



CITY OF HARRISONBURG CITY MANAGER

409 SOUTH MAIN STREET, HARRISONBURG, VA 22801
OFFICE (540) 432-7701 • FAX (540) 432-7778

TO: Ande Banks, City Manager
FROM: Gerald Gatobu, Director of Public Transportation
DATE: 6/18/2024
RE: Transit Strategic Plan

Summary: In the Commonwealth of Virginia, a transit strategic plan (TSP) is a short-to-long range plan that outlines the transit improvements that are planned for implementation during a ten-year planning horizon; estimates what resources will be needed; and what funding programs are likely to be available.

Background: Transit strategic plans are required for transit agencies operating in metropolitan areas of Virginia to ensure that transit services are planned to better meet the community's mobility needs. This presents Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT) with an opportunity to evaluate and update our services and network to respond to changes in our community.

Key Issues: The following key issues were identified: Increased coverage was a top priority for the overall system, but increased frequency was especially important for city routes. Stakeholders agreed that all-day service was preferable compared to peak service. This includes earlier and later hours on both weekdays and weekends, but most notably on weekends during non-University times. Increasing transit access is a priority for the community, especially for transit dependent riders and zero-vehicle households.

Environmental Impact: None

Fiscal Impact: Changes are recommended to be implemented over the scale of the ten-year horizon. These changes are broken into short-term, mid-term and long-term. You can see table 8 on page ES-9 in the Executive Summary for a breakdown of operating cost to service improvements.



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Prior Actions: None

Alternatives: (a)
(b); or
(c)

Community Engagement: In the process of developing proposals to improve service through the TSP, HDPT developed goals and associated objectives to focus on changes which would result in desired outcomes for the system. The goals and objectives were discussed in three stakeholder meetings, pop up events at 5 different locations within the city and the draft TSP is available online for 30 days along with the public comment form.

Recommendation:

Attachments: PowerPoint presentation and Executive Summary.

Review:

The initiating Department Director will place in Legistar, in sequence of transmittal, the names of each department that must initial their review in order for this item to be placed on the City Council agenda. The completion of review only addresses the readiness of the issue for Council consideration. This does not address the recommendation for approval or denial of the issue.

