



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 31, 2017, 10:00 am

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200

Fairfax, Virginia 22031

SUMMARY NOTES

I. Call to Order/Welcome

Chairman Nohe

- Chairman Nohe called the meeting to order at 10:12 am.
- Attendees:
 - **PPC Members:** Chairman Nohe (Prince William County); Chairman Bulova (Fairfax County); Chair Fisette (Arlington County); Mayor Rishell (City of Manassas Park).
 - **Authority Members and other Elected Officials:** Mary Hynes (Gubernatorial Appointee, CTB Member); Helen Cuervo (VDOT); Jim Kolb (Gubernatorial Appointee) called-in.
 - **NVTA Staff:** Monica Backmon (Executive Director); Keith Jasper (Principal); Michael Longhi (CFO); Sree Nampoothiri (Transportation Planner).
 - **Staff:** Sarah Crawford, Dan Malouff (Arlington County); Noelle Dominguez, Kristin Calkins (Fairfax County); Bob Brown (Loudoun County); Elizabeth Scullin (Prince William County); Pierre Holloman (City of Alexandria); Wendy Sanford (City of Fairfax); Sonali Soneji (VRE); Norman Whitaker (VDOT); Ciara Williams (DRPT); Arianna Koudounas (MWCOG/TPB), Dan Goldfarb (NVTC).

Discussion/Information

II. TransAction: Findings and NVTA Staff Recommendations

- Mr. Jasper presented the findings and staff recommendations of the TransAction Plan.
- Ms. Backmon noted that the brochure is still draft and needs additional work.
- Chairman Nohe pointed out that the chart entitled NVTA Function describes the planning and programming process clearly.
- Chair Fisette commented that the end product is not clear from the chart and needs to be clarified.
- Chairman Nohe noted that the end product for the public is the projects that NVTA funds, and that may need to be better highlighted.
- Mayor Rishell suggested emphasizing that the total estimated project costs include extra-territorial costs associated with project components beyond Northern Virginia.

- Ms. Hynes suggested identifying extra-territorial project costs.
- Mayor Rishell suggested noting that the auto trips include trips to VRE and Metro stations irrespective of trip length.
- Chairman Bulova suggested showing population and employment changes from 2016 to 2040.
- Chairman Nohe noted that the region’s population and employment are forecast to increase by 2040, which suggests that person hours of delay will get much worse if we do nothing. He added that this means while we are not solving all problems, we are doing the best we can.
- Chair Fisette noted that the TransAction analyses show that there is no one project/policy, “game changer” as some called it at the Long Range Plan Task Force of the Transportation Planning Board (TPB); a bundle of projects and policies are needed to make difference.
- In response to Chair Fisette’s question on the definition of transit crowding, Mr. Jasper mentioned that it is the number of revenue miles subjected to certain crowded conditions (crowded condition will be different for different systems such as bus, metro car, and VRE car).
- Ms. Cuervo noted that the plan achievement for \$44 billion is somewhat misleading since the region does not have that amount available. Chair Fisette added that this point should be mentioned in the brochure and presentations.
- Chairman Nohe noted that though we may not have \$44 billion available, it is important to mention that to show the cost of what is really needed. Ms. Hynes added that the list of projects and associated costs are important to show.
- Ms. Hynes suggested drawing public attention to the key points such as considerably slowing down the growth in delay (70% increase instead of 300%) and the \$44 billion cost.
- Chairman Bulova and Chair Fisette noted that the segment performance graphics and descriptions are confusing. Chairman Nohe added that this may not be as relevant to the public as the change in delay. Mr. Brown noted that it is helpful for jurisdictions to explain relative solutions to the Board and the public depending on the size of the problem compared to the region as well as amount of change we can make.
- Chairman Bulova and Mayor Rishell agreed that this is useful to understand the context for policy making such as where to spend the money to get the maximum bang for the buck.
- Chairman Nohe and Chair Fisette suggested a clear explanation is needed to describe NVTA/TransAction and what improvement the plan is making for different locations.
- Chair Fisette noted that the alternate futures give a sensitivity test and the NVTA needs to keep monitoring the developments.
- Chair Fisette suggested revising the recommendations section to highlight the key items.
- Chairman Bulova noted that though the findings are basic, they are accurate statements, realistic, and understandable.
- Chairman Nohe suggested involving jurisdictional PIOs in revising the presentation materials for making the technical materials more public-friendly.
- Chair Fisette and Ms. Hynes suggested explaining the process better and adding language that this plan will be the basis for developing NVTA’s Six Year Program (SYP).

- Ms. Hynes suggested adding a timeline of activities such as public input, adoption of TransAction, and development of the SYP.

III. NVTA Update

- Ms. Backmon informed the members that the next Authority meeting is scheduled on June 8, 2017.

Action

IV. Meeting Summary Notes of May 3, 2017, PPC Meeting

- The May 3, 2017 Planning and Programming Committee meeting summaries were unanimously approved subject to the addition of Mayor Rishell's comments sent to Ms. Backmon by email.

V. Draft TransAction Update

- Ms. Backmon indicated that the NVTA staff will revise the Draft TransAction Plan and associated project list to incorporate the PPC comments and direction, prior to requesting the Authority release the document for public comment at its meeting on June 8.
- The Planning and Programming Committee unanimously recommended the Authority to release the TransAction Plan Draft for public comment, subject to addressing the Committee's comments and direction.

Adjournment

VI. Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm.