

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

Summary Minutes
NOVEMBER 9, 2006

held at the Northern Virginia Regional Commission
3060 Williams Drive, Suite 510
Fairfax, Virginia 22031

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
Jeannemarie Devolites Davis
Vincent F. Callahan, Jr.
Jeff Frederick
Judy Connally
Margaret E. G. Vanderhye
Matthew Tucker
Dennis Morrison

Mayor, City of Alexandria
Chairman, Arlington County Board; NVTA Chairman
Mayor, City of Fairfax
Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors
Falls Church City Council
Chairman, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors
Vice Mayor, City of Manassas
Manassas Park City Council
Prince William Board of County Supervisors
Virginia Senate, District 34
Virginia House of Delegates, District 34
Virginia House of Delegates, District 52
Governor's Appointee – CTB Member
Governor's Appointee
Director, VDRPT (non-voting member)
No. Va. District Administrator, VDOT (non-voting member)

Staff Present

Linda Summerall

Executive Secretary, NVRC

Call to Order

Chairman Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:52 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Connolly moved approval of the minutes of the October 12 meeting. The motion was seconded and carried, with Mr. Polk abstaining.

Action Items

A. Adoption of 2007 Legislative Program

Tom Biesiadny, Chairman of the Interim Technical Committee, reported that the program will be updated to include the local bonds (Arlington, Fairfax, and Prince William counties) that were just passed in the November 7 election.

Mr. Connolly moved approval of the legislative program as presented, authorizing the chairman to send a letter to the Congressional delegation regarding the federal issues.

Mr. Biesiadny read the Northern Virginia Regional Commission's legislative position on BRAC, asking the members if they want to include it in their package. The members agreed to ask both the federal government and the General Assembly for funding for BRAC related transportation improvements. Mr. Connolly suggested identifying the number of transportation projects needed to

accommodate the effects of BRAC. Ms. Vanderhye suggested including the Engineer Proving Ground in Springfield in that equation. Sen. Devolites Davis moved to amend the legislative program as approved to include the position on BRAC. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Morrison suggested inviting the Army to make a presentation on BRAC to the Authority. The members concurred. Sen. Devolites Davis urged the members to work with Reps. Davis and Moran on BRAC.

B. Approval of FY 2008 CMAQ/RSTP Recommendations

Replying to Mr. Connolly's inquiry, Mr. Biesiadny explained that the projects were ranked by the submitting agencies. VDOT estimates \$66 million for Northern Virginia to allocate for projects.

Mr. Euille moved that the Authority approve the submittal to VDOT to include in next year's Six-Year Program. The motion was seconded. Mr. Biesiadny described the ranking effort to achieve a regional balance and clarified that the submitting agency provides the funding request. The motion carried unanimously.

Calendar Year 2007 Work Program and Meeting Schedule

Chairman Zimmerman urged the members to designate an alternate when they cannot attend meetings in order to ensure a quorum.

The members agreed to have a public testimony period at the January meeting. In lieu of the regular meeting date in February, the Authority will meet a week earlier on February 1 in Richmond (VML/VACo Day), and will check to see if they can meet jointly with NVTC; and move the September meeting, which falls on a religious holiday, to 6:00 p.m. September 27, canceling the October meeting. The work program is designed to eliminate meetings in March, June and August, and the Authority will meet in December only if needed. The schedule as amended was approved by acclamation. The members agreed to review the schedule in January.

Presentation: Hunter Mill Road Traffic Calming Study

James Van Zee, Director of Regional Planning Services with the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, reminded the members that the Authority must present the study findings to the Governor and the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees, since the study was appropriated by the General Assembly.

Hunter Mill Road is a 7.2-mile corridor between north Reston and Oakton.

The study's four goals were:

- Safe corridor for all travelers — auto, pedestrian, bicyclers, equestrians.
- Optimum efficiency of a two-lane roadway.
- Maintain, enhance, minimize adverse impacts to scenic byway character.
- Enhance neighborhood livability conditions through traffic calming techniques.

There were three study options:

- Do-nothing option or retain the status quo.
- Traditional engineering highway plan that includes widening and straightening the vertical and horizontal curves of the roadway and traffic lights at intersections.
- Traffic calming alternative plan that includes signage, splitters, and roundabouts, providing for trails for pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians, and crosswalks at street intersections and trail crossings.

The study compared the three options to the existing road, concluding that the traffic calming option was the best method for improving the level of service at eleven intersections. Mr. Van Zee cited a study by the Institute for Highway Safety showing that roundabouts are much safer than traditional intersections. He added that roundabouts do not take more right-of-way than intersections with turn lanes.

Other Business

Mr. Connolly requested that the Interim Technical Committee present periodic updates next year on the TransAction 2030 Transportation Plan.

Adjournment

Chairman Zimmerman adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.