

NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chair Phyllis J. Randall and Members
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

FROM: Monica Backmon, Executive Director

DATE: January 7, 2021

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report

Purpose: To inform the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTa) of items of interest not addressed in other agenda items.

1. **2021 NoVA ITS Roundtable** –The 6th Annual NoVA ITS Roundtable will be held on Wednesday, March 10, 2021, from 8:00am-10:00am. Due to health and safety concerns, this year's event will be held virtually. Please mark your calendars as more details on the program are announced.
2. **Regional Joint Public Information Officer (PIO Meeting)** – The Regional Joint Public Information Officer Meeting, which the NVTa coordinates on a quarterly basis, will meet virtually on January 26, 2021. The PIOs will discuss TransAction and public engagement, NVTa's 2020 Annual Report, the Northern Virginia Joint Transportation Meeting collaborative communications efforts, transportation initiatives, and upcoming events being hosted by jurisdictions and agencies across Northern Virginia.
3. **NVTa Communication Plan** – Since its last update five years ago, it was time to revisit the NVTa Communication Plan and mission statement. The Communication Plan has been rewritten and the mission statement updated, with the following categories incorporated into the Plan: Goals, Overarching Key Messages, Leveraging External Channels, Stakeholder Audiences, Tools, Metrics and Looking Ahead, and TransAction related activities. The updated Communication Plan will soon be presented before the Authority.
4. **Capital Region Rail Vision** – On December 10, 2020, the Greater Washington Partnership, with support from key regional stakeholders, released the [Capital Region Rail Vision](#), which presents a 25-year strategy to remove key physical and operating barriers to provide residents a more coordinated, integrated, and competitive rail service. The Vision was developed with the input of key regional stakeholders, such as the Northern Virginia

Transportation Authority. Stakeholder participants included, but were not limited to, myself; Keith Jasper, Principal, Transportation Planning and Programming, NVTa; Jennifer Mitchell, Director, Virginia DRPT, and Authority member; Sharon Bulova, Vice-Chair of the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority, and former Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Authority; and Elizabeth Bennett-Parker, City of Alexandria Vice Mayor and member of NVTa's Planning Coordination Advisory Committee (PCAC). The Authority's long-range transportation plan for Northern Virginia - TransAction - includes multiple rail projects broadly consistent with the Capital Region Rail Vision.

5. NVTa Standing Committee Meetings:

- a. Finance Committee:** The NVTa Finance Committee is scheduled to meet next on January 21st at 1:00pm. The meeting will be held electronically.
- b. Planning and Programming Committee:** The NVTa Planning and Programming Committee is scheduled to meet in February 2021. Specific date TBD.
- c. Governance and Personnel Committee:** The next meeting of the NVTa Governance and Personnel Committee is scheduled for January 14, 201, at 5:30pm. The meeting will be held electronically.

6. NVTa Statutory Committee Meetings:

- a. Technical Advisory Committee:** The NVTa Technical Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet in February 17, 2021, at 7:00pm. The meeting will be held electronically.
- b. Planning Coordination Advisory Committee:** The NVTa Planning Coordination Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet February 24, 2021, at 6:30pm. The meeting will be held electronically.

7. CMAQ-RSTP Transfers:

- a.** CMAQ and RSTP Transfers requested since the last Executive Director's report are presented in Attachment A.

8. Regional Projects Status Report:

- a.** Please note the updated Regional Projects Status Report (Attachment B), which provides a narrative update for each project and the amount of project reimbursements requested and processed to date.

Link to the Projects Status Report: <https://thenovaauthority.org/funded-projects/>

Attachments:

- A.** CMAQ-RSTP Transfers
- B.** Regional Projects Status Report

Attachment A.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY MEMORANDUM

TO: Chair Randall and Members
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

FROM: Monica Backmon, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Approval of Reallocation of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds
for Virginia Railway Express (VRE)

DATE: January 7, 2020

- 1. Purpose.** To inform the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) of Regional Jurisdiction and Agency Coordinating Committee (RJACC) Approval of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds for VRE.
- 2. Background:** On September 11, 2008, the Authority delegated the authority to approve requests to reallocate Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funding between projects that were previously approved by the NVTA to the Regional Jurisdiction and Agency Coordinating Committee (RJACC).

