Update by Edward Ryder

4c. Consideration of Approval: ATC Board Strategic Plan

Update by Raymond Mui & Executive Leadership Team



FY2027 ATC Final Budget

Board Action Item:

- **FY27 Operating Budget:**
 - **\$38.9 million;** a \$1.6m increase from FY26 (+4.3%)
 - \$1m (2.7%) growth attributed to base budget
 - \$619k attributed to Line 32 enhancement included from Council add/delete.
- **Cost Pressures Not Addressed:**
 - Rising fuel costs
 - Projected Year-End deficit of \$1.3m



Alexandria Transit Company				
Fiscal Year 2027 General Manager's Proposed Budget (Including Line 32 Enhancement) Contingent Upon ATC Board Approval				
	FY27 General Manager's Budget	FY26 Final Budget	FY27 Proposed vs FY26	FY27 vs FY26%
REVENUE				
City Contribution - DASH	38,459,866	36,869,417	1,590,449	4.3%
Charters	175,000	175,000	-	0.0%
Advertising	160,000	160,000	-	0.0%
Miscellaneous Revenue	85,000	60,000	25,000	41.7%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 38,879,866	\$ 37,264,417	\$ 1,615,449	4.3%
EXPENSES				
	FY27 General Manager's Budget	FY26 Final Budget	FY27 Proposed vs FY26	FY27 vs FY26%
Administration				
Wages	3,271,076	3,033,300	237,776	7.8%
Fringe Benefits	416,315	321,890	94,425	29.3%
Payroll Taxes	250,276	231,800	18,476	8.0%
Retirement Costs	261,726	243,000	18,726	7.7%
Facilities Maintenance (Personnel)	556,800	508,700	48,100	9.5%
Facilities Maintenance (Non-Personnel)	285,000	287,000	(2,000)	-0.7%
Insurance	1,006,243	895,635	110,608	12.3%
Professional Services	1,051,300	975,700	75,600	7.7%
Utilities	395,645	471,094	(75,449)	-16.0%
Telecommunications	116,000	116,000	-	0.0%
Printing & Advertising	50,500	50,500	-	0.0%
Training, Travel, Events	62,150	62,150	-	0.0%
Office Equipment & Supplies	126,400	126,400	-	0.0%
Employee Recognition	59,483	59,483	-	0.0%
Dues and Subscriptions	24,500	24,500	-	0.0%
Grant Local Match (DRPT Grants)	15,000	15,000	-	0.0%
Total Administration Expenses	\$ 7,948,414	\$ 7,422,152	526,262	7.1%
	FY27 General Manager's Budget	FY26 Final Budget	FY27 Proposed vs FY26	FY27 vs FY26%
Maintenance				
Wages	3,822,500	3,733,700	88,800	2.4%
Fringe Benefits	456,045	391,800	64,245	16.4%
Payroll Taxes	292,421	281,500	10,921	3.9%
Retirement Costs	305,800	294,400	11,400	3.9%
Fuel and Lubricants	2,042,611	2,291,938	(249,327)	-10.9%
Repair Parts & Supplies	1,773,359	1,656,586	116,773	7.0%
Maintenance Services	440,800	341,100	99,700	29.2%
Training and Travel	20,000	20,000	-	0.0%
Total Maintenance Expenses	\$ 9,153,536	\$ 9,011,024	142,512	1.6%
	FY27 General Manager's Budget	FY26 Final Budget	FY27 Proposed vs FY26	FY27 vs FY26%
Operations				
Wages	16,367,220	15,619,096	748,124	4.8%
Fringe Benefits	2,592,882	2,501,275	91,607	3.7%
Payroll Taxes	1,223,465	1,171,110	52,355	4.5%
Retirement Costs	1,279,349	1,224,760	54,589	4.5%
Operating Materials and Supplies	38,950	38,950	-	0.0%
Operator Training	38,500	38,500	-	0.0%
Training and Travel	47,550	47,550	-	0.0%
Total Operations Expenses	\$ 21,587,916	\$ 20,641,241	946,675	4.6%
Capital Outlay	\$ 190,000	\$ 190,000	-	0.0%
TOTAL	\$ 38,879,866	\$ 37,264,417	1,615,449	4.3%
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ -	\$ -	-	

