IN REPLY REFER TO:
NCPC File No. CP11

April 9, 2021

The Honorable Justin M. Wilson
Mayor
City of Alexandria
301 King Street, Room 2300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Mr. Wilson:

We have reviewed the Alexandria City Manager’s Fiscal Year 2022-2031 Proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to determine the program’s potential impact on federal properties or other federal interests in the National Capital Region. None of the capital projects appear to have adverse impacts. The CIP is consistent with the planning principles and policies of the Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital: Federal Elements (Comprehensive Plan).

The CIP includes multiple projects that will improve regional mobility, which is particularly important for the effectiveness of the federal workforce. We are encouraged by the project to study (Alexandria) Union Station Improvements. We also welcome projects leveraging the existing Metrorail system, such as Eisenhower Metrorail Station Improvements, King Street Metrorail Station Area Improvements, and Potomac Yard Metrorail Station. These projects support multiple Comprehensive Plan policies, particularly those related to integrated regional transportation system.

The CIP also includes noteworthy projects consistent with the Comprehensive Plan’s Parks and Open Space Element policies to protect the cultural resources and landscape, including Fort Ward Management Plan Implementation, Office of Historic Alexandria Initiatives, and Office of Historic Alexandria Waterfront Museum Feasibility Study which includes the Historic Ship Stabilization and Waterfront History Plan.

We appreciate the Environmental Restoration, Green Infrastructure, and Stream Valley Design Guidelines projects. These investments are consistent with multiple Comprehensive Plan policies to improve water quality and protect the Chesapeake Bay, enhance the existing trail network, and increase access to parks and open spaces. The region’s watersheds, trails and open spaces represent valuable, and in many respects, unique natural resources. The projects will help enhance the quality of these resources, which are particularly valuable as the region’s population, jobs, and annual visitors grow.

We continue to appreciate the City’s ongoing and proposed contributions to regional organizations, including the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, and Northern Virginia Transportation Authority.
We recognize successful implementation on these projects will require continued coordination with applicable federal agencies including the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Transportation, and National Park Service. For your reference, the Transportation Element of the National Capital Planning Commission’s Comprehensive Plan was updated last year and is available at www.ncpc.gov/plans/compplan.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on your recommended CIP. We look forward to working with you to continue advancing our shared regional goals in the future. If you have any questions, please have a member of your staff contact Kael Anderson at 202-482-7273 or kael.anderson@ncpc.gov.

Sincerely,

Marcel C. Acosta
Executive Director