

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY****MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Chair Phyllis J. Randall and Members  
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

**FROM:** Monica Backmon, Chief Executive Officer

**DATE:** May 5, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Chief Executive Officer's Report

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1. **Purpose:** To inform the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) of items of interest not addressed in the agenda.

**a. Six Year Program (SYP) Update**

The evaluation results for the 26 candidate projects were published for public comment on April 15<sup>th</sup>, and the public comment period will run until 11:59 p.m. on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. An Open House for the SYP was held on May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) office in Fairfax in conjunction with the Annual Joint Transportation Meeting. Additionally, NVTA staff will have a booth with displays and handout materials regarding NVTA and SYP on May 20<sup>th</sup> at the [Town of Herndon's Town Hall Green stop](#) as part of the Bike to Work Day. After the completion of the public comment period, the Committees and the Authority will be briefed on the comments received. Further, NVTA staff will develop, and present funding recommendations based on the evaluations, public comments, and geographical/modal balance to the Committees during their June meeting cycle. The recommendations from the statutory committees and Planning and Programming Committee will be presented to the Authority at the July meeting, at which the Authority is expected to adopt the FY2022-2027 SYP.

**b. TransAction Update**

The analytical work regarding the projects and scenarios to be included in the Plan are underway, and the findings will be shared with NVTA's Statutory Committees and the Planning and Programming Committee. Preliminary results were presented to jurisdiction and agency staff at a virtual work session on May 5<sup>th</sup>. These results will also be shared and feedback requested from the NVTA Stakeholder Group at a meeting scheduled on May 10<sup>th</sup>, and from the Authority members at a work session scheduled on Thursday May 19<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Phase 2 public engagement is

ongoing with a blog series on TransAction published at <https://nvtatransaction.org/news/>. So far, five blogs have been published about goals, objectives, performance measures, population and employment growth, current travel patterns, and future transportation needs with more blogs scheduled to be posted. At the July Authority meeting, staff will request Authority approval of the TransAction public comment period from early August to end of September, with a public hearing on September 8th (the same day as the September Authority meeting). Final adoption of the Plan is expected in December 2022.

**c. Regional Multi-Modal Mobility Program (RM3P) Update**

The Regional Multi-Modal Mobility Program (RM3P) continues to benefit from strong regional partnerships and coordination, including project Co-Sponsors VDOT and Virginia Department of Rail and Transportation. There are two active procurement efforts underway for elements of RM3P. Stakeholder engagement also remain priorities in developing RM3P, and there is regular activity on those fronts.

**d. Collaboration with Dr. Shanjian Zhu, George Mason University**

NVTA Staff recently expressed an intention to collaborate on a project if it is selected for funding through the National Science Foundation (NSF) Civic Innovation Challenge (CIVIC). The invitation to collaborate was extended by Dr. Zhu, an Associate Professor in the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Infrastructure Engineering at George Mason University, who has been a dedicated member of NVTA's Technical Advisory Committee since 2013 and is leading an ongoing effort to develop and pilot an app called "InfraHub". Funding through the CIVIC program would further this initiative which aims to enable data-driven review of community-provided feedback on needed bike/pedestrian infrastructure, and to prioritize investments, particularly for "transportation-disadvantaged" groups. This is highly consistent with the primary responsibilities of NVTA, including development of TransAction and Six Year Programs. Additionally, the approach envisioned for this work is in alignment with the Transportation Technology Strategic Plan (TTSP) and NVTA's Core Values of Equity, Sustainability, and Safety. NVTA's role in this work would be advisory. VDOT and Maryland State Highway Administration have also agreed to provide support.

**e. Pentagon City Multimodal Connections and Transitway Extension Groundbreaking**

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, NVTA will join Arlington County to celebrate the start of construction on the Pentagon City Multimodal Connections and Transitway Extension Project, which NVTA is investing nearly \$29 million in regional revenues. The event will begin at 10 a.m.

**f. Annual Northern Virginia Joint Transportation Meeting**

The public was invited to a joint in-person meeting on May 4th with representatives from the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, Commonwealth Transportation Board, Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, and Virginia Railway Express, to learn more about the regional collaboration and programs required to keep travelers in Northern Virginia moving. The joint meeting coincided with VDOT's Six-Year Improvement Program Public Hearing and was held at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Offices in Fairfax. The Joint Open House and NVRTA's Six Year Program Update Open House were held prior to the meeting.

