

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

Summary Minutes

JULY 28, 2005

held at the Northern Virginia Regional Commission
7535 Little River Turnpike, Suite 100, Annandale, Virginia

Members

(those present are highlighted)

William Euille

Christopher Zimmerman

Robert Lederer

Gerald E. Connolly

David Snyder

Scott K. York

Harry J. "Hal" Parrish, II

Bryan Polk

Martin Nohe (alternate)

William Mims

Vincent F. Callahan, Jr.

Jeff Frederick

Margaret E. G. Vanderhye

Sharmila Samarsinghe (alternate)

Dennis Morrison

Mayor, City of Alexandria

Arlington County Board

Mayor, City of Fairfax

Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Falls Church City Council; NVTA Chairman

Chairman, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

Vice Mayor, City of Manassas

Manassas Park City Council

Prince William Board of County Supervisors

Virginia Senate, District 33

Virginia House of Delegates, District 34

Virginia House of Delegates, District 52

Governor's Appointee

VDRPT (non-voting member)

No. Va. District Administrator, VDOT (non-voting member)

Staff Present

Linda Summerall

NVRC

Call to Order

Chairman Snyder called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll was called and members present or absent were noted for the record.

Minutes

The minutes of the March 10, 2005, meeting were moved, seconded and carried, with Mr. York abstaining.

The summary of the June 9 information session was moved, seconded and carried, with Mr. Connolly abstaining.

Report of Nominating Committee/ Election of Officers

Ms. Vanderhye reported the Nominating Committee's slate of officers for Fiscal Year 2006:

Chairman

David Snyder

Vice Chairman

Chris Zimmerman

The slate of officers as presented was moved, seconded and carried unanimously. Chairman Snyder called for nominations from the floor; there were none.

Mr. Parrish moved election of the officers by acclamation. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Presentations

A. *TransAction 2030 Survey*

Becky Quarles of QSA Research & Strategy of Alexandria, Virginia, the firm hired to conduct the survey, noted this was a scientifically conducted, public telephone survey of 1,263 Northern Virginian adults. The survey was conducted between April 26 and May 10 so as not to be influenced by summer traffic patterns. A minimum of 100 surveys was conducted in each of the nine jurisdictions. The cooperation rate was 91% and the overall margin of sampling error was $\pm 2.8\%$.

The survey had five research objectives:

- 1) Travel Patterns
- 2) Frustrations with Travel
- 3) Transportation Priorities and Willingness to Pay
 - Priorities for transportation improvements
 - Willingness to pay for transportation improvements
 - Approval and likely use of HOT lanes
- 4) Support for Different Funding Methods
- 5) Priorities in Deciding Where to Live

Survey Conclusions include:

- Two-thirds of residents are frustrated with the trips they take and of those, almost nine in ten cited “traffic” as the reason.
- Residents across Northern Virginia are willing to pay more to fund both road and public transit improvements.
- When framed in a realistic context, Northern Virginians favor increases in the sales tax and — to a lesser extent — the state income tax — over an increase in the gas tax.
- Northern Virginia residents are just as likely to support using highway tolls to pay for public transportation as they are for highways.
- Nearly half favor using the tolls to pay for bike paths and pedestrian improvements.
- About half support using the gas tax to pay for roadway improvements, but almost as many favor using it to pay for public transportation.
- Most Northern Virginia residents (56%) favor HOT lanes; another 3% would support them under some conditions. Only 36% oppose HOT lanes.

Authority members discussed the 2002 failed tax referendum, agreeing it was due in large part to mistrust of Richmond.

The members agreed to release the press release without quotes from Authority members.

B. *VDOT Evaluation of HOV Operations on I-95/395*

Due to lack of time, Mr. Morrison volunteered to make this presentation at the September meeting.

Action Items

A. *Co-sponsorship of Business Transportation Action Collection*

Mr. Connolly moved approval. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

B. *Approval of Submission Deadline for FY 2007 CMAQ and RSTP Projects*

Mr. Connolly moved approval of the September 30 deadline. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

C. Approval to Reallocate CMAQ and RSTP Funding for Arlington and Fairfax Counties

Mr. Connolly moved that the funding be reallocated as proposed by Arlington and Fairfax Counties, respectively. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

D. Appointment of Tom Biesiadny as NVTA Staff Rep on VTrans 2025 Advisory Committee

Mr. Connolly moved this appointment. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Connolly moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of the items outlined below. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

- A. Update on TIP and CLRP
- B. Update on TIP Amendments
- C. Update on Air Quality
- D. Update on TEA-21 Reauthorization
- E. Resolution No. P06-01: Assistance from Northern Virginia Regional Commission for Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Management/Support

Other Business

- Members discussed the possibility of changing the Authority's meeting date and time to immediately before the Northern Virginia Regional Commission's monthly meeting on the fourth Thursday.
- Ms. Vanderhuy raised the issue that if only one monitoring station in the area reports unhealthy air, then the whole region is designated as unhealthy. She suggested the Authority pursue this issue. Chairman Snyder said MWAQ should follow-up and report back at the next meeting.

Adjournment

Chairman Snyder adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.