



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, November 16, 2016, 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 7:10pm.
- Attendees:
 - Members: Randy Boice; Agnes Artemel; Armand Ciccarelli; Bob Dunphy; Meredith Judy; Kathy Ichter; Pat Turner; Shanjiang Zhu.
 - NVTA Staff: Keith Jasper (Principal, Transportation Planning and Programming); Sree Nampoothiri (Transportation Planner).
 - Other: James Davenport (Prince William County); Noelle Dominguez (Fairfax County); Jason Mumford (AECOM); Douglas Stewart (Virginia Sierra Club).

Action

II. Meeting Summary of October 12, 2016 Chairman Boice

- Mr. Dunphy moved approval of the October 12, 2016 meeting summary; seconded by Ms. Turner. The motion carried unanimously with abstentions from those who were not present at the October meeting.

Discussion/Information

III. TransAction Update Mr. Jasper

- Mr. Jasper reported the recommendations developed by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on candidate measures for Goal 1 at the October meeting:
 - Retain and consider combining: *Total person hours of delay, Transit crowding, Person hours of congested travel in automobiles, and Person hours of congested travel in transit vehicles.*
 - Retain: *Congestion severity (maximum travel time ratio) and Congestion duration.*
 - Retain: *Percent of jobs/population within 1/2 mile of transit, and Access to Jobs within 45 mins by auto and 60 mins by transit.*

- Add two new measures: *Aggregate travel time between MWCOG-defined Regional Activity Centers (RAC) and Lane miles and sidewalk miles within ½ mile radius RAC.*
 - Remove the measures: *Consistency with local planning efforts* and *Average cost per commute trip.*
- Mr. Jasper reported the recommendations developed by the Committee on candidate measures for Goal 2 at the October meeting:
 - The Committee recommended that the Authority keep the measurement of safety at a very broad level; consider assigning high/medium/low scores at the plan stage; and consider more detailed data-centered analysis during program development. For example, projects that directly address a specific safety issue would be assigned a high value. It was acknowledged that most projects would get the same score.
 - Retain: *Share of travel by non-SOV modes, Number of SOV trips during peak periods, and Person hours of travel caused by 10% increase in PM peak hour demand.*
 - Remove: *Last mile connections* and *PHT in congested/crowded conditions.*
 - The Committee recommended keeping the congestion reduction relative to cost ratio as the measure for cost-benefit analysis. This would not have a weight; rather, it would be a way to rank the results.
- Mr. Jasper reminded the Committee that the members had requested NVTA staff explore how Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) measures safety in its programs such as Smart Scale. He added that NVTA staff met with VDOT staff to discuss this. VDOT uses a measure called Equivalent Property Damage Only (EPDO) for individual road segments or intersections. The EPDO value weights each crash based on severity. It was apparent that the respective evaluation processes for the state programs probably require more project level detail than would likely be available.
- Ms. Ichter and Mr. Ciccarelli pointed out that all projects inherently should improve safety and suggested assigning high/medium/low scores, with high scores for projects that directly address a specific safety issue.
- Mr. Boice and Mr. Ciccarelli pointed out that the weight for safety would be low due to the large number of measures. They added that going into data-intensive analysis is unnecessary at the plan stage.
- The Committee recommended that the Authority keep the measurement of safety at a very broad level, consider assigning high/medium/low scores at the plan stage and consider more detailed data-centered analysis during program development. For example, projects that directly address a specific safety issue would be assigned a high value. It was acknowledged that most projects would get the same score.
- Mr. Jasper reported the recommendations developed by the Committee on candidate measures for Goal 3 at the October meeting:
 - Remove: *Amount of impervious area* and *Number of ROW expansions that impact resources* as they should be addressed at the project level and not at the plan level.

- Use: *Criteria pollutant emissions based on VMT by speed.*
- In response to Ms. Judy's query on transit being given fair consideration, Mr. Jasper pointed out that multiple measures consider transit along with auto, in addition to some measures that specifically look at transit.
- Mr. Boice opined that considering the Authority might move measures around, the Committee need not give weightings for each measure but provide weightings at the goal level. The Committee agreed to provide weightings for individual measures at its January meeting.
- The Committee recommended that the congestion reduction related measures (TransAction Goal 1) should receive 60% weighting, measures that enhance the reliability of the network (TransAction Goal 2) should receive 30% weighting, and measures that reduce negative impact of transportation (TransAction Goal 3) should receive 10% weighting.

IV. NVTA Update

Mr. Jasper

- Mr. Jasper informed the Committee members that the Authority met on November 10, 2016 and approved the execution of four Standard Project Agreements (SPAs) from the FY2017 Program. Three other SPAs are expected to be approved for execution at the December meeting, followed by another three at the January meeting. He also added that the I-66/Route 28 SPA may not be needed, depending on the final Transform 66 project agreement between the Commonwealth and the private concessionaire.
- Mr. Jasper informed the Committee that the Planning Coordination Advisory Committee (PCAC) will meet on November 17, 2016 and the Planning and Programming Committee (PPC) on December 5, 2016. Both committees will develop their own recommendation on the TransAction performance measures to be presented to the Authority at its December 8, 2016 meeting.
- Mr. Jasper informed the TAC that the TransAction public engagement process is progressing well with an online survey, stakeholder workshop and focus groups.

Adjournment

V. Adjourn

Chairman Boice

- Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.