CITY OF ALEXANDRIA TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2020, 7:00 P.M. VIRTUAL

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the November 16, 2020 meeting of the Traffic and Parking Board is being held electronically pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2(A)(3), the Continuity of Government ordinance adopted by the City Council on June 20, 2020 or Sections 4-0.00(g) in HB29 and HB30 to undertake essential business. Board members and staff are participating from remote locations through Zoom Webinar. This meeting is being held electronically, unless a determination is made that it is safe enough for the meeting to be held in person in the City Council Chamber at 301 King Street, Alexandria, VA. Electronic access will be provided in either event. The meeting can be accessed by the public through: Zoom hyperlink (below).

URL: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pn5JP_5JQGO71xuMj95rNA

Zoom Audio Conference: Dial in: 301-715-8592 Webinar ID: 982 3039 9267

Password: 078199

Public comment will be received at the meeting. The public may submit comments in advance to Bob Garbacz at bob.garbacz@alexandriava.gov no later than 24 hours before the meeting or make public comments through the conference call on the day of the hearing.

For reasonable disability accommodation, contact Jackie Cato at jackie.cato@alexandriava.gov or 703.746.3810, Virginia Relay 711.

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2020, 7 P.M. VIRTUAL

DOCKET

- **1.** Announcement of deferrals and withdrawals.
- 2. Approval of the October 26, 2020 Traffic and Parking Board meeting minutes.
- 3. WRITTEN STAFF UPDATES
 - a. None
- 4. WRITTEN PUBLIC HEARING FOLLOW-UP
 - a. King, Callahan & Russell Intersection Updates
- 5. PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

[This period is restricted to items not listed on the docket]

CONSENT

- **6. ISSUE**: Consideration of a request to replace an existing yield sign with a stop sign on the Duke Street Service Road approach to North Pickett Street
- 7. **ISSUE**: Consideration of a request to close Wales Alley to vehicular traffic
- 8. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to implement the residential pay by phone program on the 200 block of S. Royal Street.

PUBLIC HEARING

- **9. ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to remove parking on the 500 block of Montgomery Street for a bikeshare station
- **10. ISSUE**: Consideration of a request to add "No Through Truck" restrictions on unit block and 100 block of East Linden Street
- 11. ISSUE: Consideration of a request to remove 4-hour parking signs on the 5000-5200 blocks of Fillmore Avenue (between St. James United Methodist Church and North Beauregard Street)

12. STAFF UPDATES:

a. Commissioner Updates

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2020, 7:30 P.M. VIRTUAL MEETING

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman, William Schuyler, Vice Chair, James Lewis, Jason Osborne, Annie Ebbers, Ann Tucker, Lavonda Bonnard and Casey Kane

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Yon Lambert, Director, Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, Bob Garbacz, Division Chief of Traffic Engineering, Ryan Knight, Civil Engineering IV, Katye North, Division Chief of Mobility Services, Cuong Nguyen, Civil Engineering II, Christine Mayeur, Complete Streets Manager, Alex Block, Principal Planner, Megan Oleynik, Urban Planner II and Vicky Caudullo, Urban Planner II.

- 1. Announcement of deferrals and withdrawals: None
- 2. Approval of the September 28, 2020 Traffic and Parking Board meeting minutes:

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Osborne to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2020 Traffic and Parking Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

3. WRITTEN STAFF UPDATES

Mr. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tucker to allow Mr. Lambert to present the budget priorities verbally. The motion carried unanimously.

4. PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

[This period is restricted to items not listed on the docket]
Ms. Tucker spoke about traffic and parking concerns on South Reynolds Street.
Mr. Lacey, Mr. Seigel, Ms. Anand, Ms. Levy, Ms. Organek, Ms. Duffet and Mr. Lawhorn spoke about the traffic signal timing at the King, Callahan and Russell intersection.

5. PUBLIC HEARING FOLLOW-UP

- a. East Linden Street Truck Restrictions
- King, Callahan and Russell
 Ms. Mayeur presented the project to the Board. The Board asked staff to investigate the equity of the signal timing to help alleviate the congestion on Russell Road.

PUBLIC HEARING

6. ISSUE: Consideration of a request to remove parking on the 500 block of Montgomery Street for a bikeshare station.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Caudullo presented this item to the Board. Mr. Lewis expressed concern that the civic association was not contacted and was concerned that the community might not support this request.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: No one from the public spoke about this item.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Osborn to defer this item until staff reaches out to the North Old Town Association. The motion carried unanimously.

7. ISSUE: Consideration of a request to remove parking at various locations in the West End for bikeshare stations.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Caudullo presented this item to the Board.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: Mr. Gradstaff, and Mr. Notis were in favor of this item. Ms. Jones had concerns about the proposed parking removal on North Jordan Street.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbers to remove parking at various locations in the West End for bikeshare stations. The motion carried unanimously.

8. ISSUE: Consideration of staff recommendations on the renewal of existing certificates of public convenience and necessity and reductions to taxicab fees

DISCUSSION: Mr. Block presented this item to the Board.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: Mr. Abene, Mr. Alhandali, Mr. Meri, Mr. Woldegiorgis, Mr. Bynum, and Mr. Alula spoke in favor of the staff's recommendations.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lewis to approve the recommendations on the renewal of existing certificates of public convenience and necessity and reductions to taxicab fees. The motion carried unanimously.

