



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

PLANNING COORDINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

6:30 pm

(Electronic meeting only)

AGENDA

I. Call to Order/Welcome Chair Colbert

Action

II. Resolution finding need to conduct meeting electronically Chair Colbert
Recommended action: Adoption of resolution

III. Summary Notes of February 24, 2021 Meeting Chair Colbert
Recommended action: Approval [with abstentions from those who were not present]

Discussion/Information

IV. Transportation Technology Action Plan Mr. Jasper, Principal Planner

V. TransAction Update Mr. Jasper, Principal Planner

VI. NVTA Update Ms. Backmon, Executive Director

Adjournment

VII. Adjourn

Next Meeting (Electronic)

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

6:30 pm

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
PLANNING COORDINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**RESOLUTION FINDING NEED TO CONDUCT MEETING BY ELECTRONIC
COMMUNICATION MEANS DURING GOVERNOR'S DECLARED STATE OF
EMERGENCY DURING COVID – 19 PANDEMIC**

March 24, 2021 MEETING ELECTRONICALLY

March 24, 2021

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Governor of Virginia declared a state of emergency in Virginia in response to the spread of novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, a communicable disease of public health threat as so declared by the State Health Commissioner on February 7, 2020 (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, in subsequent Executive Orders, particularly Executive Order Nos. 53 and 55, as amended, the Governor of Virginia, among other measures designed to ensure safe physical distancing between individuals, prohibited public and private in person gatherings of 10 or more individuals and ordered all individuals in Virginia to remain at their place of residence, with limited exceptions, to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 and prevent its spread; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (Authority) – Planning Coordination Advisory Committee (Committee) finds that it has a responsibility to demonstrate to the public, through the Authority’s conduct, the importance of maintaining proper physical distance from others and to avoid gathering in public where the risks of infection are highest, and to take measures that promote physical distancing in order to protect the public health and mitigate the impacts and spread of COVID-19, including, among others, conducting meetings electronically whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2020, the Virginia General Assembly adopted, and the Governor signed, budget bill amendments to HB 29 that expressly authorize “any public body, including any state, local, [or] regional body” to “meet by electronic communication means without a quorum of the public body . . . physically assembled at one location when the Governor has declared a state of emergency . . . , provided that (i) the nature of the declared emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe for the public body . . . to assemble in a single location; (ii) the purpose of the meeting is to discuss or transact the business statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the public body . . . and the discharge of its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities” among other provisions; and

WHEREAS, member jurisdictions of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority have adopted continuity of government ordinances pursuant to Va. Code Ann. § 15.2-1413 which ordinances, among other provisions, contemplate regional bodies of which the locality is a member meeting electronically to transact business to assure the continuity of government; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Planning Coordination Advisory Committee hereby finds that meeting by electronic means is authorized because the nature of the declared emergency makes it both impracticable and unsafe for the Committee to assemble in a single location on March 24, 2021, to discuss and transact the business of the Authority listed on the March 24, 2021 Committee Meeting Agenda; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee hereby finds that meeting by electronic means is authorized because the items on the March 24, 2021 Committee Meeting Agenda are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the Authority and the discharge of the Authority's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the items on the March 24, 2010 Committee Meeting Agenda are encompassed within the continuity of operations ordinances adopted by member localities of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority to assure the continued operation of the government during the disaster posed by the public health emergency resulting from COVID-19.

Adopted the 24th day of March, 2021.



PLANNING COORDINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, February 24, 2021, 6:30 pm (Electronic meeting only)
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

SUMMARY NOTES

I. Call to Order/Welcome Chair Colbert

- Chair Colbert welcomed committee members and called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
- Attendees:
 - **PCAC Members:** Chair and Mayor Linda Colbert (Town of Vienna); Vice-Chair and Council Member Selonia Miles (Town of Dumfries); Board Member Libby Garvey (Arlington County); Supervisor Walter Alcorn (Fairfax County); Supervisor Margaret Angela Franklin (Prince William County); Supervisor Sylvia Glass (Loudoun County); Council Member Phil Duncan (City of Falls Church); Council Member Jon Stehle (City of Fairfax); Vice-Mayor Pamela Sebesky (City of Manassas); Vice-Mayor Preston Banks (City of Manassas Park); Council Member Naila Alam (Town of Herndon); Vice-Mayor Marty Martinez (Town of Leesburg); Council Member Stanley Milan (Town of Purcellville).
 - **NVTA Staff:** Monica Backmon (Executive Director); Keith Jasper (Principal, Transportation Planning and Programming); Harun Rashid (Transportation Planner), Mackenzie Love (Regional Transportation Planner).

