



**Northern Virginia Transportation Authority**  
*The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia*

**PLANNING COORDINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, November 20, 2014, 5:30pm**

**3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200**

**Fairfax, Virginia 22031**

**SUMMARY NOTES**

**I. Call to Order** Chairman Foreman

- Chairman Foreman called the meeting to order at 5:38 pm.

**II. Roll Call** Ms. Harris, Program Coordinator

- Attendees: NVTA Chairman Nohe
  - ✓ Members: Mayor Foreman; Council Member Way; Council Member Burk; Supervisor Candland; Council Member Colbert; Council Member Lehr; Supervisor Letourneau; Council Member Oliver.
  - ✓ NVTA Staff: Monica Backmon (Executive Director); Denise Harris (Program Coordinator); Keith Jasper (Program Coordinator).
  - ✓ Other Staff: Noelle Dominguez (Fairfax County), Dan Malouff (Arlington County); James Davenport (Prince William County); Mark Duceman (Town of Herndon).

**III. Approval of the September 22, 2014 Summary Notes**

- Council Member Lehr moved approval of the summary notes of September 22, 2014 ; seconded by Council Member Oliver. Motion passed with six (6) yeas and two (2) abstentions [with Council Member Colbert and Supervisor Letourneau abstaining as they were not at the September meeting].

**IV. NVTA Executive Director Report** Ms. Backmon, Executive Director

- Ms. Backmon informed the Committee that the NVTA received AA+, Aa1 and AA+, with a stable outlook, from Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's, respectively. She informed the PCAC that this AA+ credit rating was unusual for an organization's inaugural bond issuance and noted that it speaks to the work done by the NVTA staff and member localities to ensure the success of the Authority.
- Ms. Backmon also informed the Committee that although the Authority's FY2015/16 Two Year Program is scheduled for adoption in March 2015, VDOT is seeing some anomalies in HB 599 results which may result in the need to revisit the schedule. Ms. Backmon indicated more information will be provided to the

reasons on Monday, November 23, 2014 which is the date of the principals meeting with VDOT. A request was made that VDOT be asked to have a representative at future PCAC meetings.

- Ms. Backmon informed the PCAC that she would like to meet with Chairman Foreman and Vice-Chairman Way to discuss the roles and responsibilities of the PCAC as the Authority develops its Two Year Program and updates its long range transportation plan. This meeting will clarify the role of the Project Implementation Working Group (PIWG) and the PCAC.

## V. Policy Framework for Approved Projects Not Advancing

Mr. Jasper, Program Coordinator

- Mr. Jasper, Staff Coordinator for the Project Implementation Working Group (PIWG), presented the draft Policy Framework for the NVTAs funded projects that are not advancing. The Committee was informed that they will be given a more detailed briefing of the draft policy at a future meeting.
  - ✓ Additionally it was stated that project readiness was a criteria for project funding approval. To help facilitate projects moving forward, on October 9, 2014 the Authority approved the Standard Project Agreement (SPA) with VDOT. This SPA enables interested project sponsors to have VDOT implement the project the condition the proposed project is 100% funded by HB 2313.
  - ✓ A request was made for the SPA to be forwarded to the PCAC.
  - ✓ A question was raised if there are specific projects associated with bonding and what happens if they don't move forward. The response was the financing is for a total amount of money, not specifically related to projects; therefore the money may be reassigned if a project is not advancing.
  - ✓ Clarification was sought on the activities of the PIWG. It was conveyed that the Authority desires to keep the PIWG active and may consider renaming it to the Capital Working Group. Currently the PIWG is in charge of developing the Two Year Program and making recommendations to the Authority. The Chair and Vice Chair of the PIWG are Authority members.
  - ✓ A request was made for the reading of the charge of the PCAC. The PCAC charge from the Authority Bylaws was read as: *"This committee shall be responsible for advising the Authority on broad policy issues related to the periodic update of the NVTAs Long Range Transportation Plan and the development of the NVTAs Six Year Program with special consideration to regional transportation, land use and growth issues."*
  - ✓ Clarification was sought on what the PCAC is expected to produce. It was conveyed that the NVTAs looks to the PCAC to provide input and recommendations on the update/development of the long range transportation plan and Two Year Program.