9. STAFF UPDATES:

- b. Alexandria Mobility Plan curbside management
- c. Electric Vehicle Charging Readiness Strategy
- d. Commissioner updates

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lewis to change the Traffic and Parking Board meeting times from 7:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. while the Board was meeting virtually. The motion carried unanimously.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

Traffic and Parking Board

DATE: November 16, 2020

DOCKET ITEM: 4

ISSUE: Written Public Hearing Follow-up

King, Callahan, and Russell Road Intersection

During the September and October Traffic and Parking Board meetings, residents requested that staff add eight seconds of green time for southbound Russell Road. After considering public input and the reduced traffic volumes during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, staff implemented the eight additional seconds of green time for southbound Russell Road on October 29. Staff had numerous discussions with the community and worked closely with those who spoke at the public hearing to come to a compromise and try to address their immediate concerns. Given the reduced traffic volumes currently experienced as residents and many employees continue to telework or operate on alternative work schedules, staff agreed to implement this on a trial basis. Staff is monitoring this change and will adjust as necessary until a decision is made on the intersection configuration as part of the grant-funded project. If traffic volumes increase and there are substantial delays caused by this change for other approaches to the intersection, it will be reconsidered.

Since October 19th, staff has working to advance the grant-funded King, Callahan, Russell Road intersection project. Staff has been engaging with the community more closely for this project over the past several weeks with more outreach expected through November. Staff extended the feedback form comment period to November 9th. Given this extension, further outreach, and the timing of the November meeting due to the Thanksgiving holidays, staff expects to make a recommendation to the Board at the December meeting.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

Traffic and Parking Board

DATE: November 16, 2020

DOCKET ITEM: 6

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to replace an existing Yield Sign with a Stop

Sign on the Duke Street Service Road approach to North Pickett Street

REQUESTED BY: Transportation & Environmental Services (T&ES) Staff in coordination

with the Alexandria Police Department

LOCATION: Duke Street Service Road eastbound at North Pickett Street

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Board makes a recommendation to Director of TE&S to replace the existing yield sign with a stop sign on the Duke Street Service Road eastbound approach to North Pickett Street.

BACKGROUND: The replacement of the yield Sign with a stop Sign was recommended by the City's Vision Zero Crash Task Force, which includes representatives from Transportation & Environmental Services Department, Alexandria Police Department, as well as the Fire Department. The purpose of the Vision Zero Crash Task Force is to discuss recent traffic crashes or incidents and evaluate opportunities to improve safety at these locations.

The Duke Street Service Road is a two-lane undivided roadway that runs adjacent and parallel to Duke Street between North Pickett Street and North Paxton Street. It provides access to a car dealership, a professional building, several residential complexes, and a shopping center (Attachment 1). North Pickett Street is a two-lane undivided roadway with on-street parking on each side. As North Pickett Street approaches the Duke Street Service Road, the approach lanes consist of a separate left turn, through and right turn lane.

The Duke Street and North Pickett Street intersection has experienced approximately seven severe collisions within the past five years. The collision types include angle crashes, pedestrian crashes, and rear-end crashes.

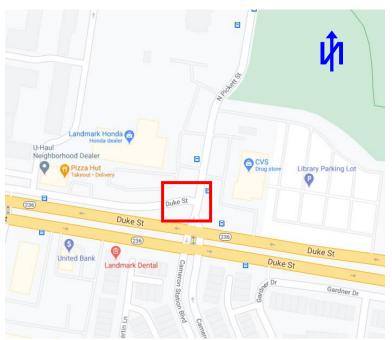
<u>DISCUSSION</u>: The proximity of the Service Road to Duke Street creates operational challenges for the intersection of North Pickett Street and Duke Street. In addition, the yield sign creates confusion as to who has the right of way when the Duke Street signal is green. Although the yield sign was not cited as a contributing factor for any traffic collisions or incidents within this intersection, it attributes to the challenges faced for all users. Additionally, the City aims to install a crosswalk in conjunction with the stop sign for pedestrians crossing the service road.

This will make it more clear to motorist that they are supposed to stop as well as creating a better environment for pedestrians.

Therefore, based on engineering judgement, staff recommends replacing the yield sign with a stop sign to help mitigate confusion over who has the right of way and reduce potential conflicts within this intersection, moving the City closer to the Vision Zero goal of eliminating all severe injury and fatality crashes.

OUTREACH: Staff has coordinated with the Alexandria Police Department and the Fire Department. In addition, once approved, staff will ensure the new operation is noticeable to drivers by including temporary flags with the stop sign.

Attachment 1: Existing Conditions



Map image of intersection and surrounding streets



Arial Image of Duke St/ Duke St Service Road and N. Pickett St/ Cameron Station Blvd Intersection



Street View of Duke St Service Road eastbound approach to North Pickett Street with existing yield sign.

Attachment 2: Proposed Conditions



Street View of Duke St Service Road eastbound approach to N. Pickett Street with proposed stop sign, stop bar and crosswalk.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

Traffic and Parking Board

DATE: November 16, 2020

DOCKET ITEM: 7

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to close Wales Alley between The Strand and

South Union Street to vehicular traffic

REQUESTED BY: Virtue Feed and Grain

LOCATION: Wales Alley between The Strand and South Union Street

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: That the Board:

(1) Makes a recommendation to the City Council to close Wales Alley between The Strand and South Union Street to vehicular traffic; and

(2) Makes a recommendation to the Director of T&ES to add parking on South Union Street.

