

PELT Agenda for RCA Meeting September 2023

PELT Introduction

- Why created?
- What is our role?
- Who are the members? P-E-L-T, +1

Color Handout depicting near and long-term projects in/adjacent to our neighborhood.

Environment (Garrett)

- Stormwater projects
 - PELT member John Hill is Chairman of the City's Ad Hoc Stormwater Committee
 - Site Tour with Staff, neighbors and PELT took place July 17th.
 - Handout of John's letter posted on Listserve RE: Hooffs Run drains
 - Surveying of existing conditions along our streets continues.
 - Flood Action Alexandria website: [Flood Action Alexandria | City of Alexandria, VA \(alexandriava.gov\)](https://www.alexandriava.gov/flood-action)
- Commonwealth Sewer Interceptor, AlexRenew
 - Surveying existing conditions along our streets.
 - Engineering analysis underway.
 - October 12 - City-hosted meeting on sanitary sewer improvements planned for Rosemont (east of Commonwealth) - 7pm at City Hall

Transportation (Dick)

- Rail Bridges at King and Commonwealth
 - Recap meeting with VPRA on Monday, September 18th
 - Highlight VPRA responsibilities VS City responsibilities.
 - Handout of Current Timeline provided by VPRA
 - Alexandria Station Area Open House (Wednesday, October 4) – 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- King/Callahan/Russell intersection improvements
 - Status update

Planning (Dina and Dana)

- Zoning for Housing/Housing for All
 - Website: [Zoning for Housing/Housing for All | City of Alexandria, VA \(alexandriava.gov\)](https://www.alexandriava.gov/zoning-for-housing)
 - Draft Recommendations: [24H-Fact-Sheets-20230905.pdf \(alexandriava.gov\)](https://www.alexandriava.gov/4H-Fact-Sheets-20230905.pdf)
 - Opportunities for Engagement:
 - September 23: City Council Public Hearing, City Hall (opportunity to comment)
 - September 24: City Council Town Hall (opportunity to comment), Del Pepper Community Resource Center (4850 Mark Center Drive)
 - September 28: Community meeting, William Ramsay Rec Center
 - October 12: Community meeting, Charles Houston Rec Center