Action Items

4a. Consideration of Approval: Alexandria Transit Strategic Plan

Update by Stevie Mathews

4b. Consideration of Approval: FY 2027 ATC Budget

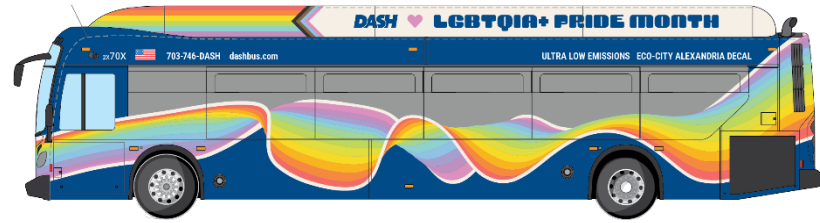
Update by Edward Ryder

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Update by Raymond Mui & Executive Leadership Team



Activities & Community Engagement



Pride Month Bus Wrap



250th/277th Bus Wrap



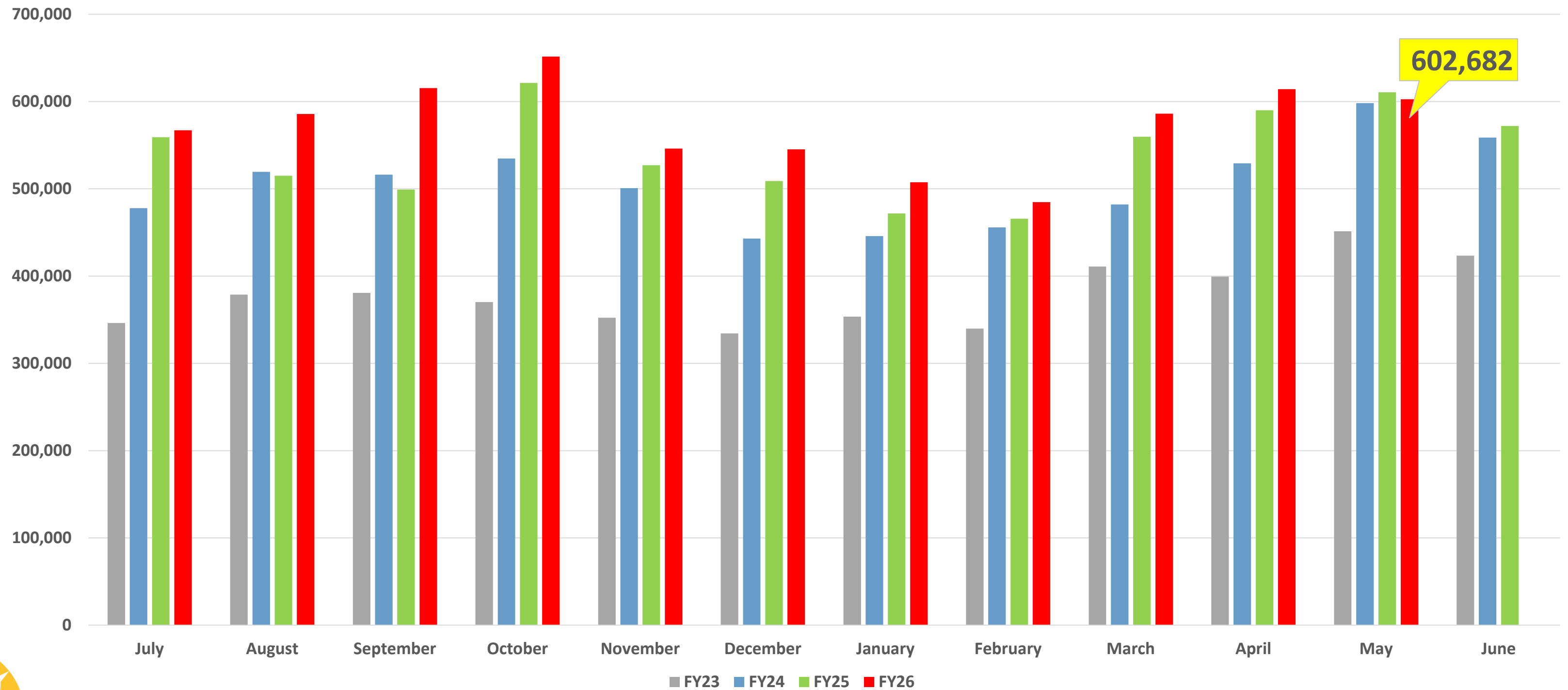
DASH Facility Tour & Touch-the-Bus Demonstrations for Local Preschoolers