BACKGROUND: The section of Wales Alley between The Strand and South Union Street is a one-way alley heading east towards the Potomac River (Attachments 1 & 2). The alley is approximately 29 feet wide and is paved with decorative brick pavers. Prior to the pandemic, the southern half of the alley was used for outdoor dining for the adjacent restaurant Virtue Feed and Grain, which was approved through a license agreement in 2016. A five-foot-wide sidewalk is located on the north side adjacent to retail buildings containing Old Town Books and Bike and Roll. The area in between was available for one-way vehicular travel, although traffic on this alley is very light. Other nearby businesses include Starbucks, Mai Thai, Ben and Jerry's, the Old Town Shop, and Windsor of Old Town Salon and Spa. Wales Alley has primarily been used to access the Old Dominion Boat Club's parking lot that was previously on the east side of The Strand. However, now that the Boat Club has moved, this access is no longer needed.

In Spring 2020, the restaurant submitted a request to use more of the alley for outdoor dining. Indoor dining was limited, and additional space was needed to meet social distancing requirements. To accommodate this request, the City temporarily closed the alley to allow the restaurant to expand further north into the alley, while maintaining pedestrian access along the north side (Attachment 3). This expansion was approved through the City's outdoor dining program that was created to allow for additional dining space in the public right of way.

<u>DISCUSSION</u>: Prior to the pandemic, the business community and City staff discussed the option of closing this portion of the alley. Given the decorative nature of the alley, the existing

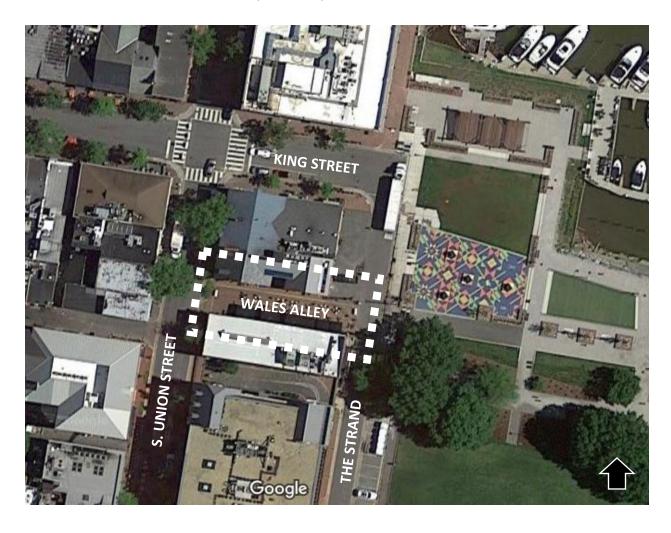
outdoor dining, the elimination of the Dominion Boat Club parking lot, and the proximity to the waterfront, many pedestrians use this alley for walking to and from the park and very few cars drive down it. Furthermore, the alley is not an emergency vehicle easement and is not required to be kept open by the Fire Department. The Fire Department stated that they have no objection to closing this alley to vehicular traffic. Since the alley does not provide any significant value to traffic circulation, and additional pedestrian space and outdoor dining area is beneficial to the waterfront area, staff is supportive of the request to permanently close this alley.

If approved to be closed, staff will remove the existing one-way signage and install appropriate signage noting the alley is closed to vehicles east of South Union Street. This would allow for one additional parking space to be added to South Union Street in front of the alley. The existing curb cut would remain but could potentially be removed with future streetscape improvements in the future.

The Traffic and Parking Board's recommendation on the closure of the alley will be made to City Council who will then consider this request prior to the expiration of their current outdoor dining agreement which is approved through March 31, 2021. If approved, staff will work with Virtue Feed and Grain to update any agreements related to their use of the alley for outdoor dining once the emergency outdoor dining program has expired. If the alley is approved to be closed and the Board supports adding parking to South Union Street, staff will adjust signage to reflect the area in front of the curb cut to the alley is allowed for parking. The space would be subject to the parking restrictions on the block unless a separate restriction is approved.

OUTREACH: The Old Town Business Association (OTBA) was notified of this proposal and has provided a letter of strong support for the permanent closure (Attachment 4). In addition, Virtue Feed and Grain has also provided a letter of support (Attachment 4). The Old Town Civic Association was also notified about this proposal and at the time this memo had finalized, had not provided any comments of support or opposition. The Waterfront Commission was notified about this proposal and staff will be attending their meeting on November 17,2020 to answer additional questions. Their recommendation will be considered by City Council along with the Traffic and Parking Board recommendation.

