

**Jurisdiction and Agency Coordinating Committee
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Martin E. Nohe, Chairman
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

Members
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

FROM: Tom Biesiadny, Chairman
Jurisdiction and Agency Coordinating Committee
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

SUBJECT: Endorsement of Testimony for the Commonwealth Transportation Board's FY 2010 to FY 2015 Six Year Program Public Hearing (Agenda Item 4.D.)

DATE: May 8, 2009

Recommendation:

The Jurisdiction and Agency Coordinating Committee recommends that the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority authorize its Chairman to present comments at the Commonwealth Transportation Board's FY 2010 to FY 2015 Six Year Program Public Hearing on June 2, 2009, following circulation to the NVTa members for input.

Background:

The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) is in the process of preparing the FY 2010 to FY 2015 Six Year Program. The initial public hearings on this program would normally have been held in Fall 2008, and final public hearings would normally have been in April or May 2009. However, as a result of the significant decline in state and federal transportation revenues, the CTB has been required to spend the past several months revising the FY 2009 to FY 2014 Six Year Program. Ultimately, the CTB was required to cut \$2.6 billion from the FY 2009 to FY 2015 Six Year Program. The revised FY 2009 to FY 2015 Program was approved on February 13, 2009. The CTB is planning to hold its Northern Virginia public hearing on the FY 2010 to FY 2015 Six Year Program on June 2, 2009. It is anticipated that the hearing will be held at Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School, 7130 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, Virginia 22043, beginning at 7 p.m.

Since the CTB has not released a draft FY 2010 to FY 2015 Six Year Program, the JACC members have not been able to prepare proposed testimony for NVTa's consideration. As a result, the JACC asks that NVTa authorize its Chairman to work with the JACC to prepare and finalize testimony on NVTa's behalf following circulation to the NVTa members for input.

Copies of NVTa's January 13, 2009, and February 5, 2009, testimonies to the CTB are attached.

Chairman Martin E. Nohe
Members, Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
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JACC members and I will be available at the May 14, 2009, NVTA meeting to provide updated information and answer questions.

Cc: Members, NVTA Jurisdiction and Agency Coordinating Committee

**Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
Comments on Proposed Revisions to
FY 2009 to FY 2014 Six Year Program**

**Martin E. Nohe, Chairman
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority**

January 13, 2009

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commonwealth Transportation Board, I am Marty Nohe, Chairman of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority. NVTA has approved the comments on the Proposed Revisions to the FY 2009 to FY 2014 Six Year Program, but first I wanted to give you a brief update on NVTA's recent activities.

- Update on NVTA's reduction in Operations
 - Executive Director released and office closed on September 30, 2008;
 - Some on-going activities, such as the development of testimony on the Six Year Program, the development of a legislative program, approval of CMAQ and RSTP recommendations and review of regional transportation projects are continuing;
 - Local and regional transportation staffs are providing support to continue to meet NVTA's statutory obligations;
 - NVTA is maintaining mailing and email addresses, a website and a phone number. Will be meeting three times during 2009, unless funding is restored.

- In addition, several NVTA local governments (including Arlington and Fairfax Counties) have raised transportation funding through the commercial and industrial property tax authorized by HB 3202. Other local governments are also considering it.

Comments on the Proposed Revisions to the FY 2009 to FY 2014 Six Year Program:

- NVTA adopted Eight Principles for Transportation Funding in April 2008 (attached). These principles are still valid;

- NVTA acknowledges the challenges that the CTB faces in trying to balance projects and revenues in the Six Year Program;

- Unfortunately, VDOT is quickly becoming a maintenance-only agency;

- NVTAs requests:
 - that construction projects that were funded before this update continue to be implemented as scheduled;
 - that the CTB treat transit operating expenses like VDOT maintenance expenses and make these expenses a higher priority than new capital projects;
 - that funding for VRE's track leases continue to be provided from federal funds;
 - that NVTAs be allowed to set Northern Virginia priorities for federal economic stimulus funding and any bonus obligation funding;
 - that additional training on VDOT's Chapter 527 land use review regulations be provided and review timeframes be re-evaluated;
 - that VDOT consider comments from local governments and regional transportation agencies on Secondary Street Acceptance standards and Access Management Standards;
 - that environmental reviews for locally administered projects be simplified and shortened;
 - that VDOT, DRPT and the CTB address Northern Virginia's concerns with the I-95/395 High Occupancy Toll project, as stated in multiple correspondence; and
 - that VDOT, DRPT and the CTB address Northern Virginia's concerns with the I-66 Transit/TDM Study, including inclusion of incentives, operational parameters (hours and occupancy) and pricing as part of the study.

**Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
Comments on Proposed Revisions to
FY 2009 to FY 2014 Six Year Program**

**Martin E. Nohe, Chairman
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority**

February 5, 2009

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commonwealth Transportation Board, I am Marty Nohe, Chairman of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority. NVTA has approved the comments on the Proposed Revisions to the FY 2009 to FY 2014 Six Year Program released in January and would like to reiterate some of those points regarding the revised plan released on yesterday.

- NVTA adopted Eight Principles for Transportation Funding in April 2008. These principles are still valid, including the need for stable, reliable, on-going regional and statewide transportation funds.
- NVTA acknowledges the challenges that the CTB faces in trying to balance projects and revenues in the Six Year Program;
- Unfortunately, VDOT is quickly becoming a maintenance-only agency;
- NVTA appreciates the efforts to protect transit from the brunt on the funding cuts.
- NVTA requests:
 - that construction projects that were funded before this update continue to be implemented as scheduled;
 - that the CTB support effort to protect transit operating funding without significantly changing overall formula allocations between systems;
 - that NVTA be allowed to set Northern Virginia priorities for federal economic stimulus funding and any bonus obligation funding;
 - that VDOT, DRPT and the CTB address Northern Virginia's concerns with the I-66 Transit/TDM Study as well as the I-95/395 High Occupancy Toll project, as stated in multiple correspondence