



Alexandria Transit Company

DASH ABOUT...

Rider News Bulletin

Spring 2011

DASH Wins Top Honors at Virginia State Bus Rodeo



Congratulations to DASH Operator Clarence "Action" Jackson, who won first place with the highest score in this year's Virginia State Bus Rodeo competition held on Sunday, April 3! DASH Operators Michelle Willis and James Toliver placed second and third, respectfully, in the DASH team.

The Rodeo tests the driving and knowledge skills of bus operators in an obstacle course that mirrors the specific driving maneuvers and encounters frequently experienced in the course of their daily work behind the wheel of their bus.

"Clarence is very passionate about his driving ability. Alexandria Transit is so proud of Clarence and all of our Rodeo participants," said Sandy Modell, DASH's General Manager. Jackson won the State competition in 2005 and 2007 and 2010. He will attend the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) International Rodeo competition in Memphis, TN, later this month.



James Toliver, Michelle Willis and Clarence Jackson

Receive a FREE DASH SmarTrip Card!

Help us test electronic DASH Passes on SmarTrip!

Starting this summer, customers will be able to load a monthly DASH pass on to their SmarTrip cards at area transit shops or online – but first, we need to make sure everything works! DASH is looking for passengers to help test the next generation of the monthly DASH Pass.

There is no cost to participate in the pilot program and we will even give you a DASH SmarTrip Card to use during the test period.

If you're interested, simply complete an application online at www.dashbus.com. For questions, please contact Tristan Cunningham, Transit Analyst, at 703-746-5638 or by email at: Tristan.Cunningham@alexandriava.gov.



City Council Approves Large Infusion of Transit Dollars in FY 2012 Budget Adoption

On Monday, May 2, The Alexandria City Council approved its Fiscal Year 2012 Budget. Although the proposed transportation add-on tax did not pass, the equivalent of 2.2 cents of real estate revenues was approved and reserved for transportation purposes.

It is estimated that the increase in the tax rate approved by Council will generate transportation funding of \$13.5 million in FY 2012 and \$110 million over 10 years. "By providing substantially increased funding to pay for transportation needs, Alexandria has taken a historic step towards achieving a set of long-range transportation goals," said Mayor William D. Euille.

"This is good news for DASH, for our customers, and for the City of Alexandria, overall," stated Sandy Modell, ATC General Manager. A stable funding source for transit service in the City will be the key to expanded and improved transit, new routes, better connections, and more frequent and convenient service. This new funding for transit will add new and more riders to the DASH system. It will give people better transit options so they can leave their cars at home and improve mobility for those who do not drive or own a car.

Alexandria Transit is excited about the City Council's decision to significantly increase transit funding, as it will allow DASH to add much needed services throughout the City and provide the ability to meet the growing transportation needs of Alexandria's residents, employees, and visitors.