

NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

FOR: Chair Phyllis J. Randall and Members
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

FROM: Mayor-elect Colbert, Chair, Planning Coordination Advisory Committee

DATE: June 25, 2020

SUBJECT: Report from the Planning Coordination Advisory Committee

1. **Purpose.** To inform the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) on recent activities of the NVTA Planning Coordination Advisory Committee (PCAC).
2. **Background.** The PCAC met on June 17, 2020.

Due to the current public health emergency, the meeting was held online with 12 members joining remotely. The Committee took action on following three items:

- a. A resolution to hold a remote electronic meeting was adopted unanimously. This resolution was based on the recent passage of the amendments to HB 29 – the FOIA Bill, which allows regional bodies such as the Authority, and their committees to conduct business meetings electronically.
 - b. The May 27, 2020, meeting summary was approved, with abstentions from members who did not attend the May 27, 2020 meeting.
 - c. FY2020-2025 Six Year Program Recommendations, as proposed by NVTA staff, were recommended for Authority adoption.
3. **FY2020-25 Six Year Program Recommendations.** Mr. Jasper presented the evaluation process of the 41 candidate projects, the list of projects recommended for funding, and various aspects of this recommendation. He explained the rationale behind these recommendations, and how the recommended list of projects meets a number of selection criteria. Chair Colbert then invited questions/comments from committee members:
- a. **Chair Colbert** asked how the evaluation process considered geographic balance of funding allocations. Mr. Jasper **explained** that the set of candidate projects are looked at regionally first to ensure that recommended projects are not concentrated in one part of the region. Also, the analytical process to determine Long Term Benefits for each member jurisdiction ensures that transportation benefits from funding allocations are approximately equal to revenues contributed.
 - b. **Councilwoman Suzanne Fox, Town of Leesburg,** discussed the current funding situation of the candidate project in the Town of Leesburg (LEE-008: Interchange

Improvements at Route 15 Leesburg Bypass and Edwards Ferry Road), and requested the committee to consider a partial funding of \$5 million for the application. Mr. Jasper explained the following reasons to not recommend this project application for funding – the project was ranked low in both CRRC and TransAction rating analyses; a substantial amount of funding were allocated previously to other projects in Leesburg, which are charged against Loudoun County for Long Term Benefit analysis, where the County is over performing; previous NVTA funding for this project has not been utilized yet; and this particular request for partial funding for design phase does not align with the original project application.

- c. **Board Chair Garvey, Arlington County**, appreciated the staff recommendation to fund the NOV-002 application (Arlington W&OD Trail Enhancement), and explained how this funding for design phase will enable the project sponsor to move the project more efficiently. She also requested that NVTA staff explain the Long-Term Benefit analysis in details for the committee members to better understand the process of geographic balance at a future meeting.
 - d. **Councilmember and PCAC Vice-Chair Miles, Town of Dumfries**, appreciated the comprehensive evaluation process and the staff presentation. She presented the motion to recommend staff recommendation to Authority for adoption. This motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Bennett-Parker (City of Alexandria). The motion was approved with 11 to 1 vote (1 no vote - Council Member Suzanne Fox, Town of Leesburg).
4. **NVTA Update.** NVTA Executive Director Ms. Backmon expressed her gratitude to all committee members for their participation and support for this funding program, and mentioned the next round of funding applications in July 2021.
 5. **Next steps.** I envision the PCAC will continue to be engaged in the process to adopt NVTA's FY2020-2025 Six Year Program, and the update of its long-range plan TransAction.
 6. The date for the next meeting of the PCAC is Wednesday, July 22, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.