



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 21, 2015, 7:00pm

NVTA Office

3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200

Fairfax, Virginia 22031

SUMMARY NOTES

I. Call to Order/Welcome Chairman Boice

- Chairman Boice called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.
- Attendees:
 - Members: Chairman Randy Boice; Vice Chairman Doug Fahl; Agnes Artemel; Armand Ciccarelli; Bob Dunphy; Kathy Ichter.
 - NVTA Staff: Mike Longhi (CFO); Sree Nampoothiri (Program Coordinator).
 - Other Staff: Noelle Dominguez (Fairfax County).

II. Meeting Summary of March 18, 2015 and September 16, 2015 Meetings

- Mr. Fahl moved to approve the minutes of March 18, 2015 meeting; seconded by Ms. Artemel. Motion carried unanimously (with abstention from Ms. Ichter who was not present at the March 18, 2015 meeting.)
- Mr. Fahl moved to approve the minutes of September 16, 2015 meeting; seconded by Ms. Artemel. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Information

III. NVTA Update Mr. Longhi

- Mr. Longhi provided a summary of the September 24th NVTA meeting
 - The Authority approved the FY2017 one year program call for projects.
 - The Authority approved the revenue estimates for FY2017 through FY2023. The estimates were developed in collaboration with member jurisdictions. The Committee requested additional information on the revenue levels and rates of growth.
 - The Authority approved the submission of the I-66 Outside the Beltway Phase 1 project for the HB 2 prioritization process. It was noted that the submission provides the opportunity for the project to be evaluated in the HB2 process, it does not signify Authority approval of the project or commitment of NVTA funds.

- The Authority appointed the Legislative Committee with Sandra Bushue as Chair and Mayor Silverthorne, Council Member Rishell and Council Member Snyder as members.
- TransAction is moving forward as per schedule.
- NVTA's revamped website is online now. Members were encourage to explore it.

IV. NVTA FY2017 Program: Congestion Reduction Relative to Cost Methodology

Mr. Nampoothiri

- Mr. Nampoothiri presented the timeline, project selection process, and the proposed approach to calculating congestion reduction relative to cost for FY2017 Program.
- The Project Implementation Working Group (PIWG) has discussed the selection process in its past two meetings and will continue the discussion in the upcoming meeting on November 6, 2015.
- In response to the preference for using total cost versus “NVTA share” of the cost, the Committee affirmed the use of total project cost.
- Mr. Fahl expressed a desire to increase the percentage weightage assigned to the “congestion reduction” and “connectivity” criteria for developing the NVTA Quantitative Score.
- Mr. Fahl also emphasized the need to confirm that the “connectivity” criteria is defined to look at connectivity between activity centers to make it truly regional. He noted short connections within an activity center should not be considered regional.
- The members suggested that every project is expected to increase “safety.” Ms. Ichter suggested that NVTA should focus on regional safety, not necessarily safety issue at one point. The members requested additional information on the definitions behind the rating criteria.
- Mr. Dunphy requested a clarification on consideration of operating costs and replacement for calculating travel time savings per unit cost or the congestion reduction relative to cost (CRRC) ratio. Mr. Nampoothiri confirmed that the operating cost is not included in these analyses. Mr. Longhi explained that the jurisdictions usually factor in replacement cost for buses in their budgets and as per State law, roadway maintenance becomes the responsibility of VDOT.
- Mr. Ciccarelli inquired if the TRANSIMS model take into account the severe peak congestion versus congestion for the whole day. Mr. Boise mentioned that the model is accounting for the “person hours of delay”, which should account for all delays.
- The members agreed that the new measure of congestion reduction related to cost (CRRC) ratio has value in the analysis and should be used in the process.
- Ms. Artemel wanted to ensure that the hourly value of time used in the calculation reflects the average value specific to Northern Virginia. Mr. Nampoothiri confirmed that staff is researching which data points to use for both the hourly value and discount rate.

- The Committee determined that once it received the definitions of all 11 project rating criteria and percentage weightage currently under consideration that it would provide comments to the Chairman who would consolidate the comments in the form of a committee recommendation letter. The criticality of the timing required to contribute recommendations was noted.

Adjournment

V. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.