



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, December 17, 2014, 7:00pm

NVTA Office

3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200

Fairfax, Virginia 22031

SUMMARY NOTES

I. Call to Order/Welcome Vice Chairman Fahl

- Vice Chairman Fahl called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.
- Attendees:
 - Members: Vice Chairman Doug Fahl; Pat Turner; Agnes Artemel; Shanjiang Zhu; Bob Dunphy; Armand Ciccarelli.
 - NVTA Staff: Keith Jasper (Program Coordinator).
 - Other Staff: James Davenport (Prince William County).
 - Other: Maria Sinner, Valerie Pardo, Bob Josef (VDOT); David Roden (AECOM); Tania Cunha (Travesky and Associates); David Birtwistle (Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance.)

II. Meeting Summary of October 15, 2014, Meeting

- Mr. Ciccarelli moved to approve the minutes of October 15, 2014; seconded by Mr. Dunphy. Motion carried unanimously (with an abstention from Ms. Artemel who was not present at the October 15, 2014 meeting.)

Discussion/Information

III. Presentation of MOEs used in HB599 Rating Study VDOT

- Ms. Pardo introduced Mr. Roden, who gave the presentation on HB599 MOEs.
- Mr. Fahl asked how any coding issues had been addressed. Mr. Roden responded that they had corrected any issues when identified by AECOM or the stakeholders, during input and output phases.
- Ms. Turner asked who the stakeholders were, and Mr. Fahl asked how they had participated. Mr. Roden clarified the stakeholders are staff at the jurisdictions who proposed the projects. They have been involved in defining the projects, checking inputs, and reviewing outputs.
- Mr. Dunphy noted that the congestion measures appeared similar. Mr. Roden responded that the measures considered congestion in three ways – duration, severity, and total. The reason for not looking at just total delay is that this

approach takes into account the impact of proposed projects on facilities with heavy or severe congestion, i.e. 2x and 3x uncongested journey time.

- Dr. Zhu asked whether heavy congestion (2x uncongested journey time) is equivalent to level of service (LOS) F. Mr. Roden confirmed this is the case.
- Mr. Fahl asked how projects with new alignments were evaluated. Mr. Roden explained that new facilities were coded into the ‘after’ network which was then compared to the ‘before’ network. Congestion impacts were assessed across each project’s primary impact area, which includes any parallel routes likely to be affected by the project. Any changes in system performance outside the primary impact area were not considered in the evaluation of the project.
- Mr. Ciccarelli asked why safety and environmental impacts were not included. Mr. Roden responded that the HB599 process was limited to congestion impacts only. However, the HB2 process would include a broader range of impacts (effective July 1, 2016.)
- Ms. Sinner added that HB599 is only required in Northern Virginia, while HB2 will be applied statewide, including Northern Virginia. NVTA has raised concerns about the possible implications of this for Northern Virginia projects that are subject to HB599 and HB2. At this stage it is unclear how this will be resolved.
- Dr. Zhu mentioned that safety is indirectly a factor in congestion.
- Mr. Ciccarelli asked whether freight movements were considered. Mr. Roden confirmed that freight is included in auto-related measures for modelling purposes but is not explicitly called out.
- Mr. Fahl asked about the development of the weights shown on page 5 of the presentation. Mr. Roden explained these were developed by the stakeholders through a voting process that reflected the relative size of each jurisdiction.
- Mr. Rodin added that the technical approach for the HB599 has included an independent peer review group comprising three out-of-state entities. A final peer review group meeting is planned for mid-January 2015.
- Dr. Zhu enquired about model stability/convergence. Mr. Rodin stated that the regional (MWCOG) travel demand model was used with fixed travel demand patterns. The model is generally stable.
- Mr. Ciccarelli suggested that project impacts should be monitored to enhance future project selection, possibly using vehicle probe data. Dr. Zhu added that one advantage of these data is the ability to conduct before and after analysis.

IV. NVTA Update

Mr. Jasper

- Mr. Jasper provide the NVTA update on behalf of Ms. Backmon who had been called to another meeting.
- **NVTA Credit Rating**—NVTA received a highly coveted rating of AA+, Aa1 and AA+ respectively from Fitch, Moody’s and Standard for the Authority’s Inaugural Bond Issuance. All ratings include a stable outlook.

- **The Authority’s Bond Settlement-** process was executed on Monday, December 15, 2014. All bond proceeds are available to complete the FY2014 bond projects approved by the Authority.
- **NVTA Meeting Schedule for CY 2015--**NVTA will meet the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:00pm with the exception of August (no meeting), November and December. For the months of November and December, the Authority will meet the 2nd Thursday of the month.
- **FY 15/16 Two Year Program-**VDOT is scheduled to present the results of the HB 599 rating and evaluation analysis at the January 22nd NVTA meeting. The Two Year program is scheduled for release for public comment in February with NVTA approval of the Program scheduled for April 2015.
- **TransAction 2040 Update**—working with TAC, PCAC and JACC to develop scope of work and schedule for NVTA consideration and approval in the spring.
- **Mapping-** NVTA staff has developed an interactive map of the FY14 approved projects using Google Earth. The map will be an important visual tool for the public and anyone interested in monitoring the progress of the NVTA funded projects. The map shows which corridor the project is located (per the corridors identified in TransAction 2040), the locality in which the project is located, project type, project description and the NVTA approved funding for the project. Google Earth Map of FY14 Projects

V. 2015 Committee Work Plan

- Not discussed

VI. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for CY2015

- Ms. Artemel moved to recommend that Mr. Boice continue as Chair of the TAC in 2015, with Mr. Fahl continuing as Vice Chair; seconded by Dr. Zhu. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. CY2015 Meeting Schedule

- The TAC will continue to meet at 7:00 pm on the third Wednesday of the month at NVTA’s new offices (3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200.) The next meeting will be January 21, 2015.

Adjournment

VIII. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.