



# Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

*The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia*

## PLANNING COORDINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 16, 2022, 5:00 pm  
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

### MEETING SUMMARY

#### I. Call to Order/Welcome

- Mayor Colbert (Town of Vienna), Chair of the Committee, welcomed committee members and called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.
- Attendees: This was a virtual meeting.
  - **PCAC Members:** Mayor Colbert (Chair, Town of Vienna); Board Member Karantonis (Arlington County); Supervisor Alcorn (Fairfax County); Supervisor Glass (Loudoun County); Council Member Bagley (City of Alexandria); Council Member Stehle (City of Fairfax); Council Member Friedrichs (Town of Herndon); Council Member Milan (Purcellville).
  - Alternate – Council Member Ralph Smith (City of Manassas, for Vice-Mayor Pamela Sebesky).
  - **NVTA Staff:** Monica Backmon (Chief Executive Officer); Keith Jasper (Principal, Planning and Programming); Sree Nampoothiri (Senior Transportation Planner); Harun Rashid (Regional Transportation Modeler).  
Consultant Staff: Dalia Leven (Cambridge Systematics).

#### II. Summary Notes of October 26, 2022 Meeting

- The October 26, 2022, meeting summary was approved, with abstentions from members who did not attend the October 26 meeting.

#### III. Approve the Recommendation to Adopt the TransAction Update

- Mr. Jasper, Principal, Transportation Planning and Programming at NVTA, presented on following topics:
  - Feedback from NVTA Committees on draft Plan document.
  - Updates and enhancements to the final draft Plan and Project List.
  - Next steps.

In the first topic, NVTA staff addressed a number of questions and concerns raised by statutory and standing committee members during the September/October meetings. Following questions and comments were discussed during this section:

*On the set of comments from TAC committee (slide #7), how do you respond to the “Concern that NVTAs legislation is outdated and should be revisited”.* - Ms. Backmon stated that currently there is no such direction from Authority members. In addition, although Congestion-Reduction-Relative-to-Cost is the primary evaluation metric, TransAction Plan evaluates projects in a holistic manner with three Core Values of Equity, Sustainability and Safety, and a set of ten performance measures.

*TransAction is not a project cost planning tool. How do you justify the inclusion of WMATA’s Blue Line realignment project (number 34 in Project List), with a price tag of \$20 billion, especially when the stakeholders have not identified a preferred alternative yet?* – Mr. Jasper explained that projects in TransAction do not have a funding commitment and are considered to address transportation needs of the entire Washington metro region. This inclusion will ensure future funding eligibility even if a portion of this project is advanced within Northern Virginia geography.

*According to this plan, 76% of commuting trips originate, and end in Northern Virginia. That shows the need to build infrastructure to serve north-south/suburb-to-suburb trips within Northern Virginia, especially with transit services. At the same time, Northern Virginia being the economic engine of the region, TransAction should also address transportation needs of commuters that are travelling in from outer jurisdictions.* – Mr. Jasper agreed to both of these points and stated NVTAs will further the idea of building a regional bus rapid transit (BRT) system for this purpose.

- The second topic was a highlight of selected updates to the draft plan document. After a brief presentation on this topic, the motion to approve the TransAction Plan was passed unanimously.

#### **IV. NVTAs Update**

- NVTAs Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Backmon expressed her gratitude for committee members’ diligence in this process to update TransAction. She also informed members of the anticipated adoption of NVTAs 2023 draft legislative program at the December Authority meeting. The primary focus of this year’s program is to protect transportation revenues for the Northern Virginia region.

#### **V. Adjourn**

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.