On December 17, 2020, VRE requested the following reallocation:

- Transfer of \$1,000,000 in CMAQ funding from UPC 85373 (VRE Gainesville to Haymarket Extension Project) to UPC T8523 (VRE Broad Run Station Project)

At the time the funds were recommended by NVTA on February 26, 2015, VRE had initiated an alternatives analysis for the proposed VRE extension to the Gainesville-Haymarket area of Prince William County. The alternatives analysis, concluded in 2017, resulted in the decision to expand the VRE Broad Run facilities in support of Manassas Line growth rather than construct a service extension to Haymarket. Preliminary design is complete for the planned Broad Run improvements and VRE is in the process of procuring a design consultant to complete final design plans. The current plans support 2030 passenger demand. This transfer will consolidate all CMAQ/RSTP allocated by NVTA for design and construction of improvements related to the VRE Broad Run Expansion under the single UPC, T8523.

At its meeting on December 17, 2020, the RJACC approved this request.

Attachment(s): DRAFT Letter to VDOT NOVA District Administrator Cuervo
Request Letters from VRE

Coordination: Regional Jurisdiction and Agency Coordinating Committee



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

January 14, 2021

Ms. Helen Cuervo
District Administrator
Virginia Department of Transportation
4975 Alliance Dr. Suite 4E-342
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Reference: Request to Reallocate Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds for Virginia Railway Express (VRE)

Dear Ms. Cuervo:

On September 11, 2008, the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) delegated the authority to approve requests to reallocate Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funding between projects that were previously approved by the NVTA to the Regional Jurisdiction and Agency Coordinating Committee (RJACC).

On December 17, 2020, VRE requested the following reallocation:

- Transfer of \$1,000,000 in CMAQ funding from UPC 85373 (VRE Gainesville to Haymarket Extension Project) to UPC T8523 (VRE Broad Run Station Project)

At the time the funds were recommended by NVTA on February 26, 2015, VRE had initiated an alternatives analysis for the proposed VRE extension to the Gainesville-Haymarket area of Prince William County. The alternatives analysis, concluded in 2017, resulted in the decision to expand the VRE Broad Run facilities in support of Manassas Line growth rather than construct a service extension to Haymarket. Preliminary design is complete for the planned Broad Run improvements and VRE is in the process of procuring a design consultant to complete final design plans. The current plans support 2030 passenger demand. This transfer will consolidate all CMAQ/RSTP allocated by NVTA for design and construction of improvements related to the VRE Broad Run Expansion under the single UPC, T8523.

NVTA's delegation requires that the RJACC notify the NVTA of these requests. The RJACC approved the request on December 17, 2020, and the NVTA was informed at their January 14, 2021, meeting. The NVTA has not objected to these reallocations.

Please take the necessary steps to reallocate these funds in the Transportation Improvement Program and the State Transportation Improvement Program. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Phyllis J. Randall
Chair

cc: Monica Backmon, Executive Director, NVTA
Mark Schofield, Chief Financial Officer, VRE
Ricardo Canizales, Director of Transportation, Prince William County



VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS

Attachment A.ii.

December 10, 2020

Ms. Noelle Dominguez, Chairman
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTa)
Regional Jurisdiction and Agency Coordinating Committee (RJACC)
3040 Williams Dr.
Fairfax, VA 22301

RE: Request for Transfer for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Funds,
From UPC 85373 to UPC T8523

Dear Chairman Dominguez:

Virginia Railway Express (VRE) requests the NVTa Regional Jurisdiction and Agency Coordinating Committee (RJACC) approve the transfer of previously allocated CMAQ funds from UPC 85373, VRE Gainesville to Haymarket Extension, to UPC T8523, VRE Broad Run Expansion.

At the time the funds were recommended by NVTa on February 26, 2015, VRE had initiated an alternatives analysis for the proposed VRE extension to the Gainesville-Haymarket area of Prince William County. The alternatives analysis, concluded in 2017, resulted in the decision to expand the VRE Broad Run facilities in support of Manassas Line growth rather than construct a service extension to Haymarket. Preliminary design is complete for the planned Broad Run improvements and VRE is in the process of procuring a design consultant to complete final design plans. The current plans support 2030 passenger demand. This transfer will consolidate all CMAQ/RSTP allocated by NVTa for design and construction of improvements related to the VRE Broad Run Expansion under the single UPC, T8523.