PELT Agenda for RCA Meeting September 2023

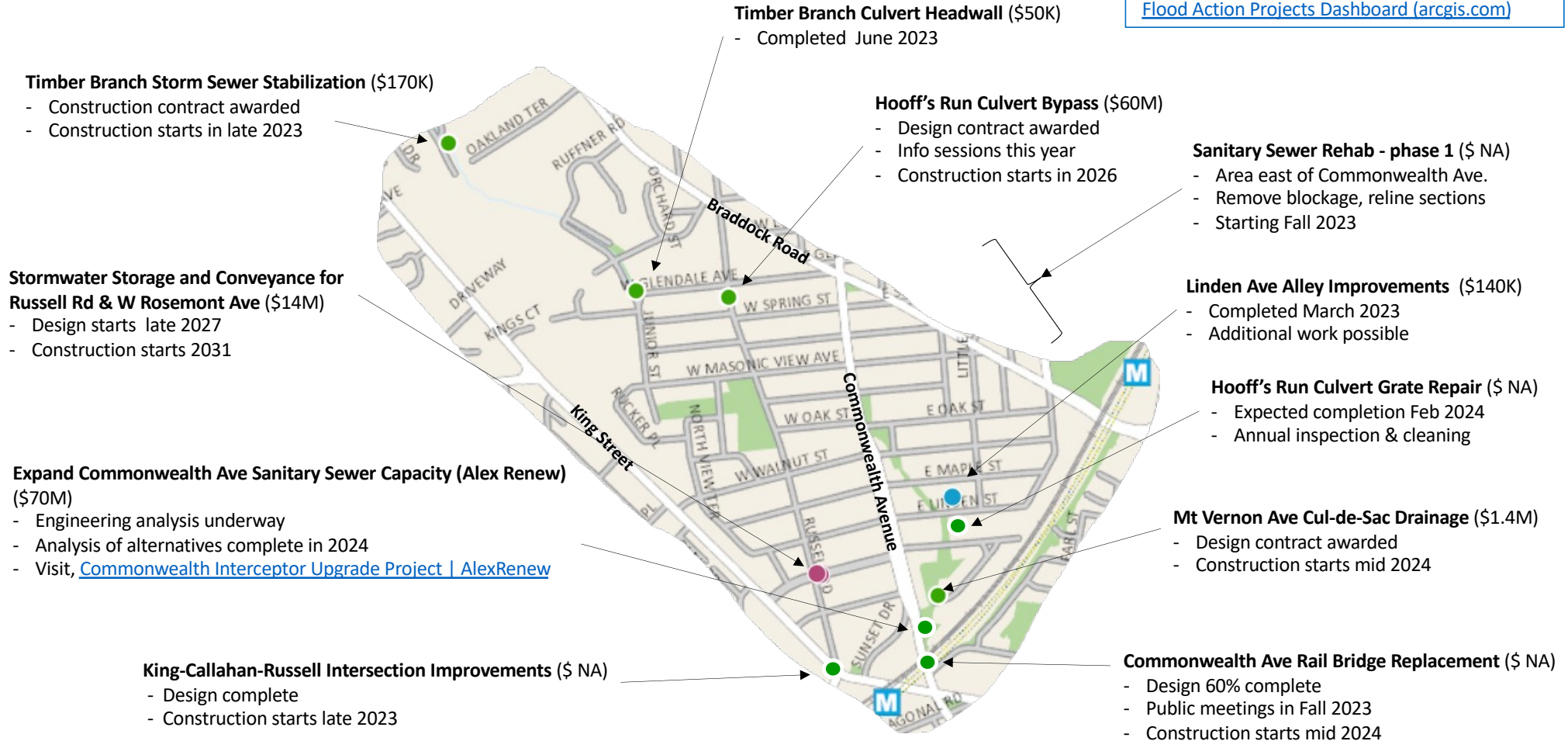
- October 14: City Council Public Hearing, City Hall (opportunity to comment)
- October 21: City Council Town Hall (opportunity to comment) Location coming soon.
- November 1: Planning Commission Public Hearing on Zoning for Housing, City Hall (opportunity to comment)
- November 14: City Council Public Hearing on Zoning for Housing, City Hall
- November 18: City Council Public Hearing on Zoning for Housing continued, City Hall
- November 28: City Council Meeting, City Hall (scheduled vote on Zoning for Housing reforms)

Questions and Comments for PELT? Or, for City Staff?

- State your name and the address where you live in Rosemont.

Infrastructure Projects in Rosemont – September 2023

To learn more about water projects, visit “Flood Action Alexandria”
[Flood Action Projects Dashboard \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com)



From Rosemont Listserv on Sept 13: Update on the 6-month project to improve the SAFETY and MAINTAINABILITY of the Hooff's Run Culvert

Several Rosemont residents met with City engineers on September 12th to learn about the grate improvements along the Hooff's Run culvert. Daphne Kott and Ayoub Hassen of Alexandria's Department of Project Implementation described the 6-month effort to rebuild the four drains that dump into the Hooff's Run culvert between Linden Street and the railroad bridge over Commonwealth Avenue.

During the recent severe rainstorms, these four drains became clogged with debris that slowed the drainage of stormwater that collected in Hooff's Run Park and nearby streets. The new drains will have better grating that is less likely to clog -- and more important, less likely for small items or pets to get sucked into the culvert during a storm.

Improved maintenance is also part of the project. Along with the improved grates, two sets of access doors will be built. These 6-foot-wide access points will allow maintenance crews to enter the culvert to remove debris that can clog the smooth flow of stormwater.

Starting this fall, the Hooff's Run culvert will have an annual "video inspection". A small robot camera will roll through the underground pipes from Duke Street to Chapman Street to make sure there is nothing blocking the flow.

