



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 29, 2020, 5:00pm

ELECTRONIC MEETING ONLY

Meeting link will be sent to the members prior to the meeting
All others will be able to view proceedings live on [NVTA's YouTube Channel](#)

AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order/Welcome** Chair

Action

- II. **Resolution finding need to conduct meeting electronically**
Recommended action: Adopt resolution
- III. **Summary Notes of June 19, 2020 Meeting**
Recommended action: Approve meeting notes

Discussion/Information

- IV. **TransAction Update** Mr. Jasper, Principal, Planning and Programming
- V. **NVTA Update** Ms. Backmon, Executive Director

Adjournment

- VI. **Adjourn**

Next Meeting: TBD
Location: TBD

NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION FINDING NEED TO CONDUCT
SEPTEMBER 29, 2020 MEETING ELECTRONICALLY

September 29, 2020

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Governor of Virginia declared a state of emergency in Virginia in response to the spread of novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, a communicable disease of public health threat as so declared by the State Health Commissioner on February 7, 2020 (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, in subsequent Executive Orders, particularly Executive Order Nos. 53 and 55, as amended, the Governor of Virginia, among other measures designed to ensure safe physical distancing between individuals, prohibited public and private in person gatherings of 10 or more individuals and ordered all individuals in Virginia to remain at their place of residence, with limited exceptions, to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 and prevent its spread; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (Authority) – Planning and Programming Committee (Committee) finds that it has a responsibility to demonstrate to the public, through the Authority’s conduct, the importance of maintaining proper physical distance from others and to avoid gathering in public where the risks of infection are highest, and to take measures that promote physical distancing in order to protect the public health and mitigate the impacts and spread of COVID-19, including, among others, conducting meetings electronically whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2020, the Virginia General Assembly adopted, and the Governor signed, budget bill amendments to HB 29 that expressly authorize “any public body, including any state, local, [or] regional body” to “meet by electronic communication means without a quorum of the public body . . . physically assembled at one location when the Governor has declared a state of emergency . . . , provided that (i) the nature of the declared emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe for the public body . . . to assemble in a single location; (ii) the purpose of the meeting is to discuss or transact the business statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the public body . . . and the discharge of its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities” among other provisions; and

WHEREAS, member jurisdictions of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority have adopted continuity of government ordinances pursuant to Va. Code Ann. § 15.2-1413 which ordinances, among other provisions, contemplate regional bodies of which the locality is a member meeting electronically to transact business to assure the continuity of government; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Planning and Programming Committee hereby finds that meeting by electronic means is authorized because the nature of the declared emergency makes it both impracticable and unsafe for the Committee to assemble in a single location on September 29, 2020, to discuss and transact the business of the Authority listed on the September 29, 2020 Committee Meeting Agenda; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee hereby finds that meeting by electronic means is authorized because the items on the September 29, 2020 Committee Meeting Agenda are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the Authority and the discharge of the Authority's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the items on the September 29, 2020 Committee Meeting Agenda are encompassed within the continuity of operations ordinances adopted by member localities of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority to assure the continued operation of the government during the disaster posed by the public health emergency resulting from COVID-19.

Adopted the 29th day of September, 2020.



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

Friday, June 19, 2020, 5:00 pm

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

ELECTRONIC MEETING

with livestreaming on YouTube

SUMMARY NOTES

I. Call to Order/Welcome

- Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.
- Attendees:
 - **PPC Members:** Mayor Wilson (City of Alexandria); Mayor Rishell (City of Manassas Park); Council Member Snyder (City of Falls Church); Chair Wheeler (Prince William County); Mayor Meyer (City of Fairfax).
 - **Other NVTa Members:** Senator Boysko (Virginia Senate); Board Member Cristol (Arlington County); Mayor Parrish (City of Manassas); Ms. Hynes (Governor's Appointee/CTB Member); Mr. Kolb (Governor's Appointee); Ms. Mitchell (Director, DRPT).
 - **NVTa Staff:** Monica Backmon (Executive Director); Mike Longhi (CFO); Keith Jasper (Principal); Sree Nampoothiri (Senior Transportation Planner).
 - **Council of Counsels:** Ellen Posner (Fairfax County), Robert Dickerson (Prince William County), Steven MacIsaac (Arlington County).
 - **Jurisdiction/Agency Staff:** None on the WebEx. Several staff members followed the proceedings on livestreaming on YouTube Live.

Action

II. Resolution finding need to conduct meeting electronically

- Chairman Wilson noted that as a result of the COVID-19 and Governor Northam's declaration of a State of Emergency, the Authority's Planning and Programming Committee Meeting was being held electronically. He noted that the passage of the amendments to HB 29 (the FOIA Bill) allowed regional bodies such as the Authority, and their committees to conduct business meetings electronically. He added that the meeting by electronic means is authorized because the items on the Committee Meeting Agenda are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the Authority. The resolution was approved unanimously.