Action

II. Resolution to Conduct February 24, 2021 Meeting Electronically

- Chair Colbert 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 November 18, 2020 Meeting

- The November 18, 2020, meeting summary was approved, with abstentions from members who did not attend the November 18 meeting.

IV. CY2021 Meeting Calendar

A meeting calendar with 4th Wednesday of the month, at 6:30 pm, as standard meeting time was approved unanimously.

Discussion/Information

V. Transportation Technology Strategic Plan

Mr. Jasper/Ms. Love

- Mr. Jasper presented on NVTA’s draft Transportation Technology Strategic Plan (TTSP), covering its background and purpose, and its linkage to upcoming long range transportation plan update. After the adoption of last TransAction plan in October 2017, under the guidance of NVTA Executive Director Ms. Backmon, the Transportation Technology Committee was created as an advisory committee. Primary charge of this committee was to draft a strategic plan, that will inform the emerging transportation technology related issues in long range planning.
- TTSP is a comprehensive approach to address exponential growth in technology and its transportation implication, one overarching objective is to ensure that NVTA’s investment does not become obsolete by the time projects are implemented. An overview of the draft TTSP was presented:
 - Introduction, including some sample Q&A
 - Summary of TTSP Strategies and NVTA Roles
 - Technologies mapped to TTSP Strategies
 - Guidance on desired feedback and how to respond
- Several introductory/sample questions were presented to committee members: TTSP’s relationship to NVTA planning and programming process; pandemic and resulting travel pattern; role of technologies in this new travel pattern; equity and environmental justice and technology; role of technology in recovery from pandemic; possible priorities for technology in the “new normal”. On these topics, committee members discussed how the issue of transportation equity needs to be addressed.
- Ms. Love then presented on summary of strategies and its structure; NVTA’s roles for each strategy; and a list of emerging technologies mapped to these strategies. In the draft plan, there are 8 strategies outlined, with 9 NVTA roles.
- Supervisor Alcorn, Fairfax County, stressed on the needs to address climate change and energy efficiency, and also the cost of technology. Vice-Mayor Martinez, Town of Leesburg, and Council Member Glass, Loudoun County, inquired about various technology related infrastructure needs. Ms. Love mentioned their inclusion in the plan. Supervisor Alcorn also opined that NVTA should take a leading role in demonstrating transportation technology in the region.
- Mr. Jasper concluded the presentation session with a request of more feedbacks from committee members. He also mentioned the upcoming Annual Northern Virginia transportation roundtable to be hosted by NVTA, where subject matter experts are presenting on two panel sessions, themed on – Smart Future and Resilient Future.

VI. Adjourn

- Chair Colbert also reminded the March 10 deadline for feedback comments, and the next meeting on March 24. She then adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.

DRAFT

Draft Transportation Technology Strategic Plan – Action Plan

March 24th, 2021



Presented by:

Keith Jasper

Principal, Planning & Programming, Northern Virginia Transportation Authority



List of Abbreviations

PCAC – Planning Coordination Advisory Committee (NVTA Statutory Committee)

PPC – Planning and Programming Committee (NVTA Standing Committee)

SYP – Six Year Program

TAC – Technical Advisory Committee (NVTA Statutory Committee)

TTC – Transportation Technology Committee (Advisory Committee to the NVTA Executive Director)

TTSP – Transportation Technology Strategic Plan

Additional Committee information can be found on NVTA's website:

<https://thenovaauthority.org/about/>



Recap – Pathway to TTSP Approval

December 2020: Shared draft TTSP 'core content' with TTC

- 8 Strategies, 9 NVTA Roles, 3 Core Values

January 2021: Shared draft TTSP (minus Action Plan) with TTC

- TTC discussed draft TTSP (full document without Action Plan)

