

SUMMARY MINUTES

Thursday, February 13, 2025
7PM, EST.

2600 Park Tower Drive, Sixth Floor Authority Board Room
Vienna, VA 22180

This meeting was conducted in person and livestreamed via [NVTA's YouTube Channel](#)

1. Call to Order - Chair Randall
 - ✓ Chair Randall called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.
2. Roll Call - Ms. Henderson, Board Secretary
 - ✓ Membership Attendees: Chair Phyllis Randall, Vice Chair David Snyder (Remote - Medical), Chairman Jeff McKay, Chair Deshundra Jefferson (Remote - Medical), Mayor Alyia Gaskins (arrived at 7:36 p.m.), Board Member Matt de Ferranti, Mayor Catherine Read, Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger, Mayor Linda Colbert, Mr. D. J. Gribbin, Mr. Bill Cuttler, and Mr. Todd Horsley. Non-Attendees: Mayor Alanna Mensing, Senator Jennifer Boysko, Delegate Karrie Delaney, and Delegate Brianna Sewell.
 - ✓ Staff Attendees: Chief Executive Officer Monica Backmon; Chief Financial Officer Michael Longhi; Principal, Planning and Programming Keith Jasper, Communications and Public Affairs Manager Abigail Hillerich, Senior Manager Transportation Planning and Programming Dr. Sree Nampoothiri, Planning Analytics Manager Harun Rashid; Regional Transportation Planners Griffin Frank, Alyssa Beyers, Kristen Sarik, and Starla Couso; Project Delivery/Grants Manager Amanda Sink; Strategic Communications Specialist Sharara Faisal; Comptroller Lu Han, Senior Accountant Gary Armstrong, Accounting Assistant Margaret Duker, Executive Assistant to the CEO Quinn Haley, and Board Secretary Lee Ann Henderson.
 - ✓ Council of Counsel Attendees: Ms. Christina Brown-City of Alexandria and Mr. Daniel Robinson-Fairfax County.
 - ✓ Other Attendees: Tracy Baynard-McGuire Woods, LLC (Remote).

Members of the public, jurisdiction and agency staff were in person and were able to watch the meeting livestreamed via [NVTA's YouTube Channel](#).

Presentations

3. Draft Round 6 SMART SCALE Funding Recommendations – Mr. Lawson and Ms. Jackson, Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment
 - ✓ Mr. Lawson explained some of the history of the SMART SCALE funding program for the Authority. He noted that the formulas used to advise on which projects should be funded are statutory formulas. He stated there will be changes to the

- “consensus scenario” before the Board takes a final vote in June.
- ✓ Ms. Jackson stated that the SMART SCALE process is an objective decision-making tool that was developed to eliminate the political element from the decision making process related to transportation funding. She presented slides explaining how projects are ranked using six factor areas (safety, congestion mitigation, accessibility, land use, economic development, and environmental quality), going into detail on the methodology of the ranking process.
 - ✓ She reviewed the adjustments that were made to the process in 2023 that changed the evaluation factors and their weighting.
 - ✓ Chair Randall questioned whether Area Median Income (AMI) is taken into consideration when ranking projects. It was noted that AMI is not a factor; however, increased access to jobs for disadvantaged populations is taken into consideration.
 - ✓ Ms. Jackson stated that \$1.08 billion is available for Round 6.
 - ✓ She explained that projects in VTrans Priority Needs areas tend to rank higher.
 - ✓ Chairman McKay questioned Northern Virginia’s project rankings in comparison with Richmond and Hampton Roads. Mr. Gribbon stated that projects put forth by Northern Virginia localities are not scoring as well as projects from other areas of the state. Ms. Jackson noted that there is a strong correlation between projects in areas with great need and higher scoring.
 - ✓ She reviewed the timeline and next steps for the SMART SCALE program.
4. Economic Impact Analysis of NVTa’s Capital Investments – Dr. Sree Nampoothiri, Senior Manager, Planning and Programming
- ✓ Dr. Nampoothiri gave a presentation outlining the economic impact of NVTa’s investments in capital infrastructure.
 - ✓ The study conducted by Chmura Economics & Analytics, a nationally reputed firm, used well recognized, transparent, and repeatable modeling techniques and tools.
 - ✓ Total investment of \$4.9 billion (\$3.8 billion in Regional Revenues and \$1.1 billion in Local Distribution Funds) resulted in a \$6.8 billion impact in Northern Virginia and a \$7.5 billion in the entire Commonwealth. It also supported the creation of 37,000 jobs in Northern Virginia and 43,000 throughout the Commonwealth.
 - ✓ An analysis conducted by NVTa staff based on external consultant work for NVTa’s Regional Revenue funding programs showed congestion reduction expected by the projects by 2040 would result in a value of time impact of over \$8 billion.
 - ✓ The combined value of time and the economic impacts of the \$4.9 billion investment is \$15.5 billion, resulting in a return on investment of 300%.

