



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

March 6, 2008

AUTHORITY UNANIMOUSLY PASSES RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO FIX TRANSPORTATION FUNDING ISSUE NOW; CRITICAL REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE AT STAKE

NORTHERN VIRGINIA – Today, Northern Virginia Transportation Authority members met in emergency session to address the transportation funding crisis arising from last week’s Supreme Court decision (nullifying the taxing authority granted by the General Assembly in last year’s landmark Transportation Funding and Reform Act of 2007) and state actions cutting vital transportation funds (VDOT cuts of \$1.1 billion; DRPT \$70 million; and General Assembly diversion of \$180 million) which slashed money for critical road and transit projects.

Authority members unanimously approved a resolution urging the General Assembly to take “expeditious action to provide funding for the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority” and allow the region to move forward on the list of transportation projects that the Authority had planned to fund with the revenue stream previously granted by the General Assembly.

“Northern Virginia residents and commuters are facing a catastrophe. They have lost \$300 million annually -- and bonding capacity for \$1.7 billion in new transportation funding over the next six years; VDOT announced a \$1.1 billion cut to our primary, urban and secondary roads program; the Department of Rail and Public Transportation announced that they will cut at least \$70 million for public transportation; and the General Assembly eliminated \$180 million in one-time transportation funding. Everyone across the region will feel the pain of the eradication of these vital transportation funds, unless the General Assembly acts NOW,” said Chris Zimmerman, Authority chairman.

Projects Likely to Be Impacted Due to Loss of Regional and State Revenue -- March 6, 2008

Major NVTA-Funded Regional Projects Likely to be Adversely Impacted:

- Improvements to the Fairfax County Parkway, the Prince William County Parkway, and Battlefield Parkway
- Route 1 highway and transit improvement in Prince William County and Fairfax County
- Route 7 Improvements in Fairfax County and the City of Falls Church
- Route 28 Improvements in Loudoun County, Prince William County, and Manassas
- Improvements to the King Street, West Falls Church, Huntington, Rosslyn and Vienna Metrorail Stations
- Transit buses and facilities to allow for expanded service in various parts of Northern Virginia
- The Crystal City - Potomac Yards Transitway and Columbia Pike Streetcar Projects
- Route 123 improvements in the City of Fairfax
- Improvements to Manassas Drive in the City of Manassas Park
- Improvements to address impacts of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) actions
- \$50 million annually in dedicated funding for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metro) capital improvements
 - Railcar Purchases
 - Platform Improvements
 - Unfunded Metro Matters Needs
- \$25 million annually in dedicated funding for Virginia Railway Express
 - Locomotive purchase to replace aging fleet
 - Insurance Trust Fund payment, needed to restore fund to level required by state
 - Additional service on both Fredericksburg and Manassas Lines
 - Capital project matches for federal funding

Local Projects Likely to be Adversely Impacted:¹

- City of Alexandria
 - Eisenhower Avenue Widening
 - Intersection improvements at King Street and Beauregard Street
 - DASH Bus Replacement
- Arlington County:
 - Glebe Road Bridge over Arlington Boulevard Upgrade
 - Wilson Boulevard Reconstruction between N. Oakland and Randolph Streets
 - Lee Highway and Harrison Street Intersection Improvements
 - Ballston-MU Metrorail Station West Entrance
 - Pentagon City-Hayes Street Multimodal Improvements
 - Old Dominion Drive Multimodal Improvements

- City of Fairfax

¹ While VDOT has not yet indicated which specific projects will be impacted by the reductions in state formula allocations, this list represents the localities' best estimate of the projects likely to be affected, as well as those projects impacted by the loss of the 40% NVTA money.

- Route 50 Corridor Multimodal Improvements
- Fairfax County:
 - Telegraph Road Widening between Beulah Road and Hayfield Road (BRAC-related)
 - Rolling Road Widening between Delong and Fullerton Road (BRAC-related)
 - Pohick Road Widening between Richmond Highway and I-95
 - Lorton Road Realignment and Widening between Route 123 and Silverbrook Road
 - Franconia Road/South Van Dorn Street Interchange
 - Springfield and Engineering Proving Ground Park-and-Ride Lots
- City of Falls Church
 - Future City Center Street Improvements
 - Bus Shelters
 - Municipal Parking Garage
 - Broad Street Streetscape Improvements
 - Various Pedestrian and Bicycle System Improvements
- Town of Herndon
 - East Eldon Street Improvements
- Town of Leesburg
 - Sycolin Road Overpass
- Loudoun County
 - Route 50 Widening Project
 - Widening of the Route 15 Bypass
 - Atlantic and Pacific Boulevard Improvements
- City of Manassas
 - Traffic Signal Upgrades
 - Sudley Road Improvements
 - Liberia Avenue Improvements
- City of Manassas Park
 - Manassas Drive and Euclid Avenue Intersection Improvements
- Prince William County
 - University Boulevard construction from Sudley Manor Drive to Hornbaker Road
 - University Boulevard and Route 234 Bypass Intersection Improvements
 - Minnieville Road from Spriggs Road to Route 234
 - Dale Boulevard and Benita Fitzgerald Drive Intersection Improvements
 - Route 15 Park-and-Ride Lot (Haymarket)
 - Balls Ford Road from Rt. 234 to Rt. 234 Bypass
- Town of Purcellville
 - Main Street & Maple Avenue Intersection Improvements
 - The Southern Collector Road
- Potomac Rappahannock Transportation Commission
 - Considering ways to close a \$700,000 FY 2009 budget gap, due to lower state transit assistance levels.

The meeting minutes and Action Summary of today's meeting can be found at:
www.thenovaauthority.org

NVTA