



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

SUMMARY MINUTES

Thursday, February 8, 2024

7PM, EST.

3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200

Fairfax, VA 22031

This meeting was conducted in person and livestreamed via [NVRTA's YouTube Channel](#)

1. Call to Order

Chair Randall

Chair Randall called the meeting to order at 7:06PM.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Henderson, Board Secretary

- ✓ **Membership: Attendees** Chair Phyllis Randall, Vice Chair David Snyder, Supervisor James Walkinshaw, Chair Deshundra Jefferson, Board Member Matt de Ferranti, Mayor Justin Wilson, Mayor Jeanette Rishell, Mayor Catherine Read, Mayor Sheila Olem (Remote-Medical), Mr. Anthony Bedell, Ms. Mary Hynes, Ms. Jennifer Debruhl (Remote-Distance), and Mr. Bill Cuttler. **Non-Attendees** Senator Jennifer Boysko, Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger, Supervisor Pat Herrity, and Mr. Jim Kolb.
- ✓ **Staff Attendees:** Chief Executive Officer Monica Backmon, Chief Financial Officer Michael Longhi, Principal, Transportation Planning and Programming Keith Jasper, Communications and Public Affairs Manager Abigail Hillerich, Strategic Communications Specialist Sharara Faisal, Deputy Chief Financial Officer Peggy Teal, Senior Manager, Transportation Planning Sree Nampoothiri, Planning Analytics Manager Harun Rashid, Regional Transportation Planners Ian Newman, Griffin Frank and Hannah Pajewski, Executive Assistant to the CEO Amanda Sink and Board Secretary Lee Ann Henderson.
- ✓ **Council of Counsel Attendees:** Mr. Daniel Robinson-Fairfax County and Ms. Christina Zechman Brown-City of Alexandria.
- ✓ **Other Attendees:** Sr. Vice President Tracy Baynard, McGuire Woods Consulting LLC (Remote-Distance)

Members of the public, jurisdiction and agency staff were in person and were able to watch the meeting livestreamed via [NVRTA's YouTube Channel](#).

3. Chair Comments

- ✓ Chair Randall stated that she may have to leave before the end of the meeting.
- ✓ Mayor Read made comments regarding the passing of former City of Fairfax Mayor John Mason. She highlighted Mr. Mason's accomplishments and the role he played in bringing the region together to work on many issues including transportation.
- ✓ Chair Randall announced her desired committee appointments for the coming year..

Governance and Personnel Committee

Chair- Chair Randall

Chairman McKay

Mayor Read
Mayor Davis-Younger
Chair Jefferson

Finance Committee

Chair - Mayor Rishell
Chair Randall
Council Member Snyder
Chair Jefferson
Mr. Bedell

Planning and Programming Committee

Chair - Mayor Wilson
Mayor Olem
Board Member de Ferranti
Mayor Davis-Younger
Ms. Hynes

4. Approval of Minutes

Chair Randall

- ✓ Chair Randall asked to approve the minutes earlier in the agenda. Chair Jefferson made a motion to approve the January 11, 2024, minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Rishell and approved unanimously with Board Member de Ferranti abstaining.

PRESENTATIONS

5. Tracking Changes in Transportation Attitudes and Priorities

Heart & Mind Strategies

Mr. Keith Jasper, Principal, Transportation Planning and Programming

- ✓ Keith Jasper introduced the results of the Tracking Changes in Transportation Attitudes and Priorities survey performed by Heart & Mind Strategies.
- ✓ He stated this broad-ranging survey has been performed every two years to help plan for transportation needs in the region. Many questions have been retained from previous iterations and new questions have been introduced to better understand perceptions of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) in addition to tracking post-pandemic travel changes.
- ✓ Mr. Jasper introduced Ben Custer of Heart and Mind Strategies, who reviewed the survey's key findings.
- ✓ Monica Backmon noted that NVTa's webpage for PDP-BRT (Preliminary Development Plan for a Regional Bus Rapid Transit System) is now available.
- ✓ Chair Randall questioned the increased perception of crime in the region. Mr. Custer stated that the perception may not be supported by data. Mr. Jasper added that the upcoming focus groups can examine the perceptions further.

ACTION ITEMS

6. Approval of Letter of Endorsement for Loudoun County's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Program Application

Ms. Backmon, Chief Executive Officer

- ✓ Chair Randall made a motion to approve the Letter of Endorsement for Loudoun County's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Program application. The motion was seconded by Board Member de Ferranti and approved unanimously.

7. Approval of Letter of Endorsement for Prince William County's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Program Application

Ms. Backmon, Chief Executive Officer

- ✓ Chair Jefferson made a motion to approve the Letter of Endorsement for Prince William County's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Program application. The motion was seconded by Mayor Wilson and approved unanimously.

8. Approval of Letter of Endorsement for the City of Alexandria's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Program Application

Ms. Backmon, Chief Executive Officer

- ✓ Mayor Wilson made a motion to approve the Letter of Endorsement for the City of Alexandria's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Program application. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bedell and approved unanimously.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

10. SMART SCALE Update

Ms. Backmon, Chief Executive Officer

- ✓ Ms. Backmon stated at the January Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) meeting the CTB voted to include Land Use as a multiplier in SMART SCALE calculations.
- ✓ Ms. Hynes gave a brief review of the change.

11. Governance and Personnel Committee Report

-Update on 2024 General Assembly Session

Chair Randall, Chair

Ms. Baynard, Sr. Vice President, McGuireWoods Consulting, LLC

- ✓ Ms. Baynard stated that the General Assembly is just a few days from crossover.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard highlighted a bill that would streamline the approval process for construction of bus shelters by transit providers. Ms. Debruhl thanked everyone for their support of the bill.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard discussed the General Assembly's work to secure additional funding for Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) for FY25 and FY26 in

addition to the submitted proposals regarding the creation of subcommittees to examine the long-term financial needs.

- ✓ Ms. Baynard also reviewed several transportation-related bills and their progress through the General Assembly process.

12. Finance Committee Report

Mayor Rishell, Finance Committee Chair

- ✓ Mayor Rishell stated that the Finance Committee has adopted their meeting calendar for the upcoming year.
- ✓ Mayor Rishell stated that the Chief Financial Officer has been instructed to prepare the budget for presentation to the Authority at the next meeting.
- ✓ Mr. Longhi stated that the portfolio, revenues, and operating budget are doing well.

13. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Ms. Backmon, Chief Executive Officer

- ✓ Ms. Backmon stated that the CEO Report includes an updated Lane Mile Analysis. She stated that the total lane miles increased by 30% (Local Distribution) funding included 183.71 miles of active transportation.
- ✓ Ms. Backmon noted that NVTa has signed the lease for new office space, so the March meeting will be the last one to be held at 3040 Williams Drive.

14. Adjournment

- ✓ There being no further business before the Authority, Chair Randall adjourned the meeting at 8:32PM.