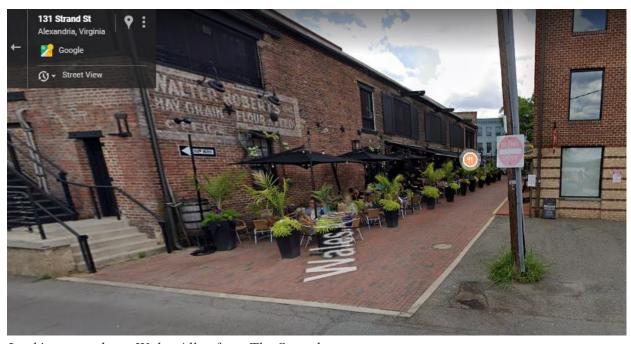
ATTACHMENT 1: LOCATION (AERIAL)



ATTACHMENT 2: LOCATION (STREETVIEW)



Looking east down Wales Alley from South Union Street



Looking west down Wales Alley from The Strand

ATTACHMENT 3: IMAGE OF TEMPORARY CLOSURE



ATTACHMENT 4: LETTERS OF SUPPORT

From: William Smith <320will@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 9:49 AM

To: Katye North

Cc: Duncan Blair; Gene Smith
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Wales Alley

November 10, 2020

Dear Traffic and Parking Board,

The Smith family who owns and runs Virtue Feed & Grain wholly supports closing Wales Alley to vehicular traffic. It is our belief that pedestrian traffic represents a safer and more friendly choice for Old Town by the water. We would like to offer purchasing some nice bollards to define the alley as pedestrian only. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Will Smith Virtue Feed & Grain (318) 210-6112 cell

City of Alexandria, Virginia

Traffic and Parking Board

DATE: November 16, 2020

DOCKET ITEM: 8

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to implement the residential pay by phone

program on the 200 block of S. Royal Street.

REQUESTED BY: Residents of the 200 block of S. Royal Street

LOCATION: 200 block of S. Royal Street

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Board recommends the Director of T&ES implement a residential pay by phone fee requirement for the 200 block of South Royal Street

BACKGROUND: In November 2016, a pilot program was implemented to allow the City to expand the pay by phone option previously only available on metered blocks to residential blocks. In 2019, City Council approved an ordinance to make the program permanent. Pay stations are not generally installed on Residential Pay by Phone blocks, instead, signage referring to the available payment methods on these blocks replaces existing signage. Consistent with the existing residential permit parking program, residents who wish to add this signage must initiate the request through a petition signed by the residents of the block.

<u>DISCUSSION</u>: The residents of the 200 block of South Royal Street have submitted a petition requesting residential pay by phone signage for their blocks (Attachment 2). Staff reviewed the request per the requirements outlined in the City Code and found it is eligible for the signage. The table below summarizes the block's compliance with the requirements.

Requirement	Compliance
The area subject to parking fee must be on a block with existing metered spaces, adjacent to an existing metered block, or adjacent to a block where a residential pay by phone parking fee has also been approved.	The 200 block of S. Royal Street is adjacent to the 300 and 400 blocks of Prince Street, which have residential pay by phone parking fees implemented (See Attachment 1)
The block must be located within the program area, shown in Attachment 1.	This block is located within the program area.

Requirement	Compliance
The area subject to parking fee must already be posted with residential parking restrictions.	The block currently has the following residential parking restrictions: 8AM-2AM Mon-Sat; 11AM Sun-2AM Mon, except for District 1 vehicles
The request to add a pay by phone parking fee must be initiated by the residents of the block through a petition signed occupants of more than 50% of the residential properties abutting the block.	A petition was submitted that was signed by occupants of 9 out of 17 or 53% of residential properties on the block (see Attachment 2).
The parking occupancy must be 75% or more.	A survey was conducted on Monday, January 6, 2020 at 10:30AM and 33 out of 34 (91%) of on-street spaces were occupied.

<u>OUTREACH</u>: Staff notified Old Town Civic Association of this petition by email and they indicated there were no concerns with the request.

Attachment 1





Petition for Adding Residential Pay by Phone Signage within a Residential Permit Parking District

Block Contact: PARKER LANGE

Address: 207 5 Royas ST

Telephone: 202 236 7296

Email: parker/angeshotan; 1. com

Requested Block: 200 BLOCK Of S. DOYAL ST

Submit Completed Petition to:

Mail: Department of Transportation and Environmental Services Mobility Services Division Atts: Parking Planner

421 King Street, Suite 235 Alexandria, VA. 22314 Emeil

megan.oleytikistalexandriava.gov

Phone: (703) 746-4034

We the undersigned residents hereby request that the City add residential pay by phone signage on the 200 Block of 5. Qorac Street. We understand that if this signage is posted, any vehicles without the applicable district sticker or guest/visitor pass will be subject to a parking fee to park on the block. We understand that residents will still be required to pay an annual fee for resident parking stickers for each vehicle and that we will also need to obtain guest or visitor passes to allow guests to park on the street.

Resident Name (Printed)	Resident Signature	Address	Date
PARIER LANGE	Pmn. 78	702 5. POVER ST	10/11/
St. Julian O. Pollard	H. Ino pur	213 S. Rojel St.	10/17/20
cari steiner	langleiner	116 6- Royal St.	14/19/20
Maura Dunn	mauro	2185 Royalt	10/19/20
Michael Marvaso	Well	2125 Royal St	10/19/20
Eric Kyhl	Enle	209 S. Ryal St	14/9/20
Rochelle Newma	Bother	211 5 Royal	10/19/20
David Rossel	Duce	211 S. Royal St	10/19/20
Latin Solte		,	
PATYANA SCHR	EMPE STERRENT	2/75 Royals	10/19/20
Fren ODLAN	Jun Gun	2195 Royals	10/19/2
- JOHN KURERSMI	The A. legan	2145 Royal	10/20/2
	, ,	- 1	

Please note signatures from residents who are not the listed owner of the residence.

