



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

PLANNING COORDINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, September 23, 2020, 6:30 pm (Electronic meeting only)
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

SUMMARY NOTES

I. Call to Order/Welcome

Vice-Chair Miles

- In the absence of Chair Colbert, Vice-Chair Miles welcomed committee members and called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
- Attendees:
 - **PCAC Members:** Vice-Chair and Council Member Selonia Miles (Town of Dumfries); Board Chair Libby Garvey (Arlington County); Supervisor Margaret Angela Franklin (Prince William County); Council Member Michelle Davis-Younger (City of Manassas); Council Member Preston Banks (City of Manassas Park); Council Member Phil Duncan (City of Falls Church); Supervisor Walter Alcorn (Fairfax County); Council Member Stehle (City of Fairfax); Council Member Fox (Town of Leesburg); Council Member Signe Friedrichs (Town of Herndon).
 - **NVTA Staff:** Monica Backmon (Executive Director); Keith Jasper (Principal, Transportation Planning and Programming); Harun Rashid (Transportation Planner), Sree Nampoothiri (Senior Transportation Planner).

Action

II. Resolution to Conduct September 23, 2020 Meeting Electronically

- Vice-Chair Miles read a summary excerpt of the resolution on the need for this PCAC meeting to be held electronically, and its permissibility under the recent passage of the amendments to the HB 29 – the FOIA Bill.
The resolution was unanimously adopted.

III. Summary Notes of June 17, 2020 Meeting

- The June 17, 2020, meeting summary was approved, with abstentions from members who did not attend the June 17 meeting.

Discussion/Information

IV. **TransAction Update**

Mr. Jasper

- Mr. Jasper provided a brief background of NVTA’s current long-range transportation plan (TransAction), and its significance for project programming and funding. As part of groundwork leading to the current update cycle, Mr. Jasper presented on two topics:
 - a. COVID-19 – Transportation Impacts and Opportunities;
 - b. TransAction Update – Vision and Goals.
- On COVID-19 transportation impact presentation, following topics were highlighted - the context of this scenario analysis exercise, scenario definitions and assumptions, short-term impacts, and long-term “new normal” travel conditions. The scenarios are not meant to be predicted future, but a set of assumptions based on information available at the time of analyses. With this set of assumptions, short-term and the “new normal” travel conditions are presented with following performance measures – e.g. Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT), roadway travel speeds, person hours of delay, transit ridership.
- Vice-Chair Miles expressed her appreciation for this very timely analysis. Board Chair Garvey, Arlington County, asked staff’s observation/opinion for a shorter 5-year time period. Mr. Jasper stated the uncertainty and difficulties to predict such an impact, and mentioned staff is closely monitoring trends in travel conditions/behavior and other choices that will impact the transportation system. Council Member Friedrichs, Town of Herndon, asked staff’s opinion on fiscal impact of current pandemic situation due to loss of ridership. Mr. Jasper stated that there might be a need to re-think the fiscal structure of transit service, which TransAction can analyze via scenario planning.
- As with previous NVTA long range planning efforts, a vision statement, and associated goals and objectives form the plan framework. NVTA staff has conducted a series of workshops involving planners from local jurisdictions and agencies, to solicit ideas to enhance/modify existing set of vision, goals, and objectives. The issue of how to address transportation equity, which has not been explicitly addressed before, was highlighted. Vice-Chair Miles expressed her appreciations to include the equity issue in the current discussion.

Discussion/Information

V. **NVTA Update**

Ms. Backmon

- NVTA Executive Director Ms. Backmon stated staff is closely monitoring the Commonwealth’s special budget session, to determine fiscal impacts for transportation funding, especially the status of restoring funds back to NVTA, that were re-allocated due to 2018 WMATA Bill. Another budget impact, especially in the current pandemic situation, is the Revenue Sharing program where Commonwealth Transportation Board has expressed their interest to re-allocate some funds. Council Member Stehle, City of Fairfax, expressed his support to NVTA’s legislative efforts.

VI. Adjourn

- Vice-Chair Miles adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.