



NVTA Funding Fact Sheet:

What NVTA Can Fund With Regional Revenues

When HB 2313 was passed by the General Assembly in 2013 it provided a source of revenue for transportation projects and specific requirements to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority about the selection of projects for funding. The Authority strictly adheres to these requirements. Failure to do so can result in the loss of the entire transportation funding package for the region.

HB 2313 (2013): What NVTA can fund with Regional Transportation Revenues

NVTA Regional Transportation Projects are funded with Regional Revenues (commonly referred to as 70% revenue). In order to qualify for Regional Revenue Funding:

- Projects must be in the NVTA's Long Range Transportation Plan (TransAction 2040)
- Highway Projects must be rated and evaluated as part of HB 599
- Mass Transit projects must increase capacity

HB 599 (2012): Agency Coordination

HB599 requires the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to coordinate with the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), the Department of Rail and Public Transportation and the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority to evaluate all significant transportation projects. The legislation requires:

- VDOT to rate and evaluate a minimum of 25 projects for congestion reduction and emergency evacuation; and
- Conduct the rating and evaluation process at least every 4 years.

NVTA Project Selection Process for FY2015-16

The Authority established a process (compliant with HB 2313) for selecting projects for its FY2015-16 Two Year Program. This included:

- A call for Projects in December, 2013
 - 52 suggested projects were received from jurisdictions and agencies, including:
 - 33 highway projects; and
 - 19 transit projects
- A total of 37 highway projects were rated and evaluated as part of the initial HB 599 process:
 - 32 projects were selected and submitted by the NVTA (two projects were grouped together and modeled as one project),
 - 5 projects were selected and submitted by the CTB
 - Ten of the 37 projects submitted were NOT in TransAction, making them ineligible for NVTA funding.

IMPORTANT FACT:

NVTA can ONLY consider projects for funding that were rated as part of HB 599 AND are in TransAction 2040.

NVTA Project Selection Criteria

To help the Authority prioritize projects, the NVTA Approved 11 Project Selection Criteria. These 11 criteria were used to prioritize the projects submitted for consideration in the Draft FY2015-16 Two Year Program, in addition to using the HB 599 ratings for highway projects.

It is important to note that in addition to giving priority to the projects that provide the greatest level of congestion reduction relative to cost, the Authority's enabling legislation **ALSO** requires that the Authority consider the following performance-based criteria when selecting projects.

SB576, the Authority's enabling legislation, states:

“The Authority shall be responsible for long-range transportation planning for regional transportation projects in Northern Virginia. In carrying out this responsibility, the Authority shall, on the basis of a regional consensus, whenever possible, set regional transportation policies and priorities for regional transportation projects. The policies and priorities shall be guided by performance-based criteria such as the ability to improve travel times, reduce delays, connect regional activity centers, improve safety, improve air quality, and move the most people in the most cost-effective manner.”

IMPORTANT FACT:

Transit projects did not undergo the HB 599 process as part of the Draft FY2015-16 Two Year Program. However transit projects will undergo the HB 599 rating and evaluation process beginning in FY2017.

Next Steps

- The NVTA will hold the next call for projects for FY2017 in the latter half of calendar 2015.
- HB 1470 (2015) – The General Assembly passed HB 1470 in 2015.
 - Beginning July 1, 2016 (FY2017), this legislation requires that ALL projects (highway and transit) requesting NVTA HB 2313 Regional Revenues be in TransAction AND undergo VDOT's HB 599 rating and evaluation process.

For more on the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority please visit:

www.thenovaauthority.org