



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

Thursday, January 9, 2020
7:00 p.m.
3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200
Fairfax, VA 22031

AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order** Chair Randall
 - A. **Chair Randall called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM.**

- II. **Roll Call** Ms. Duker, Clerk
 - A. Voting Members: Chair Randall; Mayor Parrish; Chairman McKay; Chair Wheeler; Board Member Cristol; Mayor Rishell; Mayor Wilson; Councilmember Snyder; Ms. Hynes; Mr. Kolb;
 - B. Non-Voting Members; Mayor Wood, Ms. Cuervo, Mr. Horsley;
 - C. Staff: Monica Backmon (Executive Director); Michael Longhi (CFO); Keith Jasper (Principal, Planning and Programming); Sree Nampootheri (Transportation Planner); Harun Rashid (Transportation Planner); Ria Kulkarni (Transportation Planner); Mackenzie Jarvis (Transportation Planner); Richard Stavros (Investment and Debt Manager); Erica Hawksworth (Communication and Public Affairs Manager); Dev Priya Sen (Financial Analyst); Margaret Duker (Board Clerk); various jurisdictional and agency staff.

- III. **Minutes of the December 12th, 2019 Meeting**
 - Mayor Parrish moved the approval of the December 12, 2019, minutes; seconded by Mayor Wilson. Motion carried with abstentions by Chairman McKay and Chair Wheeler.

Annual Meeting -Public Comments

Chair Randall invited Mr. Whitfield to continue his public comments from the TransAction Listening Session. Mr. Whitfield stated:

- ✓ There is no one representing the transportation interests of the suburban NoVA jurisdictions on the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), citing over two million residents in the various suburban jurisdictions.
- ✓ He could not recall the last time a member from Fairfax County was on the CTB adding that it was time to ask the General Assembly to do something about the imbalance.
- ✓ He believes the Silverline Metro Project should be funded by the Commonwealth, rather than toll payer revenues.

- ✓ He shared that many of those who use the toll roads are moderate income earners, whereas the tolls in Northern Virginia are disproportionately higher than those in Norfolk.
- ✓ He noted that Governor McAuliffe took action to lower tolls for moderate income people in the Norfolk area but no such action has been taken for Northern Virginians.
- ✓ In summary, he noted that there is work to be done in convincing the General Assembly that it is time for equitable treatment of Northern Virginia.

Presentations

IV. 2019 Annual Report

Ms. Hawksworth, Communications &
Public Affairs Manager

Ms. Backmon presented the 2019 Annual Report to the Authority, citing the following:

- ✓ The report encapsulates the organizational structure, membership composition and priorities and duties of the Authority.
- ✓ With the passage of HB2313, the Authority was able to prioritize and fund regional transportation projects.
- ✓ The Authority adopted the inaugural Six Year Program in June 2018.
- ✓ The Annual Report has a detailed list of the 94 projects the Authority has approved to date.
- ✓ Projects are primarily multi-modal in nature and total close to \$2 billion.
- ✓ The Annual Report features a map of all projects funded with regional revenues starting from FY2014 - FY2023, showing all the primary components of the map together with the key.
- ✓ Also included is Chairman Nohe's letter discussing his past 11 years as Chairman of the Authority, as well as the letter from the Executive Director.
- ✓ The Annual Report further features regional collaboration initiatives taken by the Authority:
 - Regional Investment Conversations Committee, which is a new initiative where some of the investment managers from various localities come together to discuss issues regarding investment management.
 - The joint public meeting with NVTC, PRTC, CTB, VRE, VDOT.
 - A Public Information Officers quarterly meeting was reinstated as an initiative of NVTA.
- ✓ The Fourth Annual Intelligent Transportation (ITS) roundtable is presented. Ms. Backmon informed members that the Fifth ITS roundtable event is scheduled for March. Ms. Backmon stated that people purchase their tickets in advance as the last year's event was sold out.
- ✓ The Transportation Technology Committee (TTC), another new initiative, met throughout the year to look at trends in transportation technologies that is essential for the Authority's long-range planning and programming responsibilities.

