

## **PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, July 2, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

2600 Park Tower Drive, Suite 601

Vienna, VA 22180

*This meeting was held in person and virtually via Zoom and livestreamed via YouTube.*

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

#### **1. Call to Order/Welcome**

- ✓ The meeting was held in person and virtually via Zoom. Chair Davis-Younger called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- ✓ **Attendees:**
  - i. **Planning and Programming Committee (PPC) Members:** In-person - Mayor Davis-Younger (Chair), Chair Jefferson, Board Member de Ferranti, Mayor Gaskins
  - ii. **Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) Staff:** Monica Backmon, CEO; Sree Nampoothiri, Senior Manager, Transportation Planning & Programming; Amanda Sink, Project Delivery/Grants Manager
  - iii. **Others:** Dalia Leven (Cambridge Systematics, Inc.)

#### **2. Summary Notes of November 18, 2024, Meeting**

- ✓ A motion to approve the summary notes of the November 18, 2024, meeting was made by Chair Jefferson and seconded by Mayor Gaskins. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **3. Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Action Plan (formerly Preliminary Deployment Plan)**

- ✓ Ms. Backmon began by stating this work initially began in NVTA's long-range plan, TransAction, and explained that the Plan provides a blueprint for a regional BRT system. Dr. Nampoothiri, Senior Manager, NVTA, and Ms. Leven, National Planning Lead for Transit and Shared Mobility at Cambridge Systematics, Inc., then briefed on the Draft BRT Action Plan, highlighting the approach to creating the Plan and expected benefits. Dr. Nampoothiri also described the highly collaborative effort that involved working with all NVTA member jurisdictions and agencies. Dr. Nampoothiri then briefed revisions made to the recommendations (Chapter 8 of the Plan), which incorporated comments received from Authority and Planning Coordination Advisory Committee (PCAC) members. This included clarification on continued collaboration, continued participation in ongoing regional activities, and filling gaps in regional needs.
- ✓ Mayor Gaskins asked if the revisions made to the recommendations were shared with the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) and Ms. Backmon responded in the affirmative. Mayor Gaskins followed with asking if comments that the City of Alexandria had made on routes were incorporated into the Plan. Dr.

Nampoothiri said that most of the comments were included such as adjustments to routes, and others would be addressed in future analysis the Authority would undertake. He also noted that in the coming months the Technical Report, which includes all the analysis done to support the Plan, and the detailed report on the public outreach will be completed and shared.

- ✓ Chair Jefferson inquired about the branding of the routes in order to communicate to the public a connected system. Dr. Nampoothiri stated that NVTA is not stating a regional branding must be used, but that common branding can be incorporated. Members also discussed the importance of educating the public about public transit and emphasized that it will require a sustained, long-term effort.
- ✓ Board Member de Ferranti thanked staff for their work on this Plan. He noted the importance of working together between agencies and policy makers.
- ✓ Board Member de Ferranti moved approval of the BRT Action Plan with the additional edits to the Recommendations as presented, seconded by Chair Jefferson. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **4. NVTA Update**

- ✓ Ms. Backmon reminded committee members of the ongoing funding application process for the FY2026-2031 Six Year Program. The applications are due by August 1, 2025, and the governing body resolutions are due by October 31, 2025. She also mentioned NVTA's work on the Bike/Pedestrian Funding Analysis, requested by the Virginia House and Senate Transportation Committee Chairs, and noted coordination with NVTC SJ28 work to identify additional funding sources.

#### **5. Adjourn**

- ✓ The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.