The planned improvements will have positive regional air quality benefits due to the forecast increase in VRE passengers by 2030 and related reduction in peak period vehicle trip lengths. VRE survey data has shown the majority of VRE passengers were previously single-occupant vehicle users destined for the Washington, DC-Arlington-Alexandria core. Attracting more VRE riders will have a positive effect on the region's air quality. An updated TEEM emissions worksheet is attached to this letter.

Ms. Noelle Dominguez
December 10, 2020
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If you have questions or comments regarding this request, please contact Christine Hoeffner at 703-838-5442 or choeffner@vre.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Dalton", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rich Dalton
Chief Executive Officer

CC: Sree Nampoothiri, NVT
Mark Schofield, VRE
Sonali Soneji, VRE
Adeel Mysorewala, VRE
Betsy Massie, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission
Paolo Belita, Prince William County
Carol Bondurant, VDOT

CMAQ/RSTP Transfer Request Form

(One Sheet Needed Per Donor Project)

Date: 12/10/2020

Name of Jurisdiction/Agency Requesting: Virginia Railway Express

Current Balance of CMAQ/RSTP Funds Currently Allocated to Donor Project (Prior to this Transfer): \$1,000,000

From (Donor):

To (Recipient):

UPC	Project Description	Type of Funds	Transfer from Previous Fiscal Years	If No, Year Requested	Transfer Amount	UPC	Project Description	Previously Approved by NVTA	If Yes, Year Approved	JACC Approval (NVTA)	Authority Approval (NVTA)	Funds Verified (VDOT)	Completed (VDOT)
85373	VRE-GAINESVILLE TO HAYMARKET EXTENSION	CMAQ	N	FY2021	\$1,000,000.00	T8523	VRE Broad Run Expansion	Y	2018 (Scope Change)				

TOTAL OF TRANSFER - \$1,000,000

Attach Signed Request of Transfer Letter



NVTA Funding Program Project Status
Summary Report

Attachment B.

As of January 4, 2021.		
NVTA's Regional Fund Program FY2014 - FY2025		Upcoming Public Information Meeting(s):
Total Revenue Allocated	\$2,491,195,952	NOTE: For latest information on project events, please refer to the "Events and Meetings" section on our home page - https://thenovaauthority.org/ For full status information, please check NVTA web page on regional fund projects - https://thenovaauthority.org/funded-projects/
Total Amount Reimbursed	\$522,539,814	
Total Number of Individual Projects	106	
SPAs	142	
Currently Active	67	
Completed	44	
Not Yet Executed	31	
Substantive Status Updates (during October - December 2020)**		
Project Title (program year)	Updated Status	% Reimbursed
Arlington County		
Crystal City Metrorail Station East Entrance and Intermodal Connections (FY2018-23)	WMATA approved the permit for soil borings and test pits in December 2020. Work will get underway in January 2021.	0.0%
Prince William County		
Construct Interchange at Prince William Parkway and University Blvd (FY2018-23)	Limited Access Control was approved by the CTB on December 9, 2020.	4.7%
Summit School Rd Extension and Telegraph Rd Widening (FY2018-23)	60% Design Plans were submitted to VDOT on November 16, 2020.	10.7%
City of Alexandria		
West End Transitway (FY2015-16, FY2018-23)	RFQ for Phase 1 design was advertised on December 4, 2020.	FY2015-16: 36.6%
DASH Transit Service Enhancements and Expansion (FY2018-23)	A contract was executed with the consultant in November 2020 and project work has begun	1.8%
Town of Leesburg		
Construct Interchange at Route 15 Bypass and Battlefield Parkway (FY2018-23)	A consultant is selected, and Town initiated negotiations with the highest ranking candidate on December 7, 2020.	0.0%
VRE		
Franconia-Springfield Platform Improvements (FY2015-16)	Final design completion is delayed, now anticipated by 1st quarter of CY 2021, from earlier estimated completion by end of CY 2020.	5.5%
Crystal City Platform Improvements (FY2015-16, FY2018-23)	30% Design Plans were submitted per schedule on Dec 11, 2020.	FY2015-16: 100.0% FY2018-23: 0.0%

**Substantive changes: SPA appendices A/B, Project administration, Start/completion of phases, Groundbreaking/ribbon-cutting ceremonies, Public information meetings, Major engineering progress.