Ms. Kott was quick to say that these improvements will not change the overall capacity of the Hooff's Run culvert -- after all, the pipes are only so big. BUT, the new grates, annual inspections, and better maintenance access, will ensure that the culvert is moving the maximum amount of stormwater that it can.

Post Script:

1) At the meeting, there was some discussion regarding the Army Corps of Engineers' jurisdiction over the culvert. City staff assured us that the City of Alexandria has jurisdiction. They will confirm this with documentation and follow-on contact with those most concerned.

2. Regarding blockage: This project will improve flow of water into the culvert through the four grates -- not impede it. I have no information why some of the grates may have been blocked in the past. This project and the ongoing maintenance will ensure such blockages do not recur.

3. All construction projects involve noise and disruption, especially for those residents in the immediate vicinity. If the disruption is excessive, I suggest you contact City staff directly.

Upcoming meetings to learn more:

Sept 25, 7pm
Virtual

Flood Mitigation Grant Program

Oct 4, 5pm
Alexandria Railroad Station

Joint Public Outreach on VRPA, City, and
AlexRenew Projects along King & Commonwealth

Oct 12, 7pm
City Hall

Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project
for area east of Commonwealth

Visit "Events & Public Meetings" at alexandriava.gov website for more meeting details

September 20, 2023

Rosemont Citizens Association

Partial PELT Transportation Report

For information on the King Street, Callahan Drive, Russell Road Intersection Project go to:

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/transportation-planning/king-callahan-russell-intersection-improvement-project>

An update on timing for the project was requested of the City yesterday, noting the site had not been updated for some months.

For information about the Virginia Passenger Railroad Authority King Street and Commonwealth Avenue Railroad Bridges Project go to:

<https://vapassengerrailauthority.org/KingandCommonwealth/>

The PELT Committee met with four representatives of the VPRA in person this past Monday at its September meeting. VPRA provided a presentation of helpful information and fielded a number of the Committees questions. According to the VPRA which was kind enough to recently share with us that a public forum on a number of projects which affect Rosemont will be held in October and that:

“The King & Commonwealth Infrastructure Investments Joint Open House (hosted by the City of Alexandria, VPRA, VRE, and AlexRenew) will be held on Wednesday, October 4 (5-7 PM) at the Alexandria VRE Station.

There will a brief presentation at 6:00 PM. The rest of the event will be in an open house format with project stations, display boards, and a looping video. The projects to be presented include:

- VPRA’s Alexandria Fourth Track,
- VPRA’s King & Commonwealth Bridges Replacements,
- VRE’s Alexandria Station Upgrades,
- The City of Alexandria’s redesign of the streets under the K & C Bridges,
- The City’s Hooffs Run Culvert Bypass, and
- AlexRenew’s Commonwealth Interceptor Upgrade.

All of these projects intersect in the King and Commonwealth area, so the agencies are coordinating carefully. A more formal invitation will be available shortly for distribution to the larger Rosemont community. We appreciate your assistance in getting the word out!”

Alexandria Fourth Track

Rosemont PELT Meeting

Monday, September 18, 2023



Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- VPRA Overview
- Alexandria Fourth Track Overview
 - King and Commonwealth Railroad Bridges
- Project Schedule
- Q&A



What is the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority?

MISSION

To promote, sustain, and expand the availability of passenger and commuter rail service in the Commonwealth.

VISION

Deliver passenger rail service as an integrated, affordable, convenient travel option that benefits the Commonwealth.