February/March 2021: Expanded review

- Discussed draft Action Plan with TTC
- Shared/discussed draft TTSP with TAC, PCAC, and PPC

March 2021: TTSP mini-session at NoVA Transportation Roundtable

April 2021: Seek TTSP/Action Plan recommendations from all committees

May 2021: NVTA consider/approve TTSP/Action Plan

May 2021 onwards: Implement Action Plan

- Integrate into TransAction



Recap – Authority Vision for TransAction

“Northern Virginia will plan for, and invest in, a **safe, equitable, sustainable, and integrated** multimodal transportation system that enhances quality of life, strengthens the economy, and **builds resilience**”

Approved by NVRTA on December 17th, 2020



Recap – PCAC Feedback on the draft TTSP

- The PCAC provided input largely in a verbal format, staff are working to incorporate your recommendations.
- Feedback included:
 - Affirmation of the manner in which equity is addressed in the current draft
 - Increase discussion of the costs of technologies
 - Suggestions for additional technologies to consider/address in the TTSP
 - Further encouraging demos and test beds



Recap – TTSP Content at the 6th Northern Virginia Transportation Roundtable

- Held virtually and live streamed on Wednesday, March 10th, 2021.
- More than **140 people joined in total**, including 12 members of the Authority.
 - A special thank you to the **8 TTC members who attended!**
- The Roundtable included a mini-session on the draft TTSP
 - NVTA Executive Director, Monica Backmon provided an introduction and history of the TTSP, starting with creation of the TTC.
 - **TTC Chairman, Councilmember David Snyder**, emphasized the importance of proactively planning for innovation, and committing to furthering the core values in the process.



Recap – TTSP Content at the 6th Northern Virginia Transportation Roundtable

- Live polling was used to ask **5 TTSP-related questions**, including 3 that were multiple choice, and 2 that encouraged free-form responses:
- **“What innovative approaches can the region take to improve transportation equity in Northern Virginia?”**
 - Over 50 unique responses were received and a few common topics quickly emerged: effective and meaningful engagement that starts with asking and listening; providing more service and access to multiple modes; improving safety through infrastructure; reduced or free fares/trips; and provision of reliable and real-time data to the public.
- **“Which safety needs in Northern Virginia could be addressed by emerging transportation technologies? (Please consider all users and modes.)”**
 - Free-form responses ranged from suggestions to address/mitigate dangerous travel behaviors like distracted or impaired driving, to using data to target investments in safety-related infrastructure improvements, to encouraging connectivity between modes to optimize the overall transportation system and reduce crashes, particularly between vehicles and people biking or walking.



Feedback from TAC and TTC: Recommended Rewording of Strategies

Current Draft Strategies		Recommended Revisions to Draft Strategies
1	Reduce Congestion	Reduce congestion and increase throughput
2	Maximize access to jobs, employees and housing	
3	Maximize cybersecurity and maximize privacy for members of the public	Maximize cybersecurity and privacy for members of the public
4	Minimize potential for Zero Occupancy Vehicles	Minimize potential for Zero Occupancy passenger Vehicles
5	Develop pricing mechanisms that manage travel demand and provide sustainable travel options	
6	Maximize the potential of physical and communication infrastructure to serve existing and emerging modes	
7	Enhance regional coordination and encourage interoperability in all systems	
8	Create a network of charging infrastructure, for use by private and fleet vehicles	Advance decarbonization of the transportation system



TTSP Draft Action Plan

- What, When, Who?
- Actions must be traceable to at least one strategy, and include measure(s) of effectiveness;
- Some actions may be triggered by external events, e.g. federal/state legislation, market penetration thresholds;
- Most actions will be initiated by NVTA staff; not all will be implemented by NVTA staff;
- Define a monitoring plan; and
- Define a review and update cycle.



TTSP Draft Action Plan

Proposed Structure

- Introduction
- Strategy-Specific Summaries
 - *Overview*
 - *Assumptions Made*
 - *Action Plan*
- Consolidated Actions Table
- Next Steps
 - *Monitoring Progress and Update Cycle*
 - *The Review/Update Process*



TTSP Draft Action Plan

Strategy-Specific Summaries

Strategy #_: TITLE

Overview

A paragraph describing the predicted time frame in which it will be appropriate to take action, in keeping with the roles described in the draft Transportation Technology Strategic Plan (TTSP), in pursuit of a Strategy.