- ✓ The Authority’s partnership with Commonwealth on innovation also resulted in the CTB’s funding \$15 million for the Regional Mobility Multimodal Program (RM3P).
 - RM3P is geared towards looking at travel options which can incentivize people to change their travel behavior.
- ✓ The Authority began the year with the groundbreaking for the Omniride Western Maintenance Facility and ended the year with the Potomac Yard Groundbreaking.
- ✓ Looking ahead, the Authority is in the process of updating the inaugural Six Year Program which was previously adopted in June of 2018. This update will cover FY20-FY25, with 41 projects under evaluation, totaling \$1.44 billion in funding requests.
- ✓ In closing, Ms. Backmon expressed her appreciation to all who contributed in making the NVTa a success in the past year, noting that more details were in the foldable Annual Report for people to refer to for more information.
- ✓ Chair Randall commended NVTa staff for all the hard work during the past year, noting the tremendous number of projects they handle and review on a yearly basis.

V. Five-Year Strategic Plan Update Ms. Backmon, Executive Director

- ✓ Ms. Backmon reminded the Authority that the Five-Year Strategic Plan was adopted in 2017 and an annual progress report, is in the Authority meeting packet.

Consent

VI. Approval of Standard Project Agreement for Fairfax County---Regional Funding 2018-009-2 (Frontier Drive Extension & Intersection Improvements)

VII. Approval of Standard Project Agreement for Fairfax County---Regional Funding 2018-006-2 (Route 1 Widening -Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy to Napier Road)

VIII. Approval of Standard Project Agreement for Fairfax County---Regional Funding 2018-014-2 (Rolling Road Widening-Old Keene Mill Rd to Franconia Springfield Pkwy)

Chairman McKay moved approval of the consent agenda. Seconded by Mayor Parrish. Motion passed unanimously.

Action

IX. Approval of the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Concessionaire Funds Transfer Request for Fairfax County Ms. Backmon, Executive Director

Chairman McKay moved approval of the recommendation to reallocate Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Concession Payment funds for Fairfax County; seconded by Chair Randall.

Discussion/Information

- X. 2020 Legislative Update** Ms. Baynard, McGuireWoods Consulting, LLC
- ✓ Chair Randall noted that during the last Authority meeting, she asked all Authority members to note the restoration of NVTFA funding as an item of priority in their jurisdictional legislative agendas. She added that members should endeavor to do this if not previously undertaken.
 - ✓ Ms. Baynard proceeded with the update of the 2020 General Assembly Session, noting that a good number of Northern Virginian Delegates and Senators have been appointed to key committees.
 - ✓ She noted that the top priority is to secure the \$102 million of funding to replace what was diverted to the WMATA Capital Fund, with funding coming from statewide sources and not from additional taxes from the region.
 - ✓ As a reminder, Ms. Baynard added that the Authority did secure \$20 million in statewide funding, as part of I-81 funding deal; adding that the \$20 million was to materialize in FY2022
 - ✓ She further noted that during the campaign season, everyone in Northern Virginia spoke to the need to restore funding to the Authority.
 - ✓ The Administration's Omnibus Bill for Transportation, contains \$45 million in additional funding, for the Authority.
 - ✓ House Bill 729 patroned by Delegate Watts, proposes \$30 million in restoration to the Authority. Delegate Watts is looking for all stakeholders to comment on her Bill in her effort to secure the \$102 million diverted to Metro.
 - ✓ Boardmember Cristol asked whether the Delegate Watts's bill and the Administration's bill are connected.
 - ✓ Ms. Baynard responded that the bills are independent of each other.
 - ✓ She further added that Delegate Watts's goal is to attain the \$102 million, with no interest in diminishing the WMATA Capital Fund.
 - ✓ Mayor Parrish expressed his concern, stating that it is important to support the WMATA funding but questioned how the General Assembly will raise the funds to restore the Authority without substantial state money,.. He noted that his worst fear is that the State would not commit to putting in substantial money but resort to raising more taxes on Northern Virginians.
 - ✓ Mayor Rishell also asked whether the increases from the Administration's Bill will attain the \$102 million.
 - ✓ Ms. Baynard responded that this has not happened yet and that the Administration's Bill is to add \$45 million to the I-81 funding of \$20 million which amounts to \$65 million. She pointed out that the Governor has not stated that the goal was to get the Authority to \$102 million.
 - ✓ Chair Randall also asked if Senator Barker has presented his bill.

- ✓ Ms. Baynard responded that this has not happened yet and was not sure whether he will present a bill or budget action, noting his stated goal is to also get the Authority to \$102 million in restoration.
- ✓ Chair Randall further asked if Senator Barker's goal included state money.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard answered that he has stated he would like to see a bigger commitment of state funding.
- ✓ Chair Randall noted that it is unacceptable for the Commonwealth to take two of the Authority's funding sources away with no guarantee that this would never happen again. She added that is totally unacceptable for the funds to be raised on the backs of Northern Virginians and she is not in support of it. She further pointed out that if the Commonwealth believes Northern Virginia is the economic engine of the Commonwealth and Metro is needed for that engine to run, they should do more for Metro but certainly not deplete the funding for the Authority.
- ✓ Mayor Rishell expressed her agreement to Chair Randall's position.
- ✓ Chairman McKay reminded members that situations like these tend to change very quickly in Richmond, noting that there are options to help address this issue. Moreover, the fact that there are multiple people working on the Authority's behalf is a big plus so the Authority should be open in conversations with them in exploring options. Chairman McKay added that there definitely should be state money involved in the Authority restoration and it is necessary for all jurisdictions to closely monitor the proceedings of the legislature; as he will be doing with his board.
- ✓ Mayor Wilson stated that he was in agreement with Chairman McKay adding that the most important thing is appreciating what everyone is doing to help restore the funding. He added that restoration should not totally be on the local level but should have state funds included.
- ✓ Mayor Rishell added that she appreciates members ongoing conversations and does not think the Authority is trying to tell the Commonwealth how to fix the issue. However, she believes it is entirely appropriate to let the Commonwealth know what the Authority's preferences are and are not and what the Authority feels will be a sense of fairness in the process.
- ✓ Chair Randall added that she believes as has been expressed by everyone, that there should be some strong language indicating that the Authority's revenues should be protected and not tampered with.
- ✓ Mayor Parrish added that if our revenue is not protected, nothing gets accomplished.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard interjected that it is not necessary to commit to anything now since there are lots of moving parts. She noted that she will communicate the Authority's appreciation for everyone's effort to restore funding. Ms. Baynard added that the goal should be a \$102 million in restoration, including State funds and also the need for language which will protect the Authority's revenues going forward.