Ridership Report

**FY26 YTD Ridership Total:
~6.3 million**

DASH Monthly Ridership (FY2023 - FY2026)





DASH

DASH Capital Program Update

May 2026

DASH



Outlook of Projects from FY25

DASH Facility Expansion

Fully Funded

DASH Deck Rehabilitation

Partly Funded

DASH Charging Infrastructure

Fully Funded

DASH Bus Replacement

FY26: 7 buses due for replacement

FY27: 14 buses due for replacement

Partly Funded

Note: due to electric bus availability challenges, (5) 2012 hybrid buses are retained to meet service needs. This also accounts for some increases in maintenance expenses.



Updates in Policy

Federal

- Discretionary programs now **prioritize low emissions over no emissions**
- Offered previously awarded projects given option to convert from No Emissions projects to Low Emissions projects.

State

- **Underutilization of MERIT** Capital Assistance program

Local

- City Council **prioritized service growth over zero emissions**, but without giving up zero emissions goals.
- New **flexibility with timeline** of zero emissions conversion



Funding for Capital Projects

Old Funding

- FY23 FTA Low-No award for **13 battery electric buses, chargers, and charging infrastructure**. (\$23 million)
- SmartScale 1 award for **6 diesel expansion buses and facility expansion** (\$11 million)
- SmartScale 2 award for **(7) battery electric expansion buses** (\$12 million)
- FY24 Federal Community Project Funding for **on-route opportunity charger** (\$1 million)

New Funding

- DASH was awarded **up to \$4.6 million** in State MERIT Capital Assistance funding for **Deck Rehabilitation**
- DASH and the City secured **\$10.9 million** in a second FTA Low-No award for **(11) hybrid replacement buses**



As a result...

Bus Replacement

FY26: 7 buses funded → 7 buses funded

FY27: 7 buses funded → 14 buses funded

- *11 of these buses will be converted from diesel to hybrid (partial zero emissions) technology*

DASH may also have opportunities to address the following:

- *Upgrade some of the replacement buses to articulated to expand capacity*
- *Order an additional battery electric bus to replace “totaled” Proterra bus that is cost ineffective to repair.*



Deck Rehabilitation

\$3 million funded → \$9.7 million funded

Capital Project Activities in FY27



- Update of **Zero Emissions Transition Plan**
- Substantial Completion of **Facility Expansion**
- Substantial Completion of **On Route Opportunity Charger**
- Beginning of work of Low-No funded **Charging Infrastructure**
- Delivery of 13 Low-No Funded **Battery Electric Buses**
- Production of 7 Smartscale II Funded **Battery Electric Buses**



Next Meeting: To be Announced

Executive Session

Motion to Enter Session:

"I _____ (name) move that the Alexandria Transit Company Board of Directors convene an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A.1) of the Code of Virginia"



The Board is currently in

Executive Session



Reconvene Public Session & Certification of Exec Session

Motion to Exit Session:

"I _____ (name) move to reconvene the public meeting of the Alexandria Transit Company Board of Directors."

Motion to Certify Session:

"I _____ (name) move to certify that, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia to the best of each member's knowledge only public business matters that were identified in the motion by which the executive session was convened, and that are lawfully exempted by the Freedom of Information Act from the Act's open meeting requirements, were heard, discussed or considered by the Board during the executive session."



Approval of Recommendation in Exec Session

Motion to Approve Recommendation in Executive Session:

"I _____ (name) (name) hereby move to approve the recommendations and decisions discussed during the Executive Session of the Alexandria Transit Company Board of Directors, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A1) of the Code of Virginia."



Wrap Up & Adjournment

Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Have a great summer!



Meeting Adjourned

June 10, 2026

@DASHbus_



@DASHbusva



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