Water Taxi Pilot Framing Discussion

November 19, 2019

Outline

- Water Taxi Pilot
  - Why it was needed
  - Previous Restriction
- Highlights from Pilot
- Next Steps

What is Water Taxi

- Operated by Potomac Riverboat Company, currently a subsidiary of Hornblower Cruises
- Three boats that serve tourists and some commuters between DC (Georgetown and District Wharf), Old Town Alexandria, and National Harbor in Maryland
- Restricted in commuter market because of lease restriction on operations before 9:30am



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Use Over Platform Improvement Project

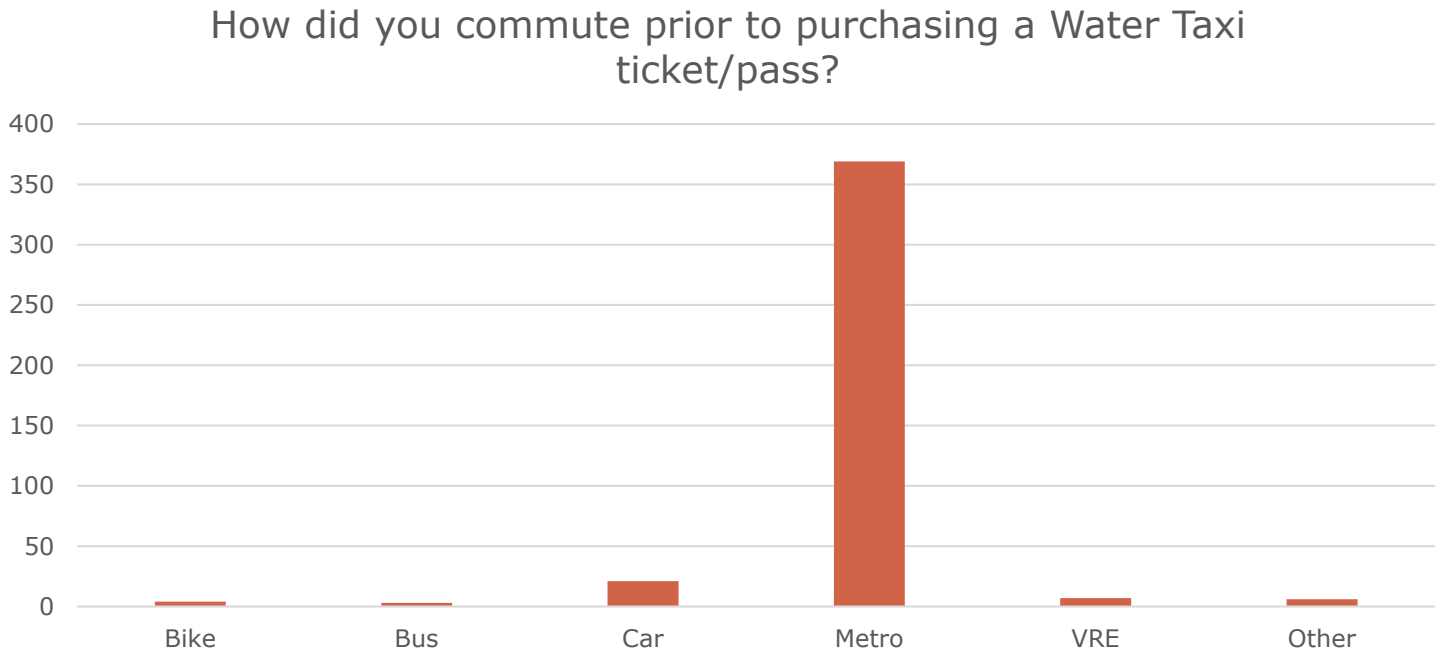
- Temporarily waived lease restriction so operations could start before 9:30am
- Required PRC to implement parking plan for commuters

Water Taxi Use Thus Far

- Up to 997 morning boardings a week on Wharf-Alexandria route (max achieved week of 6/24)
- 422 participants in commuter reimbursement program
  - $100 toward commuter pass
  - $8 toward a round trip pass (weekdays only)
- 90 percent were former Metrorail riders, and 85 percent either walked or biked
- No reported parking complaints or crush capacity in garages