Staff Only:	Number of Households on the block
_	Number of Households that signed position
	Powerstone of Households

City of Alexandria, Virginia

Traffic and Parking Board

DATE: November 16, 2020

DOCKET ITEM: 9

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to remove parking on the 500 block of

Montgomery Street for a bikeshare station

REQUESTED BY: Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES) staff

LOCATION: North side of the 500 block of Montgomery Street

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Board make a recommendation to the Director of T&ES to remove 2-3 parking spaces on the north side of the 500 block of Montgomery Street to install a Capital Bikeshare station and add 2-3 parking spaces to the 900 block of North St. Asaph Street where the bikeshare station was previously approved.

BACKGROUND: This request was deferred by the Traffic and Parking Board at the October meeting over concerns that a more robust outreach effort was needed. Since the October meeting, the North Old Town Independent Citizens' Association (NOTICe) was contacted. They were informed of the request and have been permitted the opportunity to provide feedback to staff. It is important to note that the original approval for this Bikeshare Station was part of a larger project approval that involved substantial community engagement and opportunities for input.

The City of Alexandria joined Capital Bikeshare in September 2012 and has expanded to 36 stations. Staff is in the process of adding stations through state funding. New developments are another way the City expands the Capital Bikeshare system. Many new developments are required to provide a contribution to the Capital Bikeshare system based on their size. In Spring 2020, six new developments that provided a contribution were identified as ready for Capital Bikeshare installation. Four stations were installed earlier this summer, one was approved for Duke Street and the Strand for the Robinson Terminal South development and the last is the 530 First Street development bikeshare station. This development was required as a part of its Conditions of Approval to provide funding for a Capital Bikeshare station located on their site frontage:

The applicant shall contribute \$50,000 to the city prior to Final Site Plan release to install a bike share station on their site frontage. Alternate locations may be approved by the Director of T&ES.

<u>DISCUSSION</u>: The contribution from the 530 First Street development was used to purchase a 15-dock station, which is approximately 50 feet long and eight feet wide. A designated area was

identified on the approved site plan – the site plan located the station on-street and therefore was approved to remove 2-3 parking spaces through City Council approval of the project. However, after construction was complete, the City's bikeshare operator determined that the bikeshare location shown on the project site plan at First Street was not feasible because it did not provide enough sunlight. Until buildings are constructed and streetscape improvements are in place, it is difficult to determine the operability of stations due to the solar needs for specific locations.

Staff found a feasible location for the station that would meet the Conditions of Approval and bikeshare operations on the same block of St. Asaph Street but closer to Montgomery Street. This location was shared with the developer in March 2020 and staff did not receive a response. Staff moved forward with installing the station on-street at St Asaph Street near Montgomery Street with the approval from the Director of T&ES as permitted in the condition language.

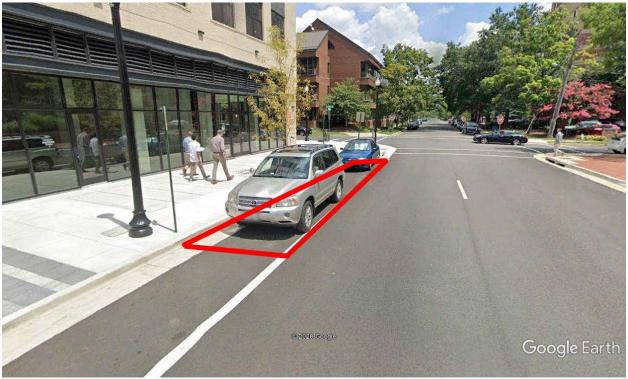
In September 2020, Staff notified the developer of the upcoming installation and installed the station. Staff heard concerns from the 530 First Street developer regarding the station location on St. Asaph & Montgomery Street after plans for installation occurred. Hearing those concerns, staff met with site representatives to identify a suitable alternative location that would meet the Conditions of Approval. They identified an on-street location on the north side of the 500 block of Montgomery Street (near Pitt Street) as their preferred location (Attachment 1). This location would not result in a net loss of parking as it would restore parking to St. Asaph Street. This location also meets general siting considerations such as access to sunlight for the station's solar power, adequate pedestrian and vehicular access, and access for rebalancing/maintaining the station.

<u>OUTREACH</u>: In March 2016, there were public hearings held on the development at the Planning Commission and City Council when the community had the ability to weigh in on the parking removal for a bikeshare station. There were also several community meetings prior to these public hearings related to the development proposal.

Staff worked most directly with the most impacted parties to talk through the various locations and establish a final recommendation for the placement of this bikeshare station. Staff reached out to the 530 First Street developer representatives in March 2020 and September 2020 and met with the 530 First Street site representatives in September 2020 to identify a preferred alternate bikeshare location. Because the developers paid for this station and are most impacted by the removal of parking spaces that are signed for 2-hour general parking (i.e. these blocks are not signed with District 9 parking restrictions), staff initially worked with them on the location. This location would remove the same amount of parking as was approved in the 530 First Street's original site plan, which also located the bikeshare station on-street through the removal of 2-3 parking spaces.