VALUES



Fostering Leadership
and Public Service



Ensuring Safety
and Reliability



Demonstrating
Financial Stewardship



Promoting Innovation
and Excellence



Advancing Environmental
Sustainability



Championing Equity
and Inclusion

Transforming Rail in Virginia Program

PHASE 1 & 2 IMPROVEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

RAIL CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS

Construct 37 Miles of New Track

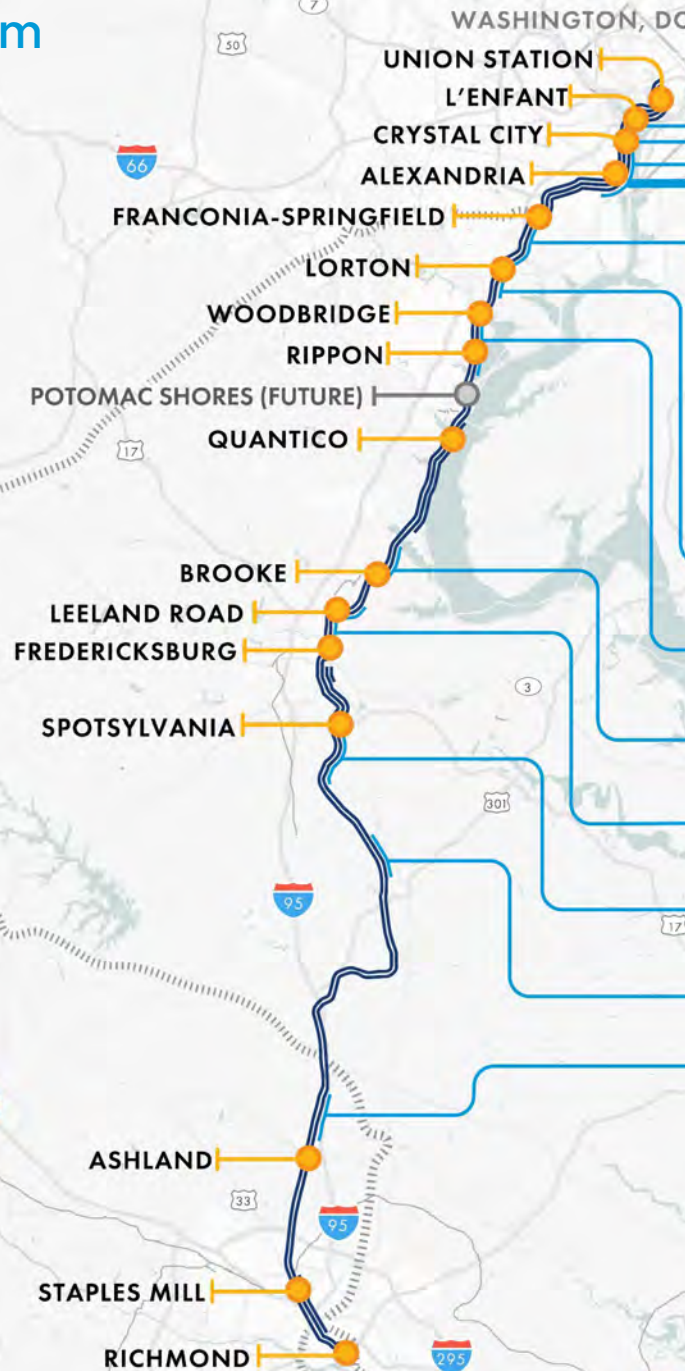
- 1 PHASE 1
(Complete 2026) 23 miles of new track
- 2 PHASE 2
(Complete 2030) 14 miles of new track

RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW) AND TRACK ACQUISITION

Purchase of 384 Miles of Railroad ROW and 223 Miles of Track

- SEGMENT 1
Half of CSXT ROW between Washington, DC and Petersburg, VA (145 miles), and 44 miles of track
- SEGMENT 2
All of CSXT ROW (abandoned rail line between Petersburg, VA and Ridgeway, NC [75 miles])
- SEGMENT 3
Nearly all of CSXT ROW between Doswell, VA and Clifton Forge, VA (164 miles), and 179 miles of track

NETWORK MAP



PHASE 1 & 2 IMPROVEMENTS

- L'Enfant Fourth Track and Station Improvements 2
- Long Bridge Project 2
- Alexandria Fourth Track 1
- King and Commonwealth Railroad Bridges 1
- Franconia-Springfield Bypass 1
- Franconia to Lorton Third Track 1
- Neabsco Creek to Woodbridge Third Track (Siding D) 2
- Aquia Creek Third Track South (Siding E) 2
- Potomac Creek Third Track South (Siding A) 1
- Crossroads Third Track (Siding F) 2
- Woodford to Milford Third Track (Siding B) 1
- Hanover Third Track (Siding C) 1