**g. American Public Transportation Association's Annual Mobility Conference**

On May 3rd, during the American Public Transportation Association's (APTA) Annual Mobility Conference in Columbus, OH, I participated on a panel titled, "Putting Diversity, Equity and Inclusion into Practice: Tangible Advances from Across the Industry." The panel was comprised of representatives of transportation agencies across the country. Discussions focused on defining equity in the perspective of transit, how equity is informing infrastructure planning, and best practices on how to implement equity measures into projects.

**h. American Society of Highway Engineers' Local Jurisdiction Roundtable**

On April 13th, the American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE) - Potomac Section invited me to moderate a Local Jurisdiction Roundtable featuring representatives from the Counties of Loudoun, Fairfax, Prince William, and Arlington, and the City of Fairfax. Discussions included how the new Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act is impacting transportation planning and upcoming projects; the SMART SCALE funding process; adaptation to new travel patterns; and the future of automated vehicles in the region. A panel discussion recording is available [here](#).

**2. Upcoming Events & Report Updates**

**NVRTA Standing Committee Meetings:**

- **Governance and Personnel Committee:** The NVRTA Governance and Personnel Committee is scheduled to meet Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 5:30pm.
- **Finance Committee:** The NVRTA Finance Committee is scheduled to meet Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 6:00pm.
- **Planning and Programming Committee:** The NVRTA Planning and Programming Committee's next meeting is Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 5pm.

**NVTA Statutory Committee Meetings:**

- **Technical Advisory Committee:** The NVTA Technical Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet Wednesday, May 18th, 2022, at 7:00pm.
- **Planning Coordination Advisory Committee:** The NVTA Planning Coordination Advisory Committee's is scheduled for Wednesday, May 25th, 2022, at 6:30pm.

**Regional Projects Status Report:**

- Please note the updated Regional Projects Status Report (Attachment B), which provides a narrative update for each project and the amount of project reimbursements requested and processed to date.

**Link to the Projects Status Report:** <https://thenovaauthority.org/funded-projects/>

**Attachment:**

- A. Regional Funding Program Projects Status Report



As of April 29, 2022.		
<b>NVTA's Regional Fund Program FY2014 - FY2025</b>		<b>Upcoming Public Information Meeting(s):</b>
Total Revenue Allocated	\$2,491,195,952	<b>1. Fairfax County:</b> Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit - Phases I & II (FY2018-23) - an in-person meeting is scheduled on May 3, 2022, at a community center in Lee District, 6:30-9:00 pm. <b>2. Arlington County:</b> Pentagon City Multimodal Connections and Transitway Extension (FY2018-23) - a groundbreaking event is scheduled on May 9, 10 am, at intersection 12th Street South/Long Bridge Drive.  <b>NOTE:</b> For latest information on project events, please refer to the "Events and Meetings" section on our home page - <a href="https://thenovaaauthority.org/">https://thenovaaauthority.org/</a> For full status information, please check NVTA web page on regional fund projects - <a href="https://thenovaaauthority.org/funded-projects/">https://thenovaaauthority.org/funded-projects/</a>
Total Amount Appropriated	\$1,873,560,727	
Total Amount Reimbursed	\$631,565,567	
Total Number of Individual Projects	106	
SPAs	142	
Currently Active	64	
Completed	53	
Not Yet Executed	25	