Assumptions Made

- Generally, 2 – 5 bullet points.

Actions

Item	Responsible Party	Trigger Point	Time Frame	Current Status	Actions	Stakeholders	Metric(s) of Success
					•	•	•



TTSP Draft Action Plan Consolidated Actions Table

Roles		Immediate				Near Term				Mid Term	Long Term								
		Jan - March, 2021	April - June, 2021	July - Sept, 2021	Oct - Dec, 2021	Jan - March, 2022	April - June, 2022	July - Sept, 2022	Oct - Dec, 2022	2023 - 2025	2026 - 2029	2030 and Beyond							
Title	Applicable Strategies								TransAction kick-off			Completion of TransAction Phase 1		TransAction adoption		Development of legislative program			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8				Development of legislative program	Six Year Program Update FY2022-2027						
Funding	1A, 1B	2A	3A, 3B			6A, 6B	7A	8A											
Policy				4B	5A			8B											
Advocate	1C			4C,4D, 4E	5A			8C											
Champion	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓											
Facilitate	✓	✓		✓		✓	7B	✓											
Stakeholder			✓		✓														
Planning	1A	2A	3A	4A	5B	6A	7A	8A											
Outreach/ Education	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓											
Observer			✓																

Key				
Preparatory Action	Potential Direct Action	Direct Action	Follow Up Action	Continual/ Serendipitously
Bold text indicates this Role is a focus of the Strategy-Specific mini-action plans.				



TTSP Action Plan: Possible Outcomes

- TransAction scenario (sensitivity) analysis
 - Incentives and pricing mechanisms to reduce car dependency
 - Climate change and resiliency of regional transportation system
 - Pandemic 'new normal' implications of increased work-from-home and e-commerce
- Outreach/education
 - Facts and Myths: Connected, Autonomous, Shared, and Electric (CASE) vehicles
- Identify potential additions to NVTA's Legislative Program
 - Support EV infrastructure
 - Support Zero Emission Vehicles
 - Concern regarding Zero Occupant Vehicles



TTSP Action Plan: Possible Outcomes

- Identify potential refinements to future NVTA SYP project selection process (post-TransAction update)
 - Contingent on...?
 - Standardization, e.g. transit signal priority communications
- Funding
 - TransAction Project List is the first filter for projects that can be funded using NVTA regional revenues
 - NVTA staff currently coordinating with jurisdiction/agency staff
- Develop White Papers identifying potential topics for future regional transportation policy
 - Shared mobility devices
 - Autonomous transit shuttles
 - Zero occupant vehicles
 - Human Services transportation



TTSP: Anticipated Recommendations

- Approval of the Eight Strategies
- Approval to begin implementation of the Action Plan

If approved, NVTA Staff will also:

- Provide an update on progress every six months until TransAction is adopted
- Include TTSP/Action Plan in public engagement efforts around the TransAction update



TTSP: Monitoring Progress and Update Cycle

- Until TransAction is adopted in late 2022, the TTSP will be reviewed/updated every six months, incorporating
 - Feedback during TransAction public engagement phases
 - Relevant findings from TransAction analyses.
- Thereafter, the TTSP will be reviewed/updated annually. Typically, the annual review will take place around the anniversary of adoption of the TTSP by the Authority, however, other events may trigger the cycle, including:
 - Adoption or enactment of any new Federal/Commonwealth laws that directly or indirectly pertain to transportation technologies and/or any concept covered within the then-current iteration of the TTSP.
 - Relevant actions of NVTA member jurisdictions or other regional bodies.
 - Market factors.



Next Steps

- Following this meeting, share draft Action Plan for PCAC review and comment with one-week response deadline (approximately April 1st)
- Share final draft of TTSP/Action Plan in early April
- Next PCAC meeting – 6:30pm on Wednesday April 28th
 - Request action to recommend eight strategies and Action Plan for NVTA approval in May



PCAC Feedback Requested

- Thoughts on what you have heard today?
- Beyond NVTA Committees, who should we seek feedback from?
- What level of detail is required for the public-facing versions of the TTSP/Action Plan?
- Suggestions on low-cost visualizations? Examples?



THANK YOU!