LEGEND

- 1 PHASE 1
- 2 PHASE 2
- STATIONS
- RF&P RAILROAD TRACKS
 - Existing
 - Projects



Alexandria Fourth Track Project

- Project will design and construct six miles of fourth main line track within the existing railroad right-of-way
- Limits are from the Potomac River to just west of Alexandria Union Station
- Connects to the southern end of the Long Bridge Project
- Received \$45M FASTLANE grant from USDOT in 2016
- 90% design plans in process



New Fourth Mainline Track (looking south)



Alexandria Station

The George Washington
Masonic National Memorial

Existing Rail Track

Main Line Boulevard

Nelson Avenue

Project Benefits

Alexandria
Fourth Track will:



Increase **capacity** to accommodate more passenger rail service and freight rail trains



Improve **reliability** of passenger, commuter, and freight rail services



Improving **efficiency** of passenger, commuter, and freight rail services by reducing the bottleneck along the existing corridor

Utility Relocation

Does this project impact utilities?

- Some utility relocation is required to make way for track improvements
- Relocation allows for access to / maintenance of utilities in the future without disruption to rail operations
- The majority of this work will occur **within the existing railroad right-of-way**

What will happen first?

- Relocation of existing fiber optic duct bank
 - Anticipated construction start = mid-November 2023
 - Work to occur within the existing railroad right-of-way



King and Commonwealth Railroad Bridges Overview

- Separate project from Alexandria Fourth Track
- Bridges located within the limits of the Alexandria Fourth Track Project
- Critical link in the rail corridor
- A feasibility study was conducted in Spring 2022
 - Recommended option = replacement of both bridges
- Currently at 60% Design



Note: Railroad bridge replacement does not include Metrorail Bridges

King and Commonwealth Railroad Bridges Overview

King Street Railroad Bridge Replacement

- Replaces the existing structure which was built in 1905
- Increases vertical & horizontal clearance under the bridge
- Reduces maintenance and minimizes rail service interruptions
- Modernizes the bridge to current bridge standards
- Streetscape to be designed by the City

King Street looking east.



Dimensions based on 60% design plans, subject to change

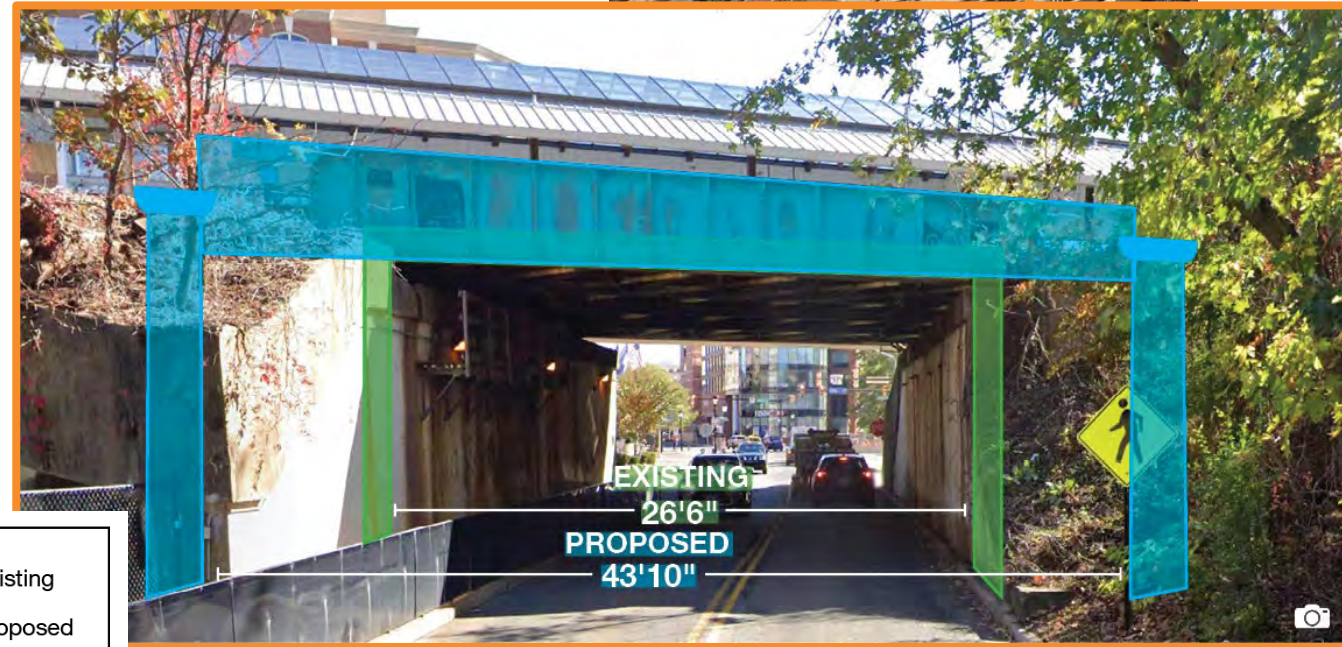
King and Commonwealth Railroad Bridges Overview



