



THE EIGHT PRINCIPLES

The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) appreciates the significant efforts made by the Governor and the General Assembly in their 2007 provision of a dedicated funding source for Northern Virginia (HB 3202).

Unfortunately, on February 29, 2008, the Virginia Supreme Court ruled that the General Assembly did not have a constitutional basis for delegating taxing authority to the NVTA. As a result, Northern Virginia is unable to address its worsening congestion. The implications for the region's and the state's economies is potentially disastrous.

In addressing this challenge, the NVTA will use the following principles to guide it in assessing proposed solutions:

1. Transportation is fundamentally a state responsibility; therefore, enactment of new Northern Virginia transportation revenue sources must include a substantial state financial commitment. Any regional/local funding effort should include a broad array of options for choosing among a number of revenue sources;
2. NVTA is comfortable with the seven taxes and fees previously approved for Northern Virginia; however, NVTA is willing to consider alternatives. Any changes in the regional funding packages for Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads should be coordinated with both regions.;
3. Northern Virginia's adopted *TransAction 2030* long-range transportation plan requires approximately \$700 million annually in new funding to achieve the 2030 goals. Therefore, exclusive Northern Virginia revenues in the range of \$300 million annually, as well as Northern Virginia's portion of additional statewide revenues, are needed.
4. Any legislation must provide significant increases in transportation funding for all modes from a stable, reliable, and permanent source (s).
5. NVTA appreciates the importance of "buy-in" from all jurisdictions – large and small – to achieve regionally agreed goals. With that in mind, any Northern Virginia transportation revenue package should include both a regional and a local component to allow local jurisdictions to achieve transportation improvements of their choosing (many of which will contribute to overall regional goals).
6. If a statewide package is also enacted, Northern Virginia should receive at least the share that it receives under existing formulas.
7. Continue to match federal interstate and primary road earmarks with state funds, not shift this responsibility to Northern Virginia regional funds.
8. Provide an on-going revenue stream of capital funding for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) with no sunset, and no federal match requirement. This will provide flexibility beyond matching federal funds, and will ensure that WMATA's on-going capital needs will be funded.

The NVTA stands ready to assist with the development of a meaningful, responsive transportation funding package that will aggressively move the region forward in implementing its transportation plan.

Sign the Eight Principles petition to show your support:

<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/8principles/>