In October 2020, staff informed the North Old Town Citizens' Association of the plans to relocate the bikeshare station. At the time this memo was finalized, staff had not received a response noting support or opposition for this proposal.

ATTACHMENT 1: PROPOSED BIKESHARE LOCATION



500 block of Montgomery Street looking east toward N. Pitt Street

City of Alexandria, Virginia

Traffic and Parking Board

DATE: November 16, 2020

DOCKET ITEM: 10

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to add "No Through Truck" restrictions on unit

block and 100 block of East Linden Street

REQUESTED BY: Mike Fujka, a resident of East Linden Street

LOCATION: Unit block and 100 block of East Linden Street.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: That the Board denies the request to add "No Through Truck" restrictions on unit block and 100 block of East Linden Street.

BACKGROUND: In 2016, a resident requested "No through truck" restrictions on this section of East Linden Street. Staff collected truck volume data and found that the street did not meet the minimum truck volume requirements for restrictions (Attachment 3).

In February 2020, staff received another request for "No through truck" restrictions. Staff collected new data which showed that the street still did not meet the volume requirement for the requested restriction. Additionally, the process for applying for this type of sign is considered only once every five years per street. Mr. Fujka spoke at the September 2020 Traffic and Parking Board meeting asking the Board to reconsider the request. The Board then asked staff to work with him.

<u>DISCUSSION</u>: The COVID-19 pandemic has created atypical traffic patterns which would skew the results if more data were collected. Since staff is unable to collect any new reliable data, and the previous two sets of data have shown the street does not meet the requirements, staff strongly believes this request should be denied. Mr. Fujka was advised of this but would like to bring this issue to the Board for consideration. Amongst others, one reason the City has criteria for restricting truck traffic is because placing restrictions on one street often simply shifts the problem to another street.

Staff have developed and adhere to processes for evaluating many types of changes that are requested by residents. Many residents have concerns on their streets, and processes, data and criteria are used to make objective decisions to maintain consistency of traffic signs as well as equity of policies across the City and throughout neighborhoods. There is not a documented

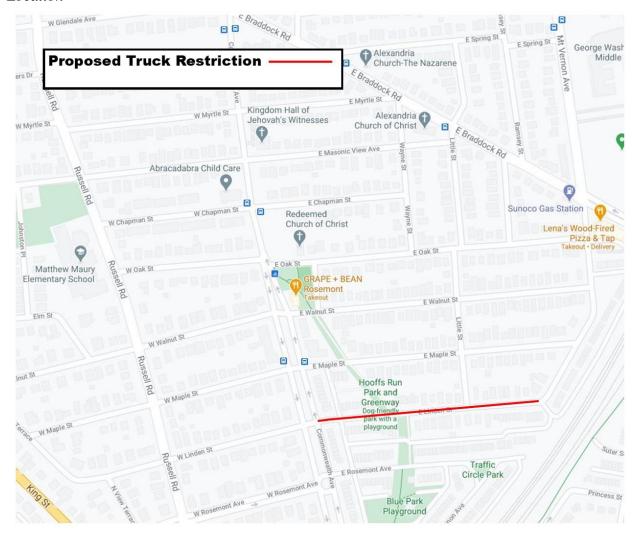
safety concern that should elevate this request, and therefore staff holds to the existing criteria which directs a denial of this request.

Staff is currently working with state agencies to gain access to information about truck traffic throughout the City. This will help gain a better understanding of which routes trucks are utilizing and if there are certain streets bearing an undue burden of truck traffic. Depending on what this data show, staff could update their process to utilize this information or make recommendations for specific streets in the City that would most benefit from additional restrictions. The impact of these decisions could also be analyzed once more data is available.

OUTREACH: Staff had discussions with the resident submitting the request but has not received any additional requests from the civic association or other residents of the street.

ATTACHMENT 1

Location



ATTACHMENT 2

Request

From: m fujka <mfujka@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 9:23 AM

To: Bob Garbacz

Sob.garbacz@alexandriava.gov>
 Cc: Cuong Nguyen <cuong.nguyen@alexandriava.gov>

Subject: Re: No Thru Trucks Sign Request - East Linden Street

Bob,

Thank you very much, I didn't know the process and that makes sense. I'd like to go ahead and get on the docket for the November Parking Board Meeting with the city staff not recommending the signs be put up and see what the Board decides. I don't think we are going to reach the 6% threshold due to the volume of car traffic we have, even with COVID.

Looking at the data collected by the city on the Friday in February 2020, we had 1544 cars and two axle long vehicles on the street and 65 trucks and busses. With the 6% threshold we'd need an additional 30 or so trucks to come down the street, which I hope wouldn't ever happen, but the problem is we still have 65 trucks going down a narrow residential street. I would hope the parking board would consider other factors (proximity to parks, street width, reports of vehicle damage) and not just the 6% threshold. It would seem to be more fair to have a sliding scale so we aren't penalized by having a high volume of car traffic, that prevents us from stopping the truck traffic.

Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions, I'll let my neighbors know to register to speak once the docket is released for November.

