



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

PLANNING COORDINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 28, 2018, 6:30 pm

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200

Fairfax, Virginia 22031.

SUMMARY NOTES

I. Call to Order/Welcome

Chairman Buona

- Supervisor Ralph Buona called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.
- Attendees:
 - **PCAC Members:** Supervisor Ralph Buona (Loudoun County); Council Member Linda Colbert (Town of Vienna); Council Member Suzanne Fox (Town of Leesburg); Mayor Jerry Foreman (Town of Dumfries); Council Member Pamela Sebesky (City of Manassas); Council Member Jeff Davidson (Town of Herndon); County Board Member Libby Garvey (Arlington County); Council Member Phil Duncan (City of Falls Church); Council Member Preston Banks (City of Manassas Park); Council Member Paul Smedberg (City of Alexandria); Supervisor Ruth Anderson (Prince William County).
 - **NVTA Staff:** Monica Backmon (Executive Director); Michael Longhi (Chief Financial Officer); Keith Jasper (Principal, Transportation Planning and Programming); Harun Rashid (Transportation Planner).
 - **Other:** Mayor Roger Vance, Council Member Amy Marasco (Town of Hillsboro); Rich Roisman (Arlington County); Noel Dominguez (Fairfax County), Robert Brown (Loudoun County), Norman Whittaker (VDOT); Gregory Thacker (Town of Dumfries).

Action

II. Approve Summary Notes of February 28, 2018, PCAC Meeting

- The February 28, 2018 Planning Coordination Advisory Committee meeting summary was unanimously approved, with abstentions from members not present.

Discussion/Information

III. FY 2018-2023 Six Year Program Update

Mr. Jasper

- Supervisor Buona started the discussion with a reminder that there are no action items in this meeting, but important information will be presented on the ongoing evaluation process for the FY2018-2023 Six Year Program. He stated that in addition to the primary quantitative criteria of this evaluation process, the Congestion Reduction Relative to Cost (CRRC) ratios, there are a number of qualitative considerations to consider. To this discussion, Ms. Backmon stressed that although HB 2313 requires NVTa to give priority to projects that achieve the greatest congestion reduction relative to cost, the law does not exclude other considerations in evaluating and selecting projects. Some of these factors are, but not limited to, modal and geographic balance, external funding, and past performance for project fund drawdowns.
- Mr. Jasper pointed to three items in the meeting packet to start the discussion – a summary spreadsheet with quantitative/qualitative analysis for project evaluation, the project list, and a project location map. He identified the last two columns in the summary spreadsheet contain quantitative evaluation information:
 - Project ranks derived from CRRC ratios, and
 - Project ranks derived from a set of performance measures in TransAction (HB 599).
- In this spreadsheet, projects are sorted based upon the CRRC ranks. He explained the differences between these two sets of measures:
 - CRRC ratios use a single measure of congestion (person-hours of delay), normalized by projects' total costs,
 - TransAction ratings use 15 weighted performance measures that are not cost-normalized.
- Mr. Jasper then explained the qualitative factors:
 - Past performance by continuation projects and by jurisdictions;
 - External funds;
 - Local priority;
 - First fiscal year of expected drawdown;
 - Year of opening;
 - Metrorail/VRE core system.
- Mr. Jasper wrapped up his presentation by stating that upon completion of further analysis of the CRRC ratios, this summary project evaluation spreadsheet, along with the project list and project location map will be presented during the public review phase.
- In response to a question from Supervisor Buona, Mr. Jasper explained that the CRRC ratio analysis will be complete with an extrapolation of model results between 2025 and 2040 scenarios, and he does not expect any major shift in the project rankings.
- This presentation was followed by a question-answer session. In responding to a question from Supervisor Buona, Mr. Jasper clarified how cumulative project funding

requests were calculated. There also was a discussion on how a project's modal components were assigned, and Mr. Jasper explained that these modal symbols show what the project is actually purchasing with requested funds, and not its impacts. Ms. Backmon added that these additional factors will be part of qualitative considerations. Supervisor Buona asked, if strictly adhering to CRRC rankings, where will be the selection cutline, based on projected Pay-Go revenues. Ms. Backmon explained that such strict interpretations further highlights the needs to consider factors other than just CRRC ratios. For example, the cutline would be at project ranked at #25, but that cannot be built without the next project, which is ranked at #26. However, she stressed that such determinations need to be properly documented.

- A major concern was expressed collectively from the group, regarding the impact on NVRTA revenues of funding proposals for WMATA by General Assembly. Mr. Longhi highlighted the recent S&P report regarding NVRTA's credit ratings, and how the proposed funding re-structuring for NVRTA can set a negative precedent regarding any future fund appropriations by General Assembly for local governments and agencies.
- Council Member Suzanne Fox asked if a project can be partially funded, and/or a project can be re-submitted in the next funding cycle. Ms. Backmon confirmed both are possible, and cited an example of a Town of Leesburg project in the FY 2017 funding program. Supervisor Buona further added that this Six Year Program is based on a rolling mechanism. In response to a question from Council Member Phil Duncan, Mr. Jasper explained that any additional project-related information, not submitted or available at the project submission, should be submitted for consideration prior to the start of the public comment period, e.g. planned land use densifications around West Falls Church Metro station.
- Supervisor Buona asked about next steps in adopting the Six Year Program, and what is required from this committee. Ms. Backmon stated that because of the funding uncertainties, the Authority is not ready to recommend a set of projects for funding at this time, but the public review period can commence without these project recommendations. It is possible that the adoption of the program may be delayed by a month from June 2018 to July 2018.

IV. NVRTA Update

Ms. Backmon, Executive Director

- Ms. Backmon stated there are no additional updates from staff.

Adjournment

V. Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.