## VI. Draft 2015 Legislative Program

Ms. Dominguez, Chair, JACC

- Ms. Dominguez, Chair of the Jurisdiction and Agency Coordinating Committee (JACC), presented the draft 2015 Legislative Program to the PCAC. Ms. Dominguez noted areas in the program which were new or significantly different from the previous program. She informed the PCAC that comments they had on the draft program would be included for NVTAs consideration at the December 11, 2014 NVTAs meeting.
  - ✓ Clarification was sought on how the legislative program is communicated to the Northern Virginia delegation. An explanation was given that the legislative liaisons in Northern Virginia meet regularly to keep each other informed. An example was given using the Budget Amendment process and how the coordination of the legislative liaisons helped to keep the Authority well informed.
  - ✓ There was a discussion on the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Perimeter Rule and the related positions of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and interested local jurisdictions. The PCAC discussed adding language to the Legislative Program consistent with that of member jurisdictions.
- Supervisor Letourneau moved approval of inclusion of a position consistent with member jurisdictions on the FAA Perimeter Rule in the Authority Legislative Program; seconded by Mayor Foreman. Motion carried unanimously.

## VII. HB2 Review

Ms. Harris, Program Coordinator

- Ms. Harris and Ms. Dominguez provided an overview of the HB 2 presentation given by the Virginia Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST) at the October 16, 2014 Commonwealth Transportation Board meeting.
  - ✓ An observation was made that there is the potential of creating an unmanageable amount of methodologies for rating transportation projects. The response was this is the reasoning for the OST recommending limiting the methodologies to 4-6 options.
  - ✓ A concern was raised on the weights of cost sharing when there are potential Federal, State, and NVTAs monies on a project. The question was asked how will HB 2 work with HB 599 and whether this may create a situation where there will be conflicting timing for project schedules. It was confirmed that the Authority is concerned about the compatibility of HB 2 and HB 599.
  - ✓ Clarification was sought to the question that if a member jurisdiction choose not to adopt an Urban Development Area (UDA) would the jurisdiction then be eligible to submit local projects for consideration. It was noted this question will be added to the proposed NVTAs comments on HB 2.

## Discussion/Information

### VIII. **TransAction 2040 Update Listening Session**

Ms. Harris, Program Coordinator

- Ms. Harris introduced Mr. Malouff, Chair of the TransAction 2040 Update Subcommittee, who provided an update on the October 9, 2014 TransAction 2040 Plan Update Listening Session. The PCAC discussed its advisory role in the plan update at key milestones.
  - ✓ The committee was informed that their input would be sought at key milestones of the plan update.
  - ✓ The committee requested the defined corridors be revisited in the plan update. The response was the corridors will be reviewed as part of the plan update.
  - ✓ A concern was raised about reviewing land use patterns and it was advised against a plan update that redesigns “lifestyle.” The response was the proposed scenario planning aspect of the plan update would be simply to inform, with no intent to modify local land use.
  - ✓ A question was asked about what land use scenario planning in this context would mean. The response was that various options are under development by the subcommittee due to the Commonwealth of Virginia offering \$750,000 towards scenario planning in the plan update. It was added that scenario planning is a useful tool in that it will explore varying land use scenarios. It was indicated that TransAction 2040 was intended to include scenario planning until the budget was reduced. The fact that the State is offering to help pay for scenario planning in this update helps mitigate the associated costs. In addition, the State has told the Authority it has no intention of controlling local land use.
  - ✓ Select members of the PCAC stated that in their experience of sitting on the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments board, they found the scenario planning conducted by the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) interesting; yet it provided for little in terms of action steps. The response was the work of the TPB is to help inform local decisions related to land use.
  - ✓ There was a statement that the plan update must be multimodal in nature. Bicycling and walking coordination are critical.

### IX. **PCAC 2015 Meeting Schedule**

Chairman Foreman

- The Committee discussed its meeting schedule for CY2015 to ensure it coordinates with the NVTA meeting schedule as well as individual member schedules. Several members indicated they preferred a 6:00 or 6:30 pm start time for evening meetings. Members were requested to come to the December 2014 meeting prepared to discuss this and that members send NVTA staff their local meeting schedules for CY2015 in order to select a meeting time that accommodates the greatest number of members.

**X. Other Business**

- The December 18, 2014 meeting moved from the previously scheduled 5:30 pm start time to 6:30pm.

**Adjournment**

**XI. Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.