



PRESS RELEASE

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NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

TO APPOINT JOHN MASON

AS AUTHORITY'S FIRST EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NORTHERN VIRGINIA – The members of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTDA) have selected John Mason to be its first Executive Director.

Authority members will vote formally to approve Mr. Mason's contract during their regular meeting on January 10, 2008.

"This is an important step forward for the Authority and we are pleased that Mr. Mason has agreed to accept the position. Mr. Mason brings an extensive background as both a transportation professional and a policy maker," said Authority Chairman Chris Zimmerman (Arlington Co.)

John Mason has worked for Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) since 1978, serving as vice president and director of the Transportation Policy and Analysis Center.

Mason served on the City of Fairfax's city council from 1986 – 1990 and served as that city's mayor from 1990 to 2002. In addition to his service to the City of Fairfax, Mason has served on the National Capitol Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), including a year as chairman in 2001; the Transportation Coordinating Council (TCC) of Northern Virginia; the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC), including a year as chairman in 1993; the Virginia Municipal League Transportation Committee; the Governor's Commission on Rail Enhancement for the 21st Century; and the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO), serving as chairman in 2000.

Mason was a career Army officer and retired with the rank of Colonel after 21 years of service, including two tours in Vietnam.

Mason holds a B.A. from the University of Massachusetts and an M.A. from New York University.

“I am honored to be offered this opportunity to work with the Authority. The work that is set before us and the transportation challenges that we are committed to addressing are important to the economic vitality of the region and for the quality of life of all Northern Virginians. I believe that the Authority has the opportunity to become an innovative national model with a unique approach to funding and executing regional transportation improvements,” said Mason.

Mr. Mason will not be giving interviews to the media until after his official appointment as Executive Director on January 10, 2008.

In the interim, all interviews regarding the Authority and its initiatives will be given by Authority Chairman Chris Zimmerman.