



## Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

*The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia*

### PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

Friday, March 27, 2017, 10:00 am

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200

Fairfax, Virginia 22031

### SUMMARY NOTES

#### I. Call to Order/Welcome Chairman Nohe

- Chairman Nohe called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.
- Attendees:
  - **PPC Members:** Chairman Nohe (Prince William County); Chairman Bulova (Fairfax County); Chairman Randall (Loudoun County); Chair Fisette (Arlington County); Mayor Rishell (City of Manassas Park).
  - **Authority Members:** Mary Hynes (Gubernatorial Appointee, CTB Member); Jim Kolb (Gubernatorial Appointee).
  - **NVTA Staff:** Monica Backmon (Executive Director); Carl Hampton (Debt and Investment Manager); Keith Jasper (Principal); Michael Longhi (CFO); Sree Nampoothiri (Transportation Planner).
  - **Staff:** Dan Malouff (Arlington County); Noelle Dominguez (Fairfax County); Bob Brown (Loudoun County); Ric Canizales, James Davenport (Prince William County); Pierre Holloman (City of Alexandria); Wendy Sanford (City of Fairfax); Dan Goldfarb (NVTC); Sonali Soneji (VRE); Maria Sinner (VDOT); Arianna Koudounas (MWCOG/TPB).
  - **Other:** Nancy Smith (Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance)

### Action

#### II. Meeting Summary Notes of January 30, 2017, PPC Meetings

- The January 30, 2017 Planning and Programming Committee meeting summary was unanimously approved.

### Discussion/Information

#### III. Development of FY 2018-2023 Six Year Program Framework

- Ms. Backmon informed the members that the schedule is for the Authority to adopt the Six Year Plan (SYP) before the end of June 2018. Mr. Jasper presented the concept of the SYP and covered topics including program development, roles,

responsibilities, and schedule of the program, and ideas for incorporating financial principles to the plan. He mentioned that the Committee is expected to take action recommending NVTA approval at its May 3, 2017 meeting.

- Chairman Bulova and Chairman Randall requested to reword the mention of region as the economic growth engine of the Commonwealth to be more sensitive to the rest of the state.
- Chairman Nohe and Ms. Hynes added that the wording could be modified but the idea must be highlighted since the economic growth of the region is the reason for NVTA's existence.
- Chairman Bulova enquired whether TransAction or the SYP is the appropriate place for benefit cost analysis/rankings. Mr. Jasper replied that the benefit cost analysis within TransAction is at a very high level to compare among different groups of projects. Ms. Backmon added that the costs are estimates and will be necessarily updated for programming since there will be more information, including other funding sources, at that stage.
- In response to Chairman Bulova's comment, Mr. Jasper noted that not having detailed costs will not preclude any project in TransAction.
- In response to Ms. Hynes' question on looking at the benefit cost analysis at a corridor level, Mr. Jasper mentioned that the Subcommittee is still debating whether it should be at the corridor level or project level.
- Chairman Nohe pointed out that this could be at the corridor segment level to enable decision making at a detailed granularity.
- In response to Chairman Bulova's question on having enough cost information to analyze at the project level or the project group level, Mr. Jasper mentioned that the analysis looks at groups of projects at the plan level and the TransAction team is working to fill some gaps through a standardized cost estimation process.
- In response to Mayor Rishell's question, Mr. Jasper noted that the Congestion Reduction Relative to Cost (CRRC) ratios will be considered at the programming level.
- Mr. Brown remarked that the TransAction Subcommittee has been discussing similar questions and TransAction will help jurisdictions better respond to the SYP's Call for Regional Projects.
- Ms. Backmon stated that the projects need to be looked at in combination for plan analysis in order to understand the larger regional picture. She added that the benefit cost information can bring out the true need for the region that can be conveyed to the region and the state.
- Ms. Hynes commented that it is a good idea to synchronize the schedule of SYP with those of SmartScale and Revenue Sharing to leverage maximum benefit from different fund sources. She added that the SYP should be synchronized with NVTC's toll revenue programming too as those revenues can be used for operations.
- In response to Ms. Sinner's question on the two-year SYP update, Chairman Nohe mentioned that the NVTA SYP will be updating the last two years similar to SmartScale rather than Revenue Sharing, which updates the first two years. He added that the first SYP should probably have all six years programmed with the detailed first two years (higher percentage funds) but less sparsely as we go to the outer years. He also added that the updates will focus heavily on the last two years but can be flexible to make adjustments to the middle two years.
- Mr. Canizales raised a concern about the 60-day response period to the Call for Regional Projects and suggested a 90-day response period in order to accommodate

Board and Council meeting schedules for obtaining support resolutions. Ms. Backmon reminded everyone that June 2018 is a hard deadline to adopt the SYP since from July 2018 onwards, NVTA will need to adhere to new laws with additional provisions. Chairman Nohe suggested staff explore this further.

- Chairman Nohe recommended that the Authority's debt capacity should only be used for mega projects although the definition of mega projects could be debated. Mr. Longhi noted that as per the current financial situation, debt is not necessary at this stage but can be used as an option if the need arises in the future.
- Mr. Brown suggested that the NVTA coordinate with the Commonwealth to ensure that funding approval from one source will not preclude funding from the other source even if the project is fully funded by the first source.

#### **IV. NVTA Update**

- Ms. Backmon informed the members that the April 13, 2017 Authority meeting is cancelled and the next meeting is scheduled on May 11, 2017.

#### **Adjournment**

#### **V. Adjourn**

- The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.