Substantive Status Updates (during February - March 2022)**		
Project Title (program year)	Updated Status	% Reimbursed
<b>Arlington County</b>		
Crystal City Metrorail Station East Entrance and Intermodal Connections (FY2018-23)	30% design is underway with at-grade entrance design alternative, as proposed by WMATA. Revised project schedule underway.	56.6%
Columbia Pike Multimodal Street Improvements - East (FY2015-16)	Final design is approved. ITB was advertised in February, 2022; 3 bids were received in May, 2022, county approval is expected by and of April. County staff continues to work on securing easements for two parcels.	10.0%
Boundary Channel Drive Interchange (FY2014)	90% plans were submitted to VDOT. Comments have been submitted to Design-Build consultant from Arlington County.	50.7%
Pentagon City Multimodal Connections and Transitway Extension (FY2018-23)	Initial construction activities for Segment I underway. 90% design for Segment IIA underway.	0.0%
<b>Fairfax County</b>		
Fairfax County Parkway Widening from Ox Road to Lee Hwy (FY2015-16/FY2017/FY2018-23)	Categorical Exception (CE) obtained as part of NEPA process. Project is 32% complete.	FY2015-16: 70.0% FY2017: 0.0% FY2018-23: 0.0%
Route 28 Widening: Prince William County Line to Route 29 (FY2015-16/FY2017/FY2018-23)	FCDOT authorized project contractor to proceed with Right of Way acquisition. Various construction activities underway.	FY2015-16: 86.5% FY2017: 0.0% FY2018-23: 1.1%
Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit - Phases I & II (FY2018-23)	A public information was held on April 2, 2022, to provide design updates. Community Charm Conversations for Stations anticipated to begin in Spring/Summer 2022.	5.6%
<b>Loudoun County</b>		
Prentice Drive Extension: Lockridge Road (Route 789) to Shellhorn Road (Route 643) (FY2018-23)	Phase 1 - The 90% design plans were submitted to VDOT and Building & Development on 3/28/2022.	5.5%
Dulles West Boulevard Widening: Loudoun County Parkway to Northstar Boulevard (FY2018-23)	Roadway 100% Plans, second submission, were submitted to Building and Development (Loudoun County). The design team is proceeding with the plat development, and also working to close all outstanding comments from the 2nd submission.	3.7%
<b>Prince William County</b>		
Construct Interchange at Prince William Parkway and University Blvd (FY2018-23)	Project was advertised for construction in February, 2022. Two bids were received and the lowest bid was above budget. Additional local funds were identified to cover the deficit.	8.1%
Widen Route 1 (Fraley Boulevard) Brady's Hill Road to Route 234 (Dumfries Road) (FY2015-16/FY2018-23)	A virtual Public Information Meeting was held in March, 2022. Right-Of-Way contract is under review and anticipated to be presented to the Board for award in May 2022.	FY2015-16: 44.5% FY2018-23: 0%
Summit School Rd Extension and Telegraph Rd Widening (FY2018-23)	100% Design Plan set was submitted on April 1, 2022.	39.9%
Construct Interchange at Route 234 and Brentsville Road (FY2018-23)	A ground-breaking ceremony was held in March, 2022. A change order for a pedestrian bridge design was approved. Final design approval and start of right-of-way is anticipated for Summer 2022.	5.6%
<b>City of Alexandria</b>		
West End Transitway (FY2015-16)	Design contract Notice-To-Proceed award is delayed, now anticipated in April/May.	37.6%
DASH Transit Service Enhancements and Expansion (FY2018-23)	All 8 electric buses have been delivered and have entered revenue service. Facility Expansion design project that will identify electric utility upgrades required is now underway.	4.1%
Alexandria Duke St Transitway (FY2018-23)	Notice-to-Proceed for planning and design consultant issued late March. Kick-off meeting held was held in April.	0.1%

\*\*Substantive changes: SPA appendices A/B, Project administration, Start/completion of phases, Groundbreaking/ribbon-cutting ceremonies, Public information meetings, Major engineering progress.



**NVTA Funding Program Project Status**

Summary Report

VRE		
Franconia-Springfield Platform Improvements (FY2015-16)	FTA NEPA guidance received. Task Order Request for pedestrian tunnel design issued to consultant.	8.8%
No Updates in Current Cycle		
Project Title (program year)	Last Update Received	% Reimbursed
Arlington County		
Crystal City Streets (FY2017)	November 2021.	25.3%
Lee Highway Corridor ITS Enhancements (FY2017)	February 2022.	12.9%
Glebe Road Corridor ITS Improvements (FY2015-16)	March 2021.	31.2%
Intelligent Transportation System Improvements (FY2018-23)	January 2021.	10.3%

\*\*Substantive changes: SPA appendices A/B, Project administration, Start/completion of phases, Groundbreaking/ribbon-cutting ceremonies, Public information meetings, Major engineering progress.