



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

PLANNING COORDINATION AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, September 23, 2020, 6:30pm

VIRTUAL MEETING ONLY

Meeting link will be sent to the members prior to the meeting
All others will be able to view proceedings live on [NVTA's YouTube Page](#)

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order/Welcome** Chair Colbert

Action

- II. Resolution finding need to conduct meeting electronically**
Recommended action: Adopt resolution
- III. Summary Notes of June 17, 2020 Meeting**
Recommended action: Approve meeting notes

Discussion/Information

- IV. TransAction Update** Mr. Jasper,
Principal Transportation Planning/Programming
- V. NVTA Update** Ms. Backmon, Executive Director

Adjournment

- VI. Adjourn**

Next Meeting: October 28, 2020.
Location: TBD

NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
PLANNING COORDINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION FINDING NEED TO CONDUCT
SEPTEMBER 23, 2020 MEETING ELECTRONICALLY

September 23, 2020

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Governor of Virginia declared a state of emergency in Virginia in response to the spread of novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, a communicable disease of public health threat as so declared by the State Health Commissioner on February 7, 2020 (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, in subsequent Executive Orders, particularly Executive Order Nos. 53 and 55, as amended, the Governor of Virginia, among other measures designed to ensure safe physical distancing between individuals, prohibited public and private in person gatherings of 10 or more individuals and ordered all individuals in Virginia to remain at their place of residence, with limited exceptions, to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 and prevent its spread; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (Authority) – Planning Coordination Advisory Committee (Committee) finds that it has a responsibility to demonstrate to the public, through the Authority’s conduct, the importance of maintaining proper physical distance from others and to avoid gathering in public where the risks of infection are highest, and to take measures that promote physical distancing in order to protect the public health and mitigate the impacts and spread of COVID-19, including, among others, conducting meetings electronically whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2020, the Virginia General Assembly adopted, and the Governor signed, budget bill amendments to HB 29 that expressly authorize “any public body, including any state, local, [or] regional body” to “meet by electronic communication means without a quorum of the public body . . . physically assembled at one location when the Governor has declared a state of emergency . . . , provided that (i) the nature of the declared emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe for the public body . . . to assemble in a single location; (ii) the purpose of the meeting is to discuss or transact the business statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the public body . . . and the discharge of its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities” among other provisions; and

WHEREAS, member jurisdictions of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority have adopted continuity of government ordinances pursuant to Va. Code Ann. § 15.2-1413 which ordinances, among other provisions, contemplate regional bodies of which the locality is a member meeting electronically to transact business to assure the continuity of government; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Planning Coordination Advisory Committee hereby finds that meeting by electronic means is authorized because the nature of the declared emergency makes it both impracticable and unsafe for the Committee to assemble in a single location on September 23, 2020, to discuss and transact the business of the Authority listed on the September 23, 2020 Committee Meeting Agenda; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee hereby finds that meeting by electronic means is authorized because the items on the September 23, 2020 Committee Meeting Agenda are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the Authority and the discharge of the Authority's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the items on the September 23, 2020 Committee Meeting Agenda are encompassed within the continuity of operations ordinances adopted by member localities of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority to assure the continued operation of the government during the disaster posed by the public health emergency resulting from COVID-19.

Adopted the 23rd day of September, 2020.



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

PLANNING COORDINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE Wednesday, June 17, 2020, 6:00 pm **(Electronic meeting only)** Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

SUMMARY NOTES

I. Call to Order/Welcome Chair Colbert

- Chair Colbert read a series of instructions in regards to protocol in conducting the online meeting, before calling the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.
- Attendees:
 - **PCAC Members:** Chair Linda Colbert (Town of Vienna); Supervisor Koran Saines (Loudoun County); Board Chair Libby Garvey (Arlington County); Supervisor Margaret Angela Franklin (Prince William County); Council Member Michelle Davis-Younger (City of Manassas); Council Member Preston Banks (City of Manassas Park); Council Member Phil Duncan (City of Falls Church); Council Member Selonia Miles (Town of Dumfries); Vice-Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker (City of Alexandria); Supervisor Walter Alcorn (Fairfax County); Council member Suzanne Fox (Town of Leesburg).
 - **NVTA Staff:** Monica Backmon (Executive Director); Keith Jasper (Principal, Transportation Planning and Programming); Harun Rashid (Transportation Planner), Mackenzie Jarvis (Transportation Planner).

Action

II. Resolution to Conduct June 17, 2020 Meeting Electronically

- Chair Colbert read a summary excerpt of the resolution on the need for this PCAC meeting to be held electronically, and its permissibility under the recent passage of the amendments to the HB 29 – the FOIA Bill.
The resolution was unanimously adopted.

III. Summary Notes of May 27, 2020 Meeting

- The May 27, 2020, meeting summary was approved, with abstentions from members who did not attend the May 27 meeting.

IV. FY2020-25 Six Year Program Recommendations

Mr. Jasper

- Mr. Jasper presented on the overall project selection process for funding recommendations. He started with a contextual overview of NVTA's programming cycles as of date, and highlighted the competitive nature of this funding program, with total funds requested versus funds approved.
- The project selection process consists of four key components:
 - **Eligibility review.** A project needs to be in NVTA's long range transportation plan TransAction; with a resolution from the sponsor jurisdiction/agency's governing bodies; and physically located in Northern Virginia.
 - **Quantitative analysis:** Consists of 3 factors – Congestion Reduction Relative to Costs (CRRC); TransAction project ratings; and Long-Term Benefits. NVTA staff uses a transportation simulation model to derive these metrics. Among these 3 factors, Mr. Jasper identified the CRRC analysis to be most important, which is consistent with NVTA's primary funding legislation HB 2313 (2013).
 - **Qualitative analysis:** In this process, staff looks at a number of factors- Continuation project (Yes or No?); Past performance (assessed at the jurisdiction/agency and project levels, where appropriate); Extent of committed external funding; Funding gap; Project readiness; Supporting resolutions from other Governing Bodies; and Modal and geographic balance.
 - **Public Comment** (testimony, emails, and petitions received during the official public comment period).
- All eligible candidate projects are first sorted with their CRRC ranks. Other