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Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Adopts Strategies and Action Plan to Proactively Plan for Innovation in Transportation

Northern Virginia, May 14, 2021 – As transportation technologies and infrastructure needs in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area and beyond continue to rapidly evolve, the [Northern Virginia Transportation Authority](#) (Authority), is taking a proactive approach to planning for innovation in transportation through regional collaboration.

On the evening of May 13th, the Authority – comprised of elected officials and transportation representatives across the region – adopted the inaugural [NVTA Transportation Technology Strategic Plan](#)'s (TTSP) Action Plan and Eight Strategies within, that focus on mobility, accessibility, and resilience, while embracing the core values of safety, equity and sustainability.

Recognizing no one can plan for the continuously evolving infrastructure challenges and developing technologies alone, the Eight Strategies were identified and defined with the guidance of the NVTA Executive Director's [Transportation Technology Committee](#) (TTC), comprised of local, regional and national thought-leaders representing a broad range of perspectives relevant to the development, implementation, operation, and impact of transportation technologies.

“With a special emphasis on enhancing safety, equity and sustainability, the Transportation Technology Strategic Plan is a first-of-a-kind initiative to take such a comprehensive and multimodal position on how transportation technologies, such as autonomous transit shuttles and a corridor-based transit signal priority system launched and piloted in the region, can be leveraged to support the NVTA’s vision for the NoVA transportation system in the coming years,” said David F. Snyder, Chair, Transportation Technology Committee, and Vice Chair of the Authority.

“The desire for a smarter, more reliable, and safer infrastructure is top of mind for the private and public sectors alike, whether on the federal, local, regional or statewide level,” stated Phyllis J. Randall, Chair of the Authority. “The Transportation Technology Strategic Plan will help the region understand which technologies we should invest in, and which we should embrace, to help accomplish NVTA’s vision to invest in a safe, equitable, sustainable and integrated multimodal transportation system that enhances quality of life, strengthens the economy and builds resilience.”

With the Authority’s adoption on May 13th, this proactive initiative will be integrated with TransAction, the long-range transportation plan for Northern Virginia, which will consider evolving transportation technologies, alongside more traditional approaches to infrastructure in the coming months and decades, potentially influencing NVTA’s analysis and project funding recommendations. Over the next several months, the public will have the opportunity to weigh in on transportation technologies as part of the TransAction update.

“The push by NVTA to leverage the power of technology is key,” said Robert (Bob) A. Schneider, PhD, Executive Director, OmniRide, and member of the TTC. “As an organization that is built for flexibility and innovation, these strategic goals set the foundation for how Northern Virginia will move.”

The adoption comes in the midst of the 9th Annual United for Infrastructure Week.

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The NVTA was created by the General Assembly on July 1, 2002, to offer a common voice for Northern Virginia on transportation issues confronting the region. The Authority is made up of nine jurisdictions including: the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William; as well as the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park. The Authority is responsible for updating Northern Virginia's long-range transportation plan, TransAction, and since 2014 manages approximately \$365 million annually in public funds for transportation projects designed to provide congestion relief throughout Northern Virginia. For more information visit www.thenovaauthority.org.