Commonwealth Avenue Railroad Bridge Replacement

- Replaces the existing structure which was built in 1904
- Will increase the horizontal clearance under the bridge
- Reduces maintenance and minimizes rail service interruptions
- Modernizes the bridge to current bridge standards
- Streetscape to be designed by the City



Commonwealth Avenue looking east.



LEGEND	
	Existing
	Proposed

Dimensions based on 60% design plans, subject to change

King and Commonwealth Railroad Bridges Construction Staging

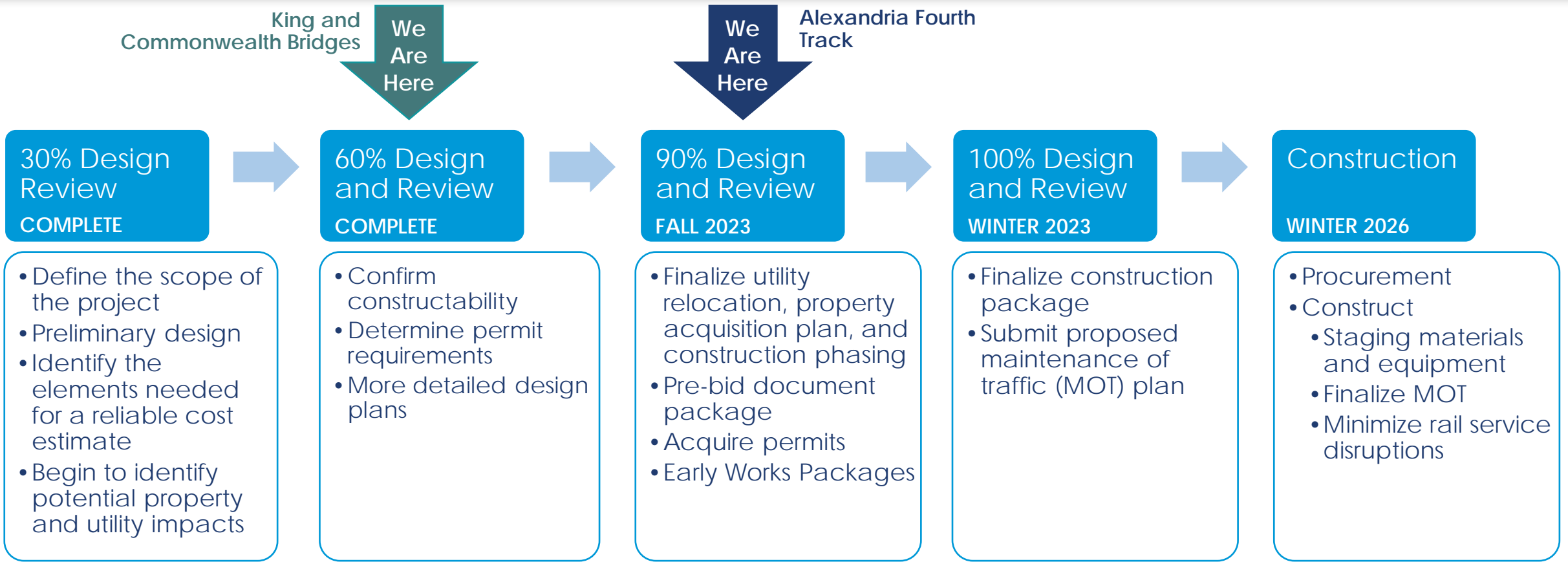


Construction – 4th Track and Bridges

- Work to be performed mainly within existing rail corridor right of way
- Coordination among several adjacent/ concurrent projects
- Phasing/sequencing
- Maintenance of traffic
- On-going public outreach

