



# Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

*The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia*

## PLANNING COORDINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE Wednesday, April 28, 2021, 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); Supervisor Walter Alcorn (Fairfax County); Supervisor Margaret Angela Franklin (Prince William County); Council Member Phil Duncan (City of Falls Church); Vice-Mayor Preston Banks (City of Manassas Park); 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 April 28, 2021, 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 March 24, 2021 Meeting

- The March 24, 2021, meeting summary was approved, with abstentions from members who did not attend the March 24 meeting.

#### **IV. Transportation Technology Strategic Plan (TTSP) & Action Plan**

Mr. Jasper/Ms. Love

- In the March 2021 meeting, Mr. Jasper laid out the outline of the Action Plan for the TTSP. The objective is to present a tangible set of steps to realize the strategies set in the plan, and solicit members' inputs.
- In this April 28, 2021 meeting, staff presented a set of 8 strategies, associated NVTA staff roles, and an Action Plan for members' approval and recommendation to Authority. These items were finalized based on suggestions and comments received from this Committee, and other NVTA statutory/standing committees, over the last few months.
- To provide a context and background of TTSP, associated Action Plan and its 8 strategies, and their roles in NVTA's planning and programming process, Mr. Jasper presented to members on following topics:
  - TransAction vision statement, and its 3 core values of equity, safety, and sustainability.
  - Side-by-side comparison of rapid developments in technology, and NVTA's planning process.
  - A broad definition of TTSP, and its proposed benefits.

With this background information, a set of 8 strategies were presented, with NVTA staff proposed roles for each. Within this set, Mr. Jasper highlighted where previous member comments on livability and pricing issues are addressed.

- At this point during presentation, Vice-chair Miles sought for members' question/comments. In response to Supervisor Alcorn's query on the term "throughput" vs. "mobility" in strategy #1, Mr. Jasper explained that the goal is to achieve overall system optimization.
- Ms. Love then further elaborated on these strategies with two tangible transportation technology applications – an electric/autonomous shuttle service in Mosaic District (Fairfax County); and personal electric/autonomous automobiles. With these two examples, she displayed how the strategy/action plan framework can be utilized to evaluate upcoming transportation technology against the TransAction vison, core values; and the proposed 8 strategies and staff role. Supervisor Alcorn suggested staff explores more on equitable usage of these new modes, and temporal effects on technology maturation.
- After this demonstration, Mr. Jasper stated that the main objective of the meeting is to seek member approval and recommendation to Authority of the TTSP Action Plan, and associated set of eight strategies. He stressed that staff is not seeking approval for the actual plan document, because of the very fluid nature of technological advancements, and the need to be agile and flexible for planning for the same. He also laid out possible outcomes upon approval, and future staff roles in update of the plan/strategies. In responding to a concern raised by Supervisor Alcorn, Ms. Backmon assured that the plan update process will be fully vetted with Authority members, NVTA's Transportation Technology Committee, and this Committee. Supervisor Alcorn also suggested that in the future, NVTA assumes leading role in proposing regional technology pilot projects.

Committee members appreciated staff work on the overall organization and clarity of the Action Plan framework. Upon a call from Vice-chair Miles, Members unanimously approved to recommend the Authority adopt the eight strategies (in the Transportation Technology Strategic Plan) and Action Plan.

### **Discussion/Information**

**V. TransAction Update**

Mr. Jasper

Mr. Jasper updated committee members on following tasks in TransAction update process – finalize overall workplan; travel model development strategy and implementation; project list update (top-down/bottom-up); public engagement plan.

**VI. NVTA Update**

Ms. Backmon

Ms. Backmon expressed her gratitude to Committee members for their participation and comments, and highly appreciated staff work on the draft plans. She stated that these strategies will position Northern Virginia, and the Commonwealth, to be proactive and not reactive in adapting to technological innovations in transportation sector.

**VII. Adjourn**

Vice-chair Miles then adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.