

PLANNING COORDINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

2600 Park Tower Drive, Suite 601

Vienna, VA 22180

This meeting was held in person and virtually via Zoom and livestreamed via YouTube.

MEETING SUMMARY

✓ **Call to Order/Welcome**

✓ The meeting was held in person and virtually via Zoom. Chair Colbert called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

✓ **Attendees:**

✓ **Planning Coordination Advisory Committee (PCAC) Members:** Mayor Linda Colbert (Town of Vienna); Board Member Julius Spain (Arlington County); Supervisor Styvia Glass (Loudoun County); Council Member Thomas Peterson (City of Fairfax); Council Member Justine Underhill (City of Falls Church); and Vice Mayor Clark Hedrick (Town of Herndon) attended the meeting in person. Supervisor James Bierman (Fairfax County), Council Member Selonia Miles (Town of Dumfries), and Mayor Christopher Bertaut (Town of Purcellville) attended the meeting virtually due to health reasons.

✓ **Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) Staff:** Michael Longhi (Chief Financial Officer); Sree Nampoothiri (Senior Manager, Transportation Planning & Programming); Starla Couso (Manager, Transportation Planning & Programming)

✓ **Others:** Sara Allred (Fairfax County) and Jaleh Moslehi (Town of Herndon).

✓ **Summary Notes of October 29, 2025, Meeting**

✓ A motion to approve the summary notes of the October 29, 2025, meeting was made by Board Member Spain and seconded by Council Member Underhill. The motion passed unanimously.

✓ **2026 Meeting Calendar**

✓ Dr. Nampoothiri presented the 2026 PCAC Meeting Calendar. He highlighted four proposed meetings that differ from the committee's typical meeting time and date on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

i. The proposed May 27, 2026, meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. instead of 6:30 p.m., so the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) can meet at 7:00 p.m. on the same night. This is to provide adequate time to summarize public comment on the Six Year Program (SYP).

ii. The proposed June 2026 meeting will be held on the third Wednesday (June 17, 2026) at 5:30 p.m., so the committee may take action on the SYP recommendations and provide the legally mandated time between final recommendations and Authority action anticipated at their July meeting.

- iii. The November and December meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. to accommodate holidays.
 - iv. Dr. Nampoothiri stated at the last Authority meeting on February 12, 2026, included the awarding of the TransAction and SYP update contract to ICF. The project kickoff is anticipated to occur at the beginning of March 2026. As part of this contract, NVTA is also advancing further work on the BRT Action Plan, including refining route adjustments, funding, and operations. The second half of the year, PCAC will receive updates on this update.
- ✓ A motion to approve the 2026 meeting schedule was made by Vice Mayor Hedrick and seconded by Supervisor Glass. The motion passed unanimously.
- ✓ **FY2026-2031 Six Year Program Update: The Process**
- ✓ Dr. Nampoothiri refreshed PCAC members on the process of the SYP. He described NVTA's primary responsibilities to plan and fund regional transportation projects and explained the SYP allocates out-year funding for two years.
 - ✓ To be eligible to receive SYP funding, projects must be listed within the long range plan, TransAction. TransAction is updated every five years.
 - ✓ Dr. Nampoothiri described how the project selection process aligns with NVTA's enabling legislation, goals, objectives, and Core Values. The project selection process includes four components:
 - i. **Eligibility** includes verification of the related TransAction ID numbers and project descriptions, confirmation of project location and receipt of governing body resolutions. All 27 applications received for this SYP cycle passed the eligibility screening.
 - ii. **Quantitative analyses** include consideration of Congestion Relief Relative to Cost (CRRC), TransAction Project Ratings (formerly HB 599 (2012)), and Long Term Benefit (LTB). The three quantitative measures are mentioned in NVTA's enabling legislation.
 - iii. **Qualitative considerations** include past performance, previous NVTA allocation, funding gaps, committed sources of external funding, alignment with Core Values, and geographic/modal balance. Results for each category are placed into general categories of low to high. For this SYP cycle, NVTA required applicants to submit statements about how projects relate to NVTA's Core Values: Safety, Equity, and Sustainability.
 - iv. **Public comment** is the fourth consideration in project selection.
 - ✓ The discussion on the project selection process is summarized below:
 - i. Chair Colbert asked for confirmation on how past performance is evaluated. Dr. Nampoothiri explained how past performance is evaluated in two ways: project level and jurisdiction level. At the project level, if a project is coming back to NVTA for additional money, NVTA staff already knows details about how the project is funded and how well it is progressing. At the jurisdiction level, NVTA staff considers how well jurisdictions are moving all their projects. NVTA staff presents this information to the Regional Jurisdiction and Agency Coordinating Committee (RJACC) and the Authority once a quarter.

