



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

June 20, 2008

Contact: Kala Quintana
703/ 524-3322 ext. 104

kala@nvtdc.org

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
URGES GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ADOPT PLAN
TO ADDRESS VIRGINIA'S TRANSPORTATION FUNDING CRISIS BEFORE
JULY 1, 2008**

***Northern Virginia's residents and businesses will continue to suffer
until agreement is reached by legislators***

NORTHERN VIRGINIA – The future of Northern Virginia's transportation system is at a crossroads. For the second time in as many years the General Assembly is being called upon to address the growing transportation crisis in the Commonwealth.

All nine of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority jurisdictions and the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission are urging the General Assembly do whatever is necessary to ensure that adequate and sustainable funding sources for transportation are identified and implemented before FY 2009 (which begins July 1, 2008).

"Northern Virginians are desperate for the General Assembly to provide some relief from the congestion and gridlock they face on a daily basis. Fuel prices are skyrocketing with no end in sight. Businesses are in trouble and laying off employees. Virginians are hurting. Real transportation solutions that provide immediate and long-term relief have been identified and approved -- all we lack is the funding to implement them. It's time for Virginia's legislators to do whatever is necessary to provide relief," said Marty Nohe, Vice-chairman of the Authority and Prince William County Supervisor.

Desperately Needed New Projects and Services on Hold

Many new projects and services are on hold unless the General Assembly acts during the special session beginning June 23, 2008.

“The Authority has been acting in good faith and doing what we said we would do: deliver real solutions and make smart investments in transportation for Northern Virginia. We have a plan in place and a list of approved projects and services. All we lack now is the funding necessary to complete them. Now is the time for the General Assembly to take action and restore the funding that was promised to Northern Virginians to relieve our growing transportation crisis,” said Chris Zimmerman, Authority Chairman.

Some of the roadway improvements on hold include:

- Prince William County Parkway widening between Old Bridge and Minnieville;
- Route 15 Road widening (Evergreen Mill Rd to Leesburg);
- Route 7 Widening from Rolling Holly Drive to Reston Parkway & Route 7/Route 659 Interchange;
- Route 1 Widening (Prince William Co.) from Featherstone Road to Joplin Road;
- Route 28 Grade Separation Overpass (B-Line and Wellington Rd).

Transit improvement projects on hold include:

- Dedicated funding for Metro (\$50 million annually)
- Dedicated funding for VRE (\$25 million annually)
- I-66/Vienna Metrorail Accessibility & Capacity Improvements;
- Metro Station Access Improvements;
- Additional Fairfax Connector buses and service.

Doing nothing will cost Virginians dearly. It is time for the General Assembly to act.

##NVT##