

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
Summary Minutes
September 8, 2005

held at the Northern Virginia Regional Commission
3060 Williams Drive, Suite 510, Fairfax, 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
Karen Rae
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
Director, VDRPT (*non-voting member*)
District Administrator, No. Va. District, VDOT (*non-voting member*)

Staff Present

Linda Summerall

NVRC

Call to Order

Chairman Snyder called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the July 28, 2005, meeting were moved, seconded and approved unanimously.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda, consisting of reallocation of CMAQ funding for Arlington County and RSTP funding for Loudoun County, was moved, seconded and approved unanimously.

Discussion: TransAction 2030 Evaluation Criteria

Technical data will be presented next month.

Public outreach efforts consisted of seven events during the summer, with 1,640 ballots cast at those events.

Mr. Connolly objected to the electronic ballots cast through the website, noting those ballots were not a valid reflection of public opinion since individuals could vote more than once through the website. Mr. York agreed the information was unreliable.

A full public workshop is being planned for mid-November. The Interim Technical Committee suggests an open forum with a 20-minute presentation of the plan followed by a question and answer period. Ms. Vanderhye suggested that the presentation be made twice: early in the evening and again later that night.

Discussion of the public hearing ensued, along with the fact that the individual jurisdictions must ratify the transportation plan update. Rather than each jurisdiction holding its own public hearing, Mr. Connolly suggested that NVTA hold it as a regional public hearing. Mr. York agreed.

The members also discussed finalizing the plan in time for the 2006 General Assembly session. In reply to a question, Mr. Biesiadny, chairman of the Interim Technical Committee, said the plan would demonstrate the need for increased funding and transit. Ms. Rae voiced concern that the General Assembly may not focus on something so far in the future. Mr. Zimmerman stated his belief that the plan probably would not affect any bills or generate additional funding in the session. Mr. Connolly commented that the plan provides a conceptual framework that could be used by those members of the General Assembly supporting additional transportation funds.

It was agreed that NVTA would hold a formal, regional public hearing in November and forward the plan to the local jurisdictions in December.

The members then turned their attention to the network-based performance evaluation criteria, discussing the scope of study and specifically the criterion for location of jobs. It was noted that the effects of the BRAC relocation recommendations are not in the model. Mr. Biesiadny explained the Interim Technical Committee does not have the data from DoD but staff will discuss the issue with the consultant. Ms. Rae suggested identifying the "hot spots" from the BRAC relocation.

Mr. Connolly moved the project-based performance evaluation criteria. Mr. York seconded the motion. The floor was opened for discussion. Changes made to the criteria follow:

- A. Categories added: freight movement; person through-put; urgency; and need for rehabilitation.
- B. Expanded definitions for three categories:
 - 1) cost sharing: leveraging private or other outside funding;
 - 2) urgency: Level of Service (LOS) deficiencies for all modes of transportation;
 - 3) improves bicycle and pedestrian access: renamed "improved non-motorized travel options (bicycle and pedestrian) to and within activity centers" and defined as "Project supports multiple use development patterns in a walkable environment."
- C. Deletions: cost effectiveness category; and examples of ratings under safety category..
- D. Modifications:
 - 1) The Compatibility with Local Transportation Plans criteria should be modified to be "Compatibility with Local Comprehensive Plans."
 - 2) The TCC resolution should be expressed in one or two criteria.

The NVTA members also agreed that all criteria would be ranked equally, and that the telephone survey and the event balloting should not be included as a criteria. The survey results and the event balloting should be provided for information. Mr. Connolly moved approval of the criteria as modified. The motion was seconded and carried.

Action Item: Approve Testimony for CTB's Fall Transportation Meeting

Mr. Connolly moved that the Authority give provisional approval of the testimony. The motion was seconded. Chairman Snyder noted a need for an economic benefits analysis, since funds invested in Northern Virginia produce funds for the state. If jobs leave Northern Virginia and/or the state, the result is a tax loss for the state. The motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

The Interim Technical Committee members emphasized the importance of having the Authority meet monthly. Members were reminded that the next meeting is October 13.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Snyder adjourned the meeting at 10:26 p.m.