



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

June 7, 2007

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NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (NVTA) SETS HEARING FOR NEW TRANSPORTATION REVENUES, BOND ISSUE FOR JULY 12, 2007

*NVTA TAKES FIRST IN A SERIES OF STEPS TO DISCUSS AND IMPLEMENT
NEW STATE LAW, WHICH WILL GO INTO EFFECT JULY 1, 2007*

NORTHERN VIRGINIA -- Last night, representatives of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) met at the Fairfax County Government Center, to set a date for a public hearing and to review recommendations of the five working groups, led by Authority members and tasked with providing guidance to the Authority to proceed with the implementation of HB3202. This legislation, allows for the adoption of seven taxes and fees – as authorized by the General Assembly – by the Authority, all of which are dedicated to transportation funding in Northern Virginia. Representatives from all nine jurisdictions of the Authority were present along with approximately 80 attendees.

After discussion, all nine voting members of the Authority unanimously voted to approve the following motion:

“Authorize staff to proceed according to the recommendations outlined in the working group reports, subject to the final action following the public hearing on July 12, 2007 with the understanding that, as recommended, hiring bond counsel is authorized at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.”

This action by the Authority allows staff and their respective working groups, which address legal, financial, project implementation, public outreach, and organizational issues related to the implementation of HB3202, to proceed with preparing documentation, planning town hall meetings and public hearings, securing bond counsel to prepare for a prospective bond issue, develop lists of prioritized projects and initiate the process for hiring an Executive Director, to name a few.

Authority Chairman Christopher Zimmerman (Arlington) summed up the action of the members and their discussion, "I believe that the actions we take and the decisions we make tonight and in the coming days, weeks and months will be among the most important that any of us will be called upon to make as public officials."

Town Hall Meetings to Begin Soon

Planning will begin immediately, by the Authority and the staff of its member jurisdictions for a series of town hall meetings to be held between June 18 and July 11. These meetings will allow the public to learn more about the Authority, its plans for the region and to provide a forum for public feedback to their local elected officials.

Public Hearing July 12

The Authority will hold a Public Hearing on July 12, 2007 to consider enacting the seven taxes and fees authorized by the General Assembly in HB3202, as well as an initial set of projects and an associated bond issue. The Authority *may* act on these issues following the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing will be held at:

Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School
7130 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA
7:00 pm

Written Comments Solicited

Between now and July 12, 2007, public comments can be made in writing and mailed to:

The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
c/o NVRC
3060 Williams Drive
Suite # 510
Fairfax, VA 22031

"The Authority is committed to building transparency and trust with the residents of Northern Virginia. We want to hear from citizens, and we're committed to providing as many opportunities as we can to allow them to participate in this process and to give us feedback," said Martin Nohe, the Authority's Vice-Chairman and representative for Prince William County.

The Authority is working quickly to establish a new website, however the working group reports, public hearing schedule and all information currently available regarding the Authority and its pending actions can be found at www.novaregion.org/novatrans.

The voting members of the Authority present for last night's meeting included:

Hon. Christopher Zimmerman	NVTA Chairman; Arlington County
Hon Martin Nohe	NVTA Vice Chairman; Prince William County
Hon. William D. Euille	City of Alexandria
Hon. Gerry Connolly	Fairfax County
Hon. Scott York	Loudoun County
Hon. Robert F. Lederer	City of Fairfax
Hon. Robin Gardner	City of Falls Church
Hon. Harry J. "Hal" Parrish, II	City of Manassas
Hon. Bryan Polk	City of Manassas Park
Hon. Jeff Frederick	Virginia House of Delegates
Hon. Julia A. "Judy" Connally	Governor's Appointee, CTB Member

Non-voting members Matthew O. Tucker (Director, DRPT) and Dennis Morrison (Administrator, Northern District Office, VDOT) were also present.

STAY TUNED! For more information on Town Hall meeting locations, a new web site address for Authority information and a dedicated e-mail address for residents to send comments.

For more information, contact the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority by going to www.novaregion.org/novatrans.

NVTA