



**Northern Virginia Transportation Authority**  
*The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia*

**PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE**

**Friday, June 19, 2020, 5:00 pm**

**Northern Virginia Transportation Authority**

**ELECTRONIC MEETING**

**with livestreaming on YouTube**

**SUMMARY NOTES**

**I. Call to Order/Welcome**

- Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.
- Attendees:
  - **PPC Members:** Mayor Wilson (City of Alexandria); Mayor Rishell (City of Manassas Park); Council Member Snyder (City of Falls Church); Chair Wheeler (Prince William County); Mayor Meyer (City of Fairfax).
  - **Other NVRTA Members:** Senator Boysko (Virginia Senate); Board Member Cristol (Arlington County); Mayor Parrish (City of Manassas); Ms. Hynes (Governor's Appointee/CTB Member); Mr. Kolb (Governor's Appointee); Ms. Mitchell (Director, DRPT).
  - **NVRTA Staff:** Monica Backmon (Executive Director); Mike Longhi (CFO); Keith Jasper (Principal); Sree Nampoothiri (Senior Transportation Planner).
  - **Council of Counsels:** Ellen Posner (Fairfax County), Robert Dickerson (Prince William County), Steven MacIsaac (Arlington County).
  - **Jurisdiction/Agency Staff:** None on the WebEx. Several staff members followed the proceedings on livestreaming on YouTube Live.

**Action**

**II. Resolution finding need to conduct meeting electronically**

- Chairman Wilson noted that as a result of the COVID-19 and Governor Northam's declaration of a State of Emergency, the Authority's Planning and Programming Committee Meeting was being held electronically. He noted that the passage of the amendments to HB 29 (the FOIA Bill) allowed regional bodies such as the Authority, and their committees to conduct business meetings electronically. He added that the meeting by electronic means is authorized because the items on the Committee Meeting Agenda are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the Authority. The resolution was approved unanimously.

**III. Summary Notes of June 1, 2020 Meeting**

- The June 1, 2020 Planning and Programming Committee meeting summary was approved unanimously with abstentions from members not present at the June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

## Discussion/Information

### IV. FY2020-2025 Six Year Program Update

- Mr. Jasper gave a brief overview of the status of the Six Year Program (SYP) update process:
  - FY2020-2025 SYP is the fifth and most competitive program at NVTA with a total request of \$1,444,826,078 with an available revenue of \$522,151,962;
  - The 41 project requests span multiple modes;
  - The key components of the project selection process include
    - Eligibility review
    - Quantitative analysis including Congestion Reduction Relative to Cost (CRRC), TransAction rating, and Long Term Benefit (LTB) though LTB is not being emphasized this cycle;
    - Qualitative Analysis including past performance, external funding, funding gap, project readiness, modal and geographic balance; and,
    - Public comments
  - In general, the staff list the projects by CRRC rank and remove any projects in the top half that have negative scores on other ratings/factors and add projects in the lower half that have positive factors on other rankings and factors. This is followed by adding projects, if needed, to ensure modal and geographic balance and/or public support;
  - The projects that received most comments during the public engagement period included:
    - NOV-002 Arlington W&OD Trail Enhancements (NOVA Parks) – large support and some opposition;
    - PWC-025 Van Buren Road North Extension (Prince William County) – equal amount of support and opposition;
    - CFC-006 West Falls Church Access to Transit and Multimodal Connectivity (City of Falls Church) – large support; and,
    - CFC-005 Downtown Falls Church Multimodal Improvements (City of Falls Church) – some support;
  - NVTA staff recommendations include:
    - 19 of 41 applications are recommended for funding;
    - Nine are continuation projects; ten are first time for NVTA;
    - 15 of 19 projects are recommended for full funding;
    - Multimodal perspective:
      - Continued and/or increased emphasis on Route 1/VRE Fredericksburg corridor, Fairfax County Parkway Corridor, BRT solutions, synergies, grid networks, and active transportation.
  - The list of projects and funding amounts recommended by the staff were presented;
  - NVTA staff will post these recommendations on the NVTA website by June 24<sup>th</sup>, following code requirements that NVTA publish recommendations at least 15 days prior to the Authority meeting in which the program is expected to be adopted; and,
  - Authority is expected to adopt the FY2020-2025 Six Year Program at its July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- Mr. Jasper noted that the Planning Coordination Advisory Committee (PCAC) and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) endorsed the staff recommendations.
- Mr. Jasper informed that the Finance Committee recommended Authority withdraw/cancel two Virginia Railway Express (VRE) projects with the balance amounts from these projects, a total of \$16,958,821, to be included in the SYP recommendations. The projects are Lorton Station Second Platform and Rippon Station Expansion and Second Platform.
- In response to Mayor Rishell’s question on regional distribution of public comments, Mr. Jasper pointed out that most of the projects received comments from immediate surroundings though some support extended to the travel-shed of the facility.
- Mayor Meyer requested funding for the CFX-015 Jermantown Road/Route 29 Intersection Improvements project that is ranked first on the CRRC ranking.
- Council Member Snyder requested funding for the CFC-005 Downtown Falls Church Multimodal Improvements project, providing connections to Metro and traffic and bike-ped connections on Park Avenue, for its relatively good CRRC ranking as well as the public support. Additionally, he expressed support for the RPT-002 Franconia-Springfield Passenger Rail Bypass project.
- Ms. Mitchell pointed out that the VRE funds were made available since the Commonwealth is incorporating most of those project scope as part of statewide initiatives.
- Board Member Cristol supported the RPT-002 Franconia-Springfield Passenger Rail Bypass Project as this project is a priority for the VRE Operations Board too.
- Mayor Rishell supported all the three projects mentioned above for additional funding.
- The Committee approved a motion to approve the staff recommendations subjected to three amendments to allocate the funds freed up from potential withdrawal/cancellation of VRE projects. The amendments are:
  - Fully fund CFX-015 Jermantown Road/Route 29 Intersection Improvements project (\$700,000);
  - Fully fund CFC-005 Downtown Falls Church Multimodal Improvements project (\$8,300,000); and,
  - Add the remaining funds to the staff recommended \$15,000,000 for RPT-002 Franconia-Springfield Passenger Rail Bypass project.

**V. NVT A Update**

- Ms. Backmon noted that the Authority is expected to approve the Six Year Program at its July meeting. She thanked the Authority for its continued effort to sustain its revenues even during the economic and revenue challenges Authority is facing due to COVID-19 situation.

**Adjournment**

**VI. Adjourn**

- The meeting adjourned at 6:14 pm.