Action Items

5. Approval of January 9, 2025, Summary Meeting Minutes - Chair Randall
- ✓ On a motion by Chair Randall, seconded by Chairman McKay, the Summary Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2025, were approved unanimously.
6. Adoption of Policy 30 – Mr. Longhi, Chief Financial Officer



- ✓ Mr. Longhi reviewed the history of the development of Policy 30. He noted that it has been discussed by the RJACC on multiple occasions. He stated that the TAC approved a motion to endorse approval of the policy and the PCAC, due to a lack of quorum, took a straw vote endorsing approval of the policy as presented.
 - ✓ On a motion by Chair Randall, seconded by Chairman McKay, Policy 30 was approved as presented unanimously by the Authority.
7. Approval of Letter of Endorsement for the Virginia Railway Express-Virginia Passenger Rail Authority Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program Grant Application – Ms. Backmon, Chief Executive Officer
 - ✓ On a motion by Chair Randall, seconded by Board Member de Ferranti, the endorsement letter was approved unanimously by the Authority.
 8. Approval of Letter of Endorsement for Prince William County’s Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Application – Ms. Backmon, Chief Executive Officer
 - ✓ On a motion by Chair Jefferson, seconded by Mayor Davis-Younger, the endorsement letter was approved unanimously by the Authority.
 9. Request to Transfer Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) Funds for Loudoun County – Ms. Backmon, Chief Executive Officer
 - ✓ On a motion by Chair Randall, seconded by Mr. Gribbin, the CMAQ transfer request was approved unanimously by the Authority.

Discussion/Information Items

10. 2025 General Assembly Update - Ms. Baynard, Sr. Vice President, McGuireWoods Consulting, LLC
 - ✓ Ms. Baynard updated the Authority on current General Assembly actions that may affect the Authority.
 - ✓ She noted that SB1007 was left off of the agenda for the House Transportation Committee and will most likely not advance out of committee.
11. Governance and Personnel Committee Report – Chair Randall
 - ✓ Chair Randall noted that the report is in the packet.
12. Planning Coordination Advisory Committee Report – Mayor Colbert
 - ✓ Mayor Colbert confirmed that this report is in the packet.
13. Technical Advisory Committee Report – Mr. Boice, Chair
 - ✓ Chair Randall noted that the report is in the packet.
14. CEO Report - Ms. Backmon, Chief Executive Officer



- ✓ Ms. Backmon introduced a new NVTa staff member, Starla Couso, noting that she will be working on planning and programming and will be leading the TransAction update.
- ✓ Ms. Backmon announced that the 10th Annual Transportation Roundtable will be held April 9, 2025, at the Virginia Tech Innovation Campus in Alexandria.
- ✓ She stated that NVTa was recognized as one of the best workplaces for commuters in Fairfax County.

15. Chair's Comments - Chair Randall

- ✓ Chair Randall appointed Mayor Colbert to the Planning and Programming Committee (PPC).
- ✓ Chair Randall asked for volunteers for the Finance Committee.
- ✓ Chair Randall questioned the next steps with respect to the Prince William County Board decision to cancel the Route 28 Bypass Project. Ms. Backmon stated that the locality will need to reimburse NVTa for the \$7.5 million that has been reimbursed to Prince William for their expenses on the project thus far. She stated that once NVTa receives a copy of the certified Board of County Supervisors resolution cancelling the project, staff will bring an action item to the Authority to cancel the project thus freeing up the money to go back into the Regional Revenue fund.
- ✓ A discussion of the importance of regionalism in producing transportation solutions was undertaken by Authority Members.
- ✓ Upon being asked, Chair Jefferson confirmed it is Prince William County's intent to reimburse the Authority for expended project funds.

16. Adjournment - Chair Randall

- ✓ There being no further business before the Authority, Chair Randall adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

