

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

Summary Minutes

January 8, 2004

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

Xerx White for Harry J. "Hal" Parrish, II

William Wren

Sean T. Connaughton

William Mims

Vincent F. Callahan, Jr.

vacancy

J. Kenneth Klinge

Margaret E. G. Vanderhye

Karen Rae

Robert McDonald for Tom Farley

Mayor, City of Alexandria

Arlington County Board

Mayor, City of Fairfax

Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Falls Church City Council

Chairman, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

Manassas City Council

Manassas Park City Council

Chairman, Prince William Board of County Supervisors

Virginia Senate, District 33

Virginia House of Delegates, District 34

Virginia House of Delegates

Governor's Appointee; NVTA Chairman

Governor's Appointee

Director, VDRPT (non-voting member)

No. Va. Region, VDOT (non-voting member)

Staff Present

James Van Zee

NVRC

Call to Order

Chairman Klinge called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Connolly noted a correction to the December 11, 2003, minutes under the item 2020 Plan Update stating that former member Ms. Hanley wanted bus ridership as a measure of effectiveness. He moved approval of the minutes of the December 11, 2003, meeting with the noted correction. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Resolution Supporting VRE's and OminiRide's Critical Funding Needs

PRTC and VRE presented a resolution to the Authority asking for its endorsement recognizing the "critical role that the PRTC and VRE rail and bus operations play on a daily basis in the economic well being of the national capital region and contribute to enhancing the quality of life for its citizens" and that the Authority "endorses the need for a renewed partnership between the federal, state and local governments to meet PRTC's and VRE's critical funding needs to preserve the PRTC and VRE mass transit system and fund system requirements that are needed to adequately meet the growing ridership needs..." The resolution followed the endorsement in December by the Authority supporting funding for Metro's most critical needs (Metro Matters). Mr. Connaughton had asked that similar consideration be given for VRE and OmniRide.

The resolution passed unanimously.

Interim Technical Committee Report

• *Proposed CY 2004 NVTA Work Program*

Committee Chairman Tom Biesiadny presented the proposed work program for the Authority for 2004. He explained it reflected the program adopted by the Authority for 2003 and includes two new items, the state's VTRANS 2025 prioritization study and a review of regional activities related to achieving the Environmental Protection Agency's 8-Hour Emissions Standards. He informed the Board of a potential conflict on November 11, Veteran's Day.

Mr. Zimmerman noted that the next scheduled meeting of the Authority might overlap with the VML-VACo legislative meeting in Richmond. Chairman Klinge asked staff to check on these dates and advise him on possible schedule changes.

Mr. Wren moved approval. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. The work program is attached as reference to these minutes.

• *Report on the Six Year Needs Study*

Mr. Biesiadny presented a draft chart displaying Northern Virginia's unfunded transportation needs. It was prepared by VDOT based on information from all of the various transportation agencies and local jurisdictions. The information reflected needs for highways, general transit and specifically the Dulles corridor. The total shortfall for the period to 2010 is approximately \$3.6 billion.

Mr. Biesiadny stated that the figure was nearly \$12 billion for the entire Washington metropolitan area following a question from Mr. Connolly.

• *Report on TIP and CLRP*

Mr. Biesiadny reported on the status on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP). On November 19, 2003, the TPB adopted on Interim TIP for FY 2004-2009 and CLRP for 2003. The Interim TIP and CLRP exclude new transportation projects that would change the air quality conformity analysis of the previously approved TIP (FY 2003-2008) and CLRP (2002). The adoption was intended to ensure that the region's TIP and CLRP do not lapse on January 22, 2004. The Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration approved the Interim TIP and CLRP on December 18, 2003, thereby avoiding a potential planning lapse in this region. In early December 2003, the Environmental Protection Agency found the region's proposed mobile emissions budgets adequate for use in conformity analyses. Based on the EPA's action, the TPB adopted a complete TIP (FY 2004-2009) and CLRP (2003). This complete TIP and CLRP includes all transportation improvement projects and is based on a new conformity analysis. Federal approval of the new conformity analysis, TIP and CLRP is anticipated in March or April 2004. Finally, the TPB is scheduled in late January to approve a solicitation document for the next TIP (FY 2005-2010) and CLRP (2004). According to the proposed schedule, project submissions are due on February 6, 2004. Based on this schedule, TPB is expected to adopt a new TIP and CLRP on July 21, 2004. The region will not be required to update the financial analysis associated with the CLRP.

• *Update on Regional Air Quality*

Mr. Biesiadny reported that the EPA found the region's mobile emissions budgets adequate for use in conformity analyses (as noted in the TIP/CLRP report) and that the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) approved a revised SIP for public hearing on December 17, 2003. This SIP proposes new (and slightly lower) emissions budgets for the mobile sector, based on analyses conducted since August 2003. The Virginia public hearing is January 21, 2004. MWAQC is expected to adopt a new SIP on February 19, 2004, and state air agencies are expected to submit the new SIP to the EPA for approval before March 1, 2004. In addition, it is preparing a "Gold Book" that summarizes other actions (not included in the SIP) the region is taking to reduce emissions and improve air quality. MWAQC is soliciting comments on the draft Gold Book. Finally, MWAQC is also beginning to plan for developing an 8-Hour SIP. The EPA is expected to release

the 8-Hour designations in April 2004. After the designations are released, the region will have one year to conduct a conformity analysis based on the 8-Hour standards to avoid a conformity lapse.

Committee Reports

• *Budget*

Mr. York explained that in a draft of the NVRC budget one proposal included a three cent per capita charge per locality for NVTA administration. Mr. Connolly and Mr. Zimmerman stated that a clearer understanding of NVRC's and other agencies' roles is required. Mr. Connolly suggested rotating NVTA administration may be one possible alternative and offered to go to Richmond to lobby for NVTA administrative funds if necessary.

Chairman Klinge agreed that a clearer understanding of NVTA administrative needs was needed and suggested that the local elected officials on the Authority should be the primary group charged with this discussion and decisions. He asked Mr. Connaughton as Vice Chairman of the Authority to call a sub-committee of the nine local elected representatives to address this issue and report back.

New Business

Mayor Euille explained that there had just been an update on the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project in Alexandria and asked if staff could arrange for a briefing for the Authority.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Klinge adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.