- ii. Chair Colbert asked for clarification on the geographic and modal balance. Dr. Nampoothiri explained NVTA staff will review the project list to balance both the geographic distribution of projects as well as balance how different transportation modes are funded.
 - iii. Council Member Peterson asked where the documentation for how CRRC is calculated. Dr. Nampoothiri stated the technical documentation for CRRC calculation is included in the committee's packet. Dr. Nampoothiri stated NVTA is legislatively mandated to prioritize projects based on CRRC, which is calculated as cumulative person hours of delay divided by total project cost.
 - iv. Council Member Peterson highlighted a recent public comment at Transportation Planning Board (TPB) meeting. The commentor at TPB provided several studies showing the impact of bicycle paths on congestion. Dr. Nampoothiri acknowledged pedestrian and bicycle projects are difficult to evaluate with traditional travel demand models. He also explained that to evaluate such projects for congestion reduction, NVTA staff apply an industry-standard mode shift rate that removes auto-trips to evaluate these projects. Dr. Nampoothiri noted the CRRC is only one measure used to evaluate projects.
 - v. Council Member Peterson asked how the impacts of inflation are incorporated into the evaluation process. Dr. Nampoothiri noted that NVTA staff understand project timelines change and there are opportunities for member jurisdiction staff to make changes to their timelines. NVTA staff encourages jurisdiction staff to proactively discuss any project changes with NVTA staff.
 - vi. Council Member Underhill asked if the quantitative measures are revisited periodically and if those measures would come to the committee for review. Dr. Nampoothiri noted the opportunity to change performance measures is linked to the update of the long range plan, TransAction. Within the next six months, NVTA staff will bring the performance measures for consideration of the committees.
- ✓ Dr. Nampoothiri explained how **CRRC** is calculated. CRRC is calculated as cumulative person hours of delay divided by total project cost. Benefits are determined for model runs in two horizon years, 2030 and 2045, with both a no-build and a build network. Reduction values are extrapolated from the expected project completion year to the horizon year and summed for each year. The cumulative person-hours of delay (PHD) is divided by the total cost.
 - ✓ Dr. Nampoothiri explained how the **TransAction Project Rating** is calculated. The candidate projects are coded into the TransAction 2045 'No Build' network and the ratings are calculated for individual projects. For each performance measure, projects are evaluated relative to one another with the highest scoring project receiving the maximum score. All other scores are normalized relative to the highest scoring project and then multiplied by the weight to get the overall rating.
 - ✓ Dr. Nampoothiri explained how the **LTB** is calculated. The Code of Virginia requires, over the long term, the allocation of benefit to member jurisdictions must be

approximately equal to the share of the revenues attributed to each of the nine member jurisdictions. The principles for the LTB determination strategy were approved by the Authority in 2014 from the recommendations of a dedicated working group.

- ✓ Dr. Nampoothiri reviewed the qualitative considerations including past performance, previous NVTA allocation, funding gaps, committed sources of external funding, alignment with Core Values, and geographic/modal balance. Results for each category are placed into general ranks of positive or negative. Last SYP cycle, NVTA required applicants to submit statements on how projects align with NVTA's Core Values.
- ✓ Dr. Nampoothiri noted all the analytics results will be released in March 2026 in addition to the **Project Description Forms**, which have more information on each project. Dr. Nampoothiri reviewed the SYP schedule for the committee. NVTA staff anticipate hosting a Public Hearing in May 2026.
- ✓ Additional questions or comments on the SYP are summarized below:
 - i. Council Member Peterson asked if the SYP recommendations that will be shown to the committee are already prioritized. Dr. Nampoothiri explained the TransAction performance measures are prioritized by the weight associated with each measure. Council Member Peterson asked for further clarification on how the Core Values are evaluated. Dr. Nampoothiri explained multiple NVTA staff independently review each project for alignment with the Core Values.
- ✓ Mr. Longhi stated that the Finance Team is working to finalize the revenue estimates for this SYP cycle. In previous SYP cycles, there has been about \$700 million available for allocation. The Virginia General Assembly session is anticipated to end March 14, 2026. Until the session ends, the Finance Team will not be able to finalize the revenue estimates.
 - i. Council Member Peterson asked about the stability or shift of construction cost inflation. Mr. Longhi explained that member jurisdictions are not constrained by contingency amounts determined by NVTA. NVTA staff discuss this topic at RJACC meetings with staff from member jurisdictions. Additionally, NVTA staff encourage forward appropriations if member jurisdictions are ready to advance a project.
- ✓ **NVTA Update**
 - ✓ Mr. Longhi noted a budget amendment circulating in the Senate of Virginia. Senate Bill 30 (SB 30) proposes that the current sales and use tax (SUT) exemption for data center purchases of computer equipment, software, etc. end by January 1, 2027. Any revenue generated by sales of this equipment in Planning District 8 would have the NVTA .7% tax rate applied. This revenue is split between the 70% (Regional Revenue Fund) and the 30% Local Distribution Fund. While Regional Revenue is allocated through SYP for regional projects, Local Distribution Funds are distributed to member jurisdictions who can use them for public transportation purposes, including operations and maintenance. Many jurisdictions use their 30% funds to

support their own transit operations. SB 30 proposes to direct the revenue generated by the elimination of the SUT on data centers to the WMATA Capital Fund. This would include the portion of revenue that would go to NVTA. While NVTA supports dedicated funding for WMATA, SB 30 as written sets a precedent where changes to the tax system do not include NVTA's revenue share. Also, it is not clear how the taxes generated in Prince William County and Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park could be sent to WMATA since these jurisdictions are not members of the WMATA compact.

- i. Board Member Spain asked who is carrying SB 30. Mr. Longhi stated SB 30, as a budget Bill, is carried by a combination of sponsors.
- ✓ NVTA's Transportation Technology Roundtable is on Wednesday, March 25, 2026. Dr. Nampoothiri reviewed the program and encouraged PCAC members to register if they wish to attend.

✓ **Adjourn**

- ✓ The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.
- ✓ The next meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in person at NVTA's office.