Thanks, Mike

ATTACHMENT 3

Truck Restriction Policy

Requests for a No Thru Truck Restriction **MUST** meet the following criteria:

- Roadway Classification (based on City of Alexandria Roadway Classification Map)
 - Locál Road
 - Residential Collector
- Reasonable Alternate Route Available
- ...**AND** at least 1 of the following criteria:
- Truck Volume at least 5% of total daily traffic volume
- Crash History (of crashes involving at least one truck)
 At least 1 crash in previous 3 years
- Safety Concerns
 - Lane widths or travel way less than 12' in one direction
 - Tight radius curves/cornérs that cannot be navigated by trucks

Requests that meet both required criteria and at least one of the supplemental criteria will be evaluated by Traffic Engineering Staff to make a final determination before a Truck Restriction is installed.

Based on distribution of truck volumes throughout the day, surrounding land uses, and roadway characteristics, Staff will determine whether a 24hour restriction or an overnight restriction is most appropriate.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

Traffic and Parking Board

DATE: November 16, 2020

DOCKET ITEM: 11

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to remove 4-hour parking signs on the 5000-

5200 blocks of Fillmore Avenue (between St. James United Methodist

Church and North Beauregard Street)

REQUESTED BY: Calandra Turnbull-Jones, Resident of Fillmore Avenue and Ashley

Gutierrez, Property at St. James Plaza Apartments

LOCATION: Fillmore Avenue between Seminary Road and N. Beauregard Street

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Board makes a recommendation to the Director of T&ES to remove 4-hour parking signs on Fillmore Avenue between St. James United Methodist Church and North Beauregard Street

<u>BACKGROUND</u>: Fillmore Avenue is in the West End of Alexandria near Northern Virginia Community College's Alexandria Campus. The subject portion of Fillmore Avenue is primarily residential, with single-family housing, apartments including the St. James Plaza Apartments, and two retirement communities, the Hermitage Northern Virginia and the Fountains at Washington House. It is also the location of the St. James United Methodist Church.

Currently, Fillmore Avenue has unrestricted on-street parking on both sides from Seminary Road to approximately St. James United Methodist Church, and 4-hour parking 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday from the church to N. Beauregard Street with the exception of four 15-minute loading spaces on the south side of the road in front of the St. James Plaza Apartments

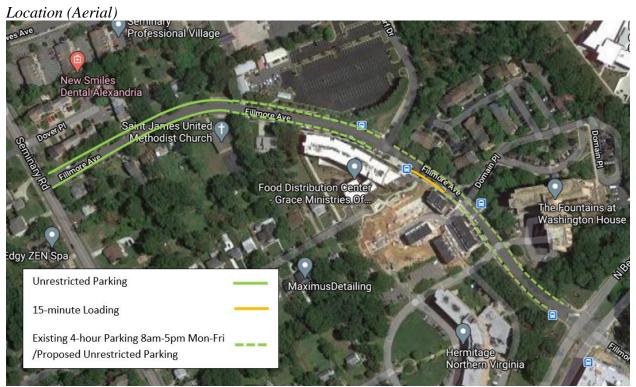
The 4-hour parking signs on Fillmore Avenue were covered and not enforced in May through July of 2020 in response to a request from the St. James Plaza Apartments management that residents were receiving parking citations as they were spending more time at home due to the pandemic and had limited other parking options.

Residents and management at the St. James Plaza Apartments indicated that the suspension of the 4-hour parking was beneficial, and they feel removing that restriction permanently would provide additional flexibility to residents and guests as residents continue to experience repercussions of the pandemic and into the future after recovery.

<u>DISCUSSION</u>: Residents and management of the St. James Plaza Apartments have requested that the 4-hour parking signs be removed on Fillmore Avenue between St. James United Methodist Church and N. Beauregard Street to provide additional parking options for residents and guests. Because there have not been concerns about the portion of Fillmore Avenue closer to Seminary Road that is unrestricted and there were no known issues with covering the 4-hour parking signs earlier in the year, staff feel that allowing this parking to be unrestricted is the best way for it to serve the needs of residents in the area.

<u>OUTREACH</u>: Ms. Turnbull Jones and Ms. Gutierrez gathered support from residents of the St. James Plaza Apartments for the proposed change (Attachment 2). Staff reached out to the St. James United Methodist Church by email to inform them of the request but had not heard back at the time this docket was written.

ATTACHMENT 1:



ATTACHMENT 2:

Request



Please fill out the first page of this application and return to magen.olevnik@alexandriava.gov or mail to Megan Olevnik, Mobility Services, 421 King Street, Suite 235, Alexandria, VA 22314. Staff will contact the Project Champion to further refine proposed solution to address the issue that the applicant is trying to address.

applicant is trying to address.	applicant is trying to address.				
Reason for the Request (What are you trying to solve/address?):					
See attached Addendum.					
Type of On-Street Parking Modification Req	uested:				
□ Loading Zone Removal □ Parking Removal □ Parking Restriction Change (Non-RP Proposed restrictions	□ Loading Zone Ad □ No Parking Sign P)				
Location: Fillmore Avenue (Map or figure may be provided as an attachment)					
Approximate number of spaces affected (assume 20 feet per space):					
Project Champion (Point of Contact) Information: Name: Calandra Turnbull-Jones					
Address: 5140 Fillmore Avenue, Apt. 404, Alexandria, VA 22311					
Email: islewmn2@outlook.com					
Phone Number: 703.398.4396					
Best Way to Contact:	⊠ Email	☐ Phone			

Addendum to the issue or to address:

The parking in this area is very strenuous and does not exist. There isn't adequate parking for residents, who pays taxes to live in this city and who pays the rent. The parking garages are full of other residents and leaves other members of your family who you reside with you, to park in the street. There needs to be more adequate parking and/or no parking enforcement with restrictions.