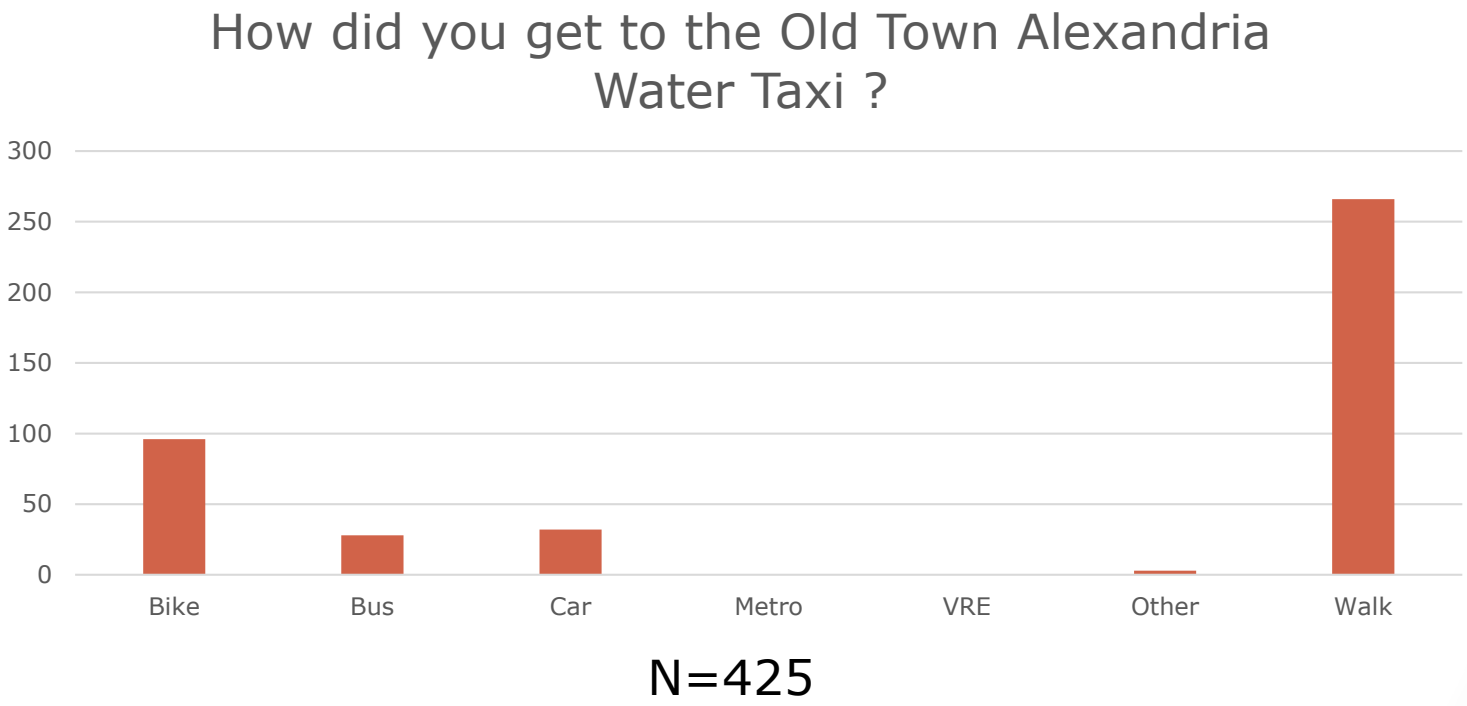
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Results



N=410

Results


How did you get to the Old Town Alexandria Water Taxi ?
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
Bike
Bus
Car
Metro
VRE
Other
Walk
N=425

Recommended Next Steps

- City Manager expressed intent to ask Council for lease extension
- Ask for operations to begin before 6:30am
- Promote water taxi as alternative to driving alone

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Discussion