

PRESS RELEASE

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EXTENSIVE PUBLIC OUTREACH THIS SPRING WILL GUIDE NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION PLAN

NVTA to Appear at High-Foot-Traffic Locations Across Northern Virginia

The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) is launching a widespread effort this spring to find out specifically what Northern Virginians want in their future transportation network. The NVTA project team will appear at a wide variety of public places, going where large numbers of the public congregate to make it easy for residents to voice their views on what would improve transportation in Northern Virginia.

"We're taking it to the streets and fanning out across Northern Virginia," said Martin E. Nohe, Chairman of the NVTA and a member of the Prince William Board of County Supervisors. "We want to make it as easy as possible for our residents to help shape their transportation future – and that of their children and grandchildren."

In lieu of traditional public meetings, the NVTA's spring workshops and "pop-up events" are designed to capture feedback from a broad range of residents where they live, work and play. This input will help guide the NVTA's development of TransAction, the 25-year transportation plan for Northern Virginia.

Between April and June, the project team will appear at more than a dozen locations, including Metrorail stations, festivals, community centers, parades, shopping hubs, senior centers and places of worship. Sites have been chosen that are geographically spread across Northern Virginia to gain representative input from all NVTA jurisdictions.

The outreach effort follows the release last fall of a scientific public opinion survey that revealed insights on what Northern Virginians think about their current transportation network and what they desire for the future. The poll found that Northern Virginians' top priority is reducing trip times, followed by making transportation services more affordable. Click here for more information about the survey results.

Additional tools to reach and engage the public in the plan's development include:

- A recently-debuted interactive <u>TransAction-dedicated website</u>;
- A <u>video</u> overviewing the transportation plan's goals and process;
- Periodic "e-blast" newsletters;
- Input gathered by online public engagement tools and polls; and
- Public Hearings.

In addition to public input, the transportation plan update will utilize the most current available data and employ best practices from across the U.S. and internationally. It will deliver a multi-modal vision for transportation improvements in Northern Virginia, serving as the mechanism through which more than \$1.7 billion will be allocated to regional transportation investments from 2018 to 2023.

Additionally, the update will model alternative futures to represent the ways in which rapidly evolving technologies will change the way people travel and shape Northern Virginia's future transportation network.

Those who are unable to attend the following in-person events are invited to visit the <u>website</u> and provide their input. The NVTA will carry out an additional wave of outreach in the fall of 2016.

NVTA In-Person Outreach — Spring 2016 Workshops		
Queen of Apostles School (En Español)	May 1 (Sun)	9 – 10 a.m.
Manassas Park Community Center	May 21 (Sat)	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Loudoun County Senior Center at Cascades	May 24 (Tues)	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
1776 in Crystal City (METRO ACCESSIBLE)	June 16 (Thurs)	7 – 9 p.m.
Providence District Office (METRO ACCESSIBLE)	Jun 21 (Tues)	7 – 9 p.m.
Pop Up Events		
Location	Date	Event Time
Springfest, Lorton	Apr 30 (Sat)	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
The Plaza at Tysons Corner Center (METRO ACCESSIBLE)	May 7 (Sat)	2 – 4 p.m.
Bike to Work Day, Market Square at Alexandria City Hall (METRO	May 20 (Fri)	6:30 – 8:30 a.m.
ACCESSIBLE)		
Purcellville Music and Arts Festival	May 21 (Sat)	2 – 4 p.m.
Rock the Block, City of Fairfax	May 27 (Fri)	6 – 8 p.m.
Falls Church Memorial Day Parade and Festival	May 30 (Mon)	10 a.m. − 2 p.m.
Manassas Heritage Railway Festival	Jun 4 (Sat)	10 a.m. − 3 p.m.
Ballston-MU Metrorail Station Plaza (METRO ACCESSIBLE)	Jun 7 (Tues)	5 – 7 p.m.
The Plaza at Wiehle-Reston Metrorail Station (METRO	Jun 8 (Wed)	5 – 7 p.m.
ACCESSIBLE)		
Celebrate Fairfax, Upper Main Street	June 11 (Sat)	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Please visit the TransAction website for event details.



The NVTA was created by the General Assembly on July 1, 2002, to offer a common voice for Northern Virginia on transportation issues confronting the region. The Authority is made up of nine jurisdictions including: the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William; as well as the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park. The Authority is responsible for updating Northern Virginia's long-range transportation plan, TransAction, and since 2014 manages approximately \$300 million annually in public funds for transportation projects designed to provide congestion relief throughout Northern Virginia. For more information visit thenovaauthority.org.