Apt. 615

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
Revenue Division, 301 King Street, Room 1700
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
www.Alexandriava.gov/Revenue
Fax 703.548.6065

Outstanding Parking Tickets - Payment Plan Appeal Form

The accumulation of unpaid parking tickets directly results from the failure to comply with requirements of the Code of the City of Alexandria. As such, payment plans typically are not extended to delinquent parking tickets, even in cases of financial hardship.

Vehicles with more than three parking tickets are subject to removal or immobilization in accordance with Section 3-2-355 of the Code of the City of Alexandria (see reverse side of form). To reclaim a vehicle, the owner must pay the ticket fines and any related costs associated with impoundment.

Only in rare cases with extenuating circumstances and documented cause will the Director of Finance consider payment plans for unpaid parking tickets. Should you desire to pursue an appeal, please describe below the reasons for violating City parking laws and accumulating the unpaid fines, and list available documentation you may have to substantiate your appeal. Appeals may not be decided on a same day basis:

Homin To 90 Min Cooking for space. I'm in the Waiting List Toget Branaye space from our facility for 18 months and still Waiting. mostlof the Tickits I get was Dwing Covid 19. When you Told Us To STAY Home and while We are Staying Home every 2 Days you Give me Tickets.

I Lost my Job. My income Now is O & SINCE MARS

Due To COVID-19

I have read and understand the "At Owner's Risk" provision below: MoHAMED EL Kouze , 24 19 /2020

At Owner's Risk: Please note, even under a payment plan the vehicle is still subject to the possibility of repeated enforcement action by the Alexandria City Police Department (ACPD). Due to computer system limitations which are not designed for parking ticket payment plans, ACPD officers are not cognizant of exceptional payment plans and may subsequently boot or tow vehicles until the ticket delinquency has been resolved. In such cases, associated impoundment fees are still due, even if a payment plan is accepted. If instead you wish to contest the validity of parking tickets, you must contact the City Attorney's Office.

Ashley Gutierrez

Apt. 318

From: Trixie Riccote <trixiericcote@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 2, 2020 10:36 AM

To: Ashley Gutierrez
Subject: Street Parking

Good morning Ashley

I'm writing in regards to the street parking. I'm one of the many Residents that have been affected with this issue.

Now, I have not have many issues with parking when it comes to the 4 hours parking spaces available during day time. But after 7pm is the big issue there is no space available and I have to go around waiting for a space to be available.

I also think the main issue is with the parking available right in front of the main entrance after the bus stop and next to the townhouses. This parking spaces are 15 minutes only after 7am to 9am and between 3pm to 6pm that's the time that Parking Enforcement Officer is around ticketing all the vehicles that parked in there. But then again the remaining parking spaces during that time are taken by the construction workers.

Thank you

Bellatrix Veliz Apt 318

PD: I'm available if you want to talk (nit working today a lit of doctors' appt. Or I can stop by before 5pm today

Tigist Gebrenahon Apt - 309 Plate Nº RPB 1352

To whom it may concern,

I kindly want express my diffulties during this time. I an currently not working while afterding my fixe year old boy at home as a Single mother. I recently moved from Georgia and on the process of changing my plate.

My concerns one the fickets I am getting because of the timiled parking spaces infront of the appartment. please consider the necessary arrangents to helpout me and the residents here.

Thankfully
Tigist Gebrenain
Ligil Sel:
04.31-2020.

Apt 306

Mekdes Bezabih

APt-306

I have been effected by puring on street.

Apr 614

October 29th, 2020

Re: parking Ticket

Dear Sir,

I lived in St. James Apartment since September 14, 2020. I am working in Alexandria Transit Company (DASH). I finished my run after mid night and it is so hard to find an open parking and also, due to limited parking space in the apartment I park my car at the 4 hours limit sign. I received 3 tickets in different time. I attached my parking ticket with this letter and requesting the city to consider the parking problem and the current pandemic situation and void my parking ticket.

With Regards,

Mohammed I Seid

5140 Fillmore Ave Apt614

Alexandria, VA 22311

Apt 404

Ashley Gutierrez

From:

Calisia Tinsley <calisiat@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, October 28, 2020 3:08 PM

To:

Ashley Gutierrez

Subject:

Parking

Hi Ashley,

This is Calisia. I live in apartment 404 and I've been receiving 4 parking tickets within this month.

Sent from my iPhone

Apt 308

11/02/2020

Dear Ashery: Thank you for you't help last time.

Jessied & letter from you it's About

4. havis Parking ticket I house cable of

them. I don't even park that long

it you can Please dd me in your

least. Thank you

Youit. Abebe

SI40 ST. James #308. Alexandiya. UA 22311

Ashley Gutierrez

Apt (01)

From: Robyn Byrd <robynbyrd22@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 3, 2020 10:05 AM

To: St. James Plaza Apartments

Subject: Tickets

Hello I am emailing you about the notice I received about parking and parking tickets. Is there a petition that I need to sign or is there any documents I need to handover?

Thanks,

Robyn