

SUMMARY MINUTES

Thursday, September 11, 2025

7PM, EST.

2600 Park Tower Drive, Sixth Floor Authority Board Room

Vienna, VA 22180

This meeting was conducted in person and livestreamed via [NVTA's YouTube Channel](#)

1. Call to Order

Chair Randall

- ✓ Chair Randall called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Henderson, Board Secretary

- ✓ Membership Attendees: Chair Randall, Vice Chair David Snyder, Chairman Jeff McKay, Chair Deshundra Jefferson, Chair Takis Karantonis (for Board Member Matthew de Ferranti), Mayor Alyia Gaskins, Mayor Catherine Read, Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger, Senator Jennifer Boysko, Delegate Brianna Sewell, Ms. Maria Sinner (for William Cuttler), and Ms. Tiffany Robinson. Absent: Mayor Alanna Mensing, Delegate Karrie Delany, and Mayor Linda Colbert.
- ✓ Staff Attendees: Chief Executive Officer Monica Backmon, Chief Financial Officer Michael Longhi; Principal, Planning and Programming Keith Jasper, Deputy Chief Financial Officer Peggy Teal, Communications and Public Affairs Manager Abigail Hillerich, Senior Manager Transportation Planning and Programming Dr. Sree Nampoothiri, Planning Analytics Manager Harun Rashid; Regional Transportation Planners Griffin Frank, Alyssa Beyers, Kristen Sarik, Starla Couso, and Matthew Bewley; Project Delivery/Grants Manager Amanda Sink; Strategic Communications Specialist Sharara Faisal; Comptroller Lu Han, Senior Accountant Gary Armstrong, Senior Accountant Lauren Wilber, Accounting Assistant Margaret Duker, and Board Secretary Lee Ann Henderson.
- ✓ Council of Counsel Attendees: Mr. Daniel Robinson-Fairfax County, Ms. Christina Zechman-Brown-City of Alexandria.
- ✓ Other Attendees: Tracy Baynard-McGuire Woods, LLC.

Members of the public, jurisdiction and agency staff were in person and were able to watch the meeting livestreamed via [NVTA's YouTube Channel](#).

Presentations

3. Virginia Railway Express System Plan 2050

Nick Ruiz, AICP, Planning Program Manager, Virginia Railway Express

- ✓ Mr. Dallas Richards, Chief Engineer for Virginia Railway Express, introduced himself and Mr. Nick Ruiz. He noted that Christine Hefner, Director of Planning and Environmental Policy, was also present.
- ✓ Mr. Ruiz stated that they see VRE as a system that will grow to serve the region as a

transportation service of choice.

- ✓ He noted that the 2050 System Plan is comprised of a 2030 Service Plan and the 2050 Service Vision and described the specifics of the plan.

Consent Agenda

4. Approval of July 12, 2025, Meeting Summary Minutes Chair Randall
 5. Approval of Standard Project Agreement (SPA) for Liberia Avenue Third Lane Eastbound (SPA #2022-314-1) for the City of Manassas Ms. Backmon, Chief Executive Officer
 6. Approval of Standard Project Agreement (SPA) for the Roundabout at Route 28 and Sudley Road (SPA #2024-342-1) for the City of Manassas Ms. Backmon, Chief Executive Officer
 7. Approval of Standard Project Agreement (SPA) for Northern Virginia ITS/ICM Improvements (SPA #2022-315-1) for Loudoun County Ms. Backmon, Chief Executive Officer
 8. Approval of Standard Project Agreement (SPA) for the Franconia-Springfield Passenger Rail Project (SPA #2020-313-1) for the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority Ms. Backmon, Chief Executive Officer
- ✓ On a motion by Chair Randall, seconded by Vice Chair Snyder, the Consent Agenda was approved unanimously.

Action Items

9. Approval of Letter of Support for Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) I-495 Southside Express Lanes Project to be Included in Transportation Planning Board's (TPB) Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) Bill Cuttler, P.E., Northern Virginia Engineer, VDOT
- ✓ Ms. Sinner stated the Virginia Department of Transportation is requesting endorsement of a letter to the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) to include the I-495 Southside Express Lanes project in their long-range plan. She noted that endorsement of the letter does not approve the technical aspects of the project.
 - ✓ Ms. Shropshire, Northern Virginia District Mega Projects Director, gave a brief presentation on the I-495 Southside Express Lanes study which included some information about the project and the multimodal benefits of the two-lane preferred alternative.
 - ✓ Ms. Shropshire noted that VDOT is very early in the process and inclusion in the TPB's long range plan will allow the analysis of project to continue to be refined.
 - ✓ Senator Boysko stated that she has some concerns, but is keeping an open mind.
 - ✓ Delegate Sewell stated she feels it is important to continue the process so that the



fiscal benefits can be further explored.

- ✓ Chairman McKay clarified that the Authority is not being asked to approve the project, rather to support its inclusion in the TPB's long-range plan so the project can be refined. He suggested amending the endorsement letter to emphasize that the project needs to be moved forward so that the very real questions of the stakeholders can be addressed.
- ✓ Mayor Gaskins stated she has concerns about future engagement based on the level of engagement that has been put forth thus far.
- ✓ Chair Karantonis expressed his concerns about the lack of support from the Maryland Department of Transportation.
- ✓ Vice Chair Snyder expressed his concern about moving a traffic bottleneck just a few miles down the road.
- ✓ Chair Randall stated her belief that since this corridor has no transit options, moving this project on for further analysis is a matter of equity, which is one of the NVTa Core Values.
- ✓ Chairman McKay offered a motion to approve the endorsement letter with changes reflecting earlier comments about answering questions, bringing updates back to NVTa, and amending the addressee. The motion was seconded by Delegate Sewell.
- ✓ The motion failed on a 5-1-4 roll call vote with Chair Randall, Chairman McKay, Mayor Davis-Younger, Mayor Read, and Delegate Sewell voting in the affirmative, Mayor Gaskins voting against, and Vice Chair Snyder, Chair Jefferson, Chair Karantonis, and Senator Boysko abstaining. Motion failure was based on the lack of the required population percentages of the jurisdictions embraced by NVTa.

10. Request for Regional Transportation Planner Position Mr. Longhi, Chief Financial Officer

- ✓ This item was deferred without objection.

11. Communications Insourcing

Mr. Longhi, Chief Financial Officer

- ✓ This item was deferred without objection.

Discussion/Information Items

12. Travel Trends Quarterly Update

Mr. Rashid, Planning Analytics Manager

13. CEO Report

Ms. Backmon, Chief Executive Officer

14. Chair's Comments

Chair Randall

A. Other Business

B. Closed Session – CEO Review

- ✓ At 9:17 p.m., on a motion by Chair Randall, seconded by Vice Chair Snyder, the Authority went into Closed Meeting for the annual review the Chief Executive Officer's performance.
- ✓ At 9:55 p.m., on a motion by Chair Randall, seconded by Vice Chair Snyder, the Authority members certified that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only



public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Chapter 2.2-3400 et. seq. of the Code of Virginia, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered by the Authority. The motion was approved unanimously.

15. Adjournment

Chair Randall

- ✓ There being no further business before the Authority, Chair Randall adjourned the meeting at 9:56 p.m.