III. Summary Notes of June 1, 2020 Meeting

- The June 1, 2020 Planning and Programming Committee meeting summary was approved unanimously with abstentions from members not present at the June 1st meeting.

Discussion/Information

IV. FY2020-2025 Six Year Program Update

- Mr. Jasper gave a brief overview of the status of the Six Year Program (SYP) update process:
 - FY2020-2025 SYP is the fifth and most competitive program at NVTA with a total request of \$1,444,826,078 with an available revenue of \$522,151,962;
 - The 41 project requests span multiple modes;
 - The key components of the project selection process include
 - Eligibility review
 - Quantitative analysis including Congestion Reduction Relative to Cost (CRRC), TransAction rating, and Long Term Benefit (LTB) though LTB is not being emphasized this cycle;
 - Qualitative Analysis including past performance, external funding, funding gap, project readiness, modal and geographic balance; and,
 - Public comments
 - In general, the staff list the projects by CRRC rank and remove any projects in the top half that have negative scores on other ratings/factors and add projects in the lower half that have positive factors on other rankings and factors. This is followed by adding projects, if needed, to ensure modal and geographic balance and/or public support;
 - The projects that received most comments during the public engagement period included:
 - NOV-002 Arlington W&OD Trail Enhancements (NOVA Parks) – large support and some opposition;
 - PWC-025 Van Buren Road North Extension (Prince William County) – equal amount of support and opposition;
 - CFC-006 West Falls Church Access to Transit and Multimodal Connectivity (City of Falls Church) – large support; and,
 - CFC-005 Downtown Falls Church Multimodal Improvements (City of Falls Church) – some support;
 - NVTA staff recommendations include:
 - 19 of 41 applications are recommended for funding;
 - Nine are continuation projects; ten are first time for NVTA;
 - 15 of 19 projects are recommended for full funding;
 - Multimodal perspective:
 - Continued and/or increased emphasis on Route 1/VRE Fredericksburg corridor, Fairfax County Parkway Corridor, BRT solutions, synergies, grid networks, and active transportation.
 - The list of projects and funding amounts recommended by the staff were presented;
 - NVTA staff will post these recommendations on the NVTA website by June 24th, following code requirements that NVTA publish recommendations at least 15 days prior to the Authority meeting in which the program is expected to be adopted; and,
 - Authority is expected to adopt the FY2020-2025 Six Year Program at its July 9th meeting.

- Mr. Jasper noted that the Planning Coordination Advisory Committee (PCAC) and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) endorsed the staff recommendations.
- Mr. Jasper informed that the Finance Committee recommended Authority withdraw/cancel two Virginia Railway Express (VRE) projects with the balance amounts from these projects, a total of \$16,958,821, to be included in the SYP recommendations. The projects are Lorton Station Second Platform and Rippon Station Expansion and Second Platform.
- In response to Mayor Rishell's question on regional distribution of public comments, Mr. Jasper pointed out that most of the projects received comments from immediate surroundings though some support extended to the travel-shed of the facility.
- Mayor Meyer requested funding for the CFX-015 Jermantown Road/Route 29 Intersection Improvements project that is ranked first on the CRRC ranking.
- Council Member Snyder requested funding for the CFC-005 Downtown Falls Church Multimodal Improvements project, providing connections to Metro and traffic and bike-ped connections on Park Avenue, for its relatively good CRRC ranking as well as the public support. Additionally, he expressed support for the RPT-002 Franconia-Springfield Passenger Rail Bypass project.
- Ms. Mitchell pointed out that the VRE funds were made available since the Commonwealth is incorporating most of those project scope as part of statewide initiatives.
- Board Member Cristol supported the RPT-002 Franconia-Springfield Passenger Rail Bypass Project as this project is a priority for the VRE Operations Board too.
- Mayor Rishell supported all the three projects mentioned above for additional funding.
- The Committee approved a motion to approve the staff recommendations subjected to three amendments to allocate the funds freed up from potential withdrawal/cancellation of VRE projects. The amendments are:
 - Fully fund CFX-015 Jermantown Road/Route 29 Intersection Improvements project (\$700,000);
 - Fully fund CFC-005 Downtown Falls Church Multimodal Improvements project (\$8,300,000); and,
 - Add the remaining funds to the staff recommended \$15,000,000 for RPT-002 Franconia-Springfield Passenger Rail Bypass project.

V. NVT A Update

- Ms. Backmon noted that the Authority is expected to approve the Six Year Program at its July meeting. She thanked the Authority for its continued effort to sustain its revenues even during the economic and revenue challenges Authority is facing due to COVID-19 situation.

Adjournment

VI. Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 6:14 pm.