- ✓ Chair Randall specified that the Authority is committed to its set of principles; noting there should be some state funding involved and the guarantee that funds are not going to be taken away again.
- ✓ Councilmember Snyder inquired as to what kind of process should be put in place going forward, stating the Authority should not be reactive. He added that he appreciates the position of Northern Virginians in the General Assembly and their efforts at restoration.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard answered that for now, there has to be discussions with the Delegates and Senators. She further added that the Authority is on the agenda for the January 27th NoVa Delegation meeting which is the Transportation meeting. She added that Secretary Valentine, WMATA General Manager Paul Wiedefeld and Chair Randall are on the agenda. This presents one of many opportunities to talk to the Delegates in Richmond about the status of funding restoration for the Authority.
- ✓ Ms. Hynes inquired whether the Omnibus Bill has other transportation goals.
- ✓ To this, Ms. Baynard responded that yes, it includes all things transportation, it creates the Passenger Rail Authority, alternate fuel vehicle fee and others.
- ✓ She also added that there is a bill by Delegate Watts to close a tax loophole on third party booking platforms which should generate additional revenue and could be a funding opportunity to look into.
- ✓ Ms. Hynes pointed out to members of the Authority that it is time to think about how much funding will be enough regarding Authority restoration. She continued by stating that this is the lowest threshold that should be set as discussions with the General Assembly continue.
- ✓ Chair Randall echoed that she was in total agreement and that it will be important to set a baseline for restoration.
- ✓ Chairman McKay reminded members about the need to stick to the Authority's principles and communicate what the Authority believes is an acceptable threshold for restoration.
- ✓ Ms. Hynes reiterated that there is the need to remind the Commonwealth that this is also about the State's commitment to Metro. Stating that this makes the argument much stronger, whereas separating ourselves from Metro, makes the argument much weaker.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard added that she is hopeful that there will be more clarity in the next couple of days and it is important for the members of the General Assembly to understand the need for State money to be a part of the solution.
- ✓ Mayor Rishell sought clarification on whether the Authority would be negotiating in percentages.
- ✓ Mayor Parrish stated that he appreciates that percentages will be involved and is in agreement with that.

XI. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Backmon, Executive Director

- ✓ Ms. Backmon informed the Authority that letters requesting appointments to the PCAC will be sent to all jurisdictions (both hard and soft copies), noting that the PCAC is comprised of elected officials from the 9 localities and 5 towns who do not serve on the Authority. The goal is to have the PCAC meet next month in addition to the Technical Advisory Committee.
- ✓ She reminded the Authority about the upcoming NVTA Work Session on January 22nd.
- ✓ She noted that there are only three members of the Authority who were on the Authority when HB2313 was signed into law. Ms. Backmon added that the Work Session is will serve as a refresher regarding the planning, programming, funding and legislative components that the Authority operates by.
- ✓ Ms. Backmon informed the Authority that the budget language from 2019, which allowed someone who was not a member of the House of Delegates to be appointed to the Authority, is expected to change.

XII. Chairman's Comments: Chair Randall discussed appointments to the Authority's three Standing Committees, noting that she has not been able to speak with everyone and is open to making changes. She noted, pending further discussion the following appointments:

- ✓ Governance and Personnel Committee (GPC)
 - Chair Randall (Chair)
 - Boardmember Cristol
 - Chairman McKay
 - Chair Wheeler
 - Mayor Wilson
- ✓ Planning and Programming Committee (PPC)
 - Mayor Wilson (Chair)
 - Chair Wheeler
 - Councilmember Snyder
 - Mayor Meyer
 - Ms. Hynes
 - Mayor Rishell * (Chair Randall proposed replacing one member with Ms. Rishell, as she requested to be able to remain on the PPC.)
- ✓ Finance Committee
 - Mayor Parrish (Chair)
 - Boardmember Cristol
 - Chairman McKay
 - Chair Randall
 - Mayor Rishell
- ✓ Mayor Parrish announced that the next Finance Committee meeting is Thursday, January 16th, 2020 at 1:00pm and encouraged members to attend.

- ✓ Boardmember Cristol inquired what analysis is performed to evaluate projects which reduce the emission of greenhouse gases.
- ✓ Mr. Jasper responded that the project evaluation uses a performance measure in TransAction which addresses emissions using vehicle miles travelled by speed. Mr. Jasper added that decisions about which measures we will include for the next TransAction update will be determined later.
- ✓ Boardmember Cristol responded that she hopes for future evaluations, there might be more levels of sophistication available regionally for a deeper level of analysis.
- ✓ Councilmember Snyder added that the current highway transportation issues tie in with the Transportation Technology Committee's (TTC) work on RM3P and commended NVTA staff for work on this project.

XIII. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:49pm.

Next Meeting: February 13, 2020 at 7:00pm
NVTA Offices