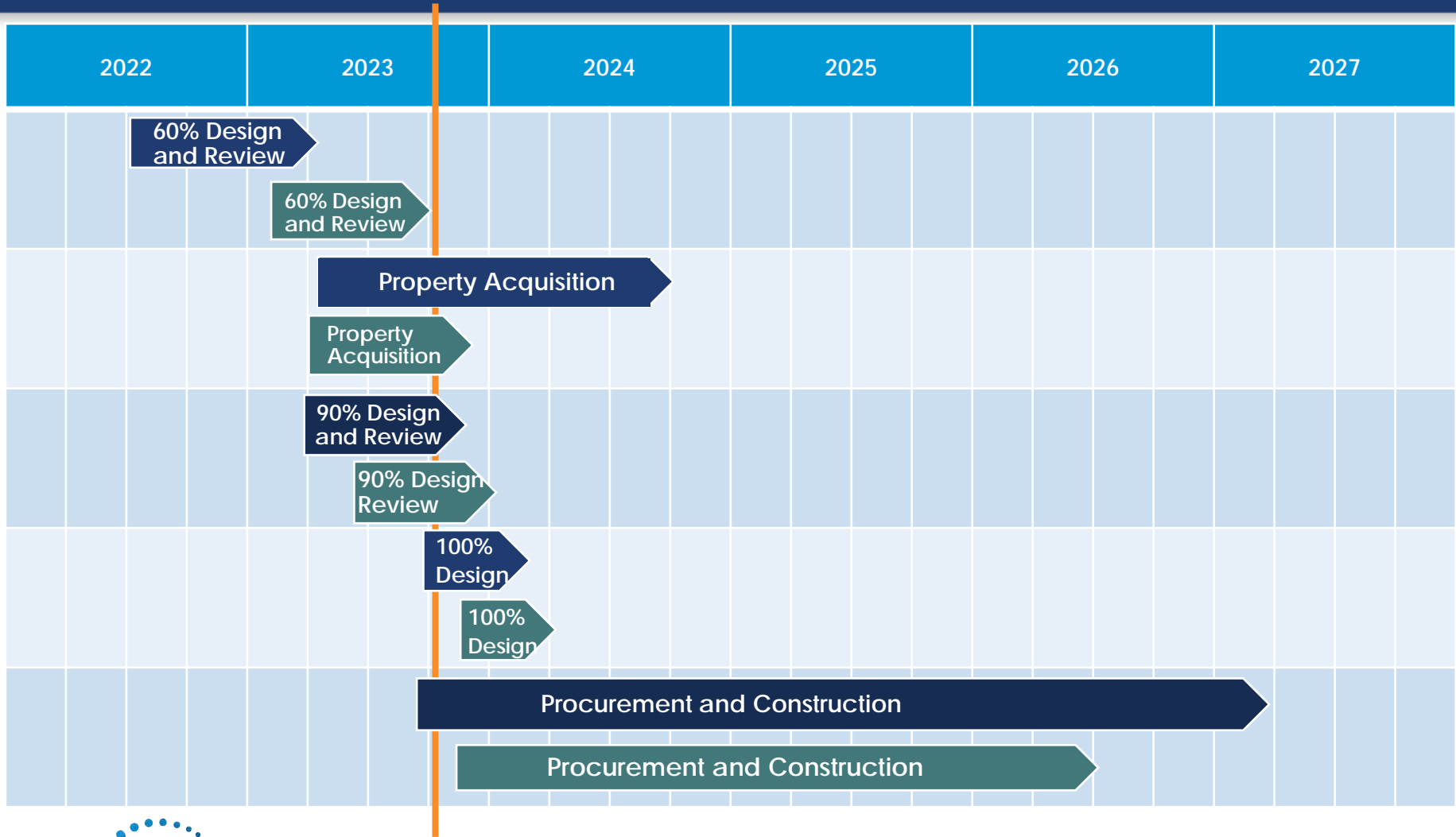


VPRA Project Design and Construction Process



On-going communication with project partners, community leaders, residents, and travelers.

Project Schedule



Next Steps:

Alexandria Fourth Track

- 90% Design currently in review
- Ongoing permitting activities
- Ongoing pre-construction activities
- 100% design planned for Winter 2023

King and Commonwealth

- 60% Design currently in review
- 90% Design in process

Alexandria Fourth Track Project Key Stakeholders



Joint Public Open House

KING & COMMONWEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

OPEN HOUSE

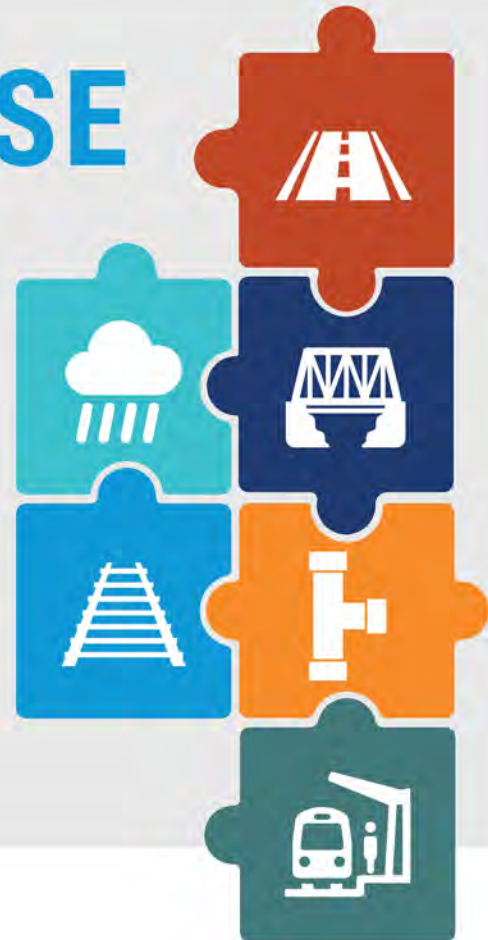
Wednesday, October 4

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Short presentation
at 6:00 p.m.

**Platform of Alexandria
VRE Union Station**

110 Callahan Dr.
Alexandria, VA 22301



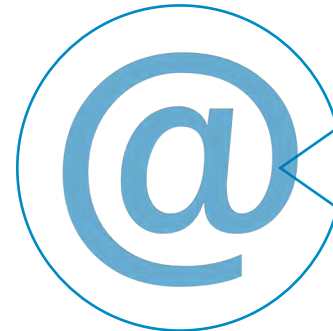
How to Stay Informed



VPRA's project website
<https://vapassengerrailauthority.org/projects>



You can also email
contactus@vpra.virginia.gov



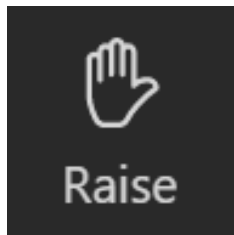
Stay connected on
social media:

LinkedIn Virginia Passenger Rail
Authority (VPRA)

Twitter @vapassengerrail

Facebook Virginia Passenger
Rail Authority

Q&A Session



Use the Raise Hand feature to let us know if you have a question.

The moderator will activate your microphone and you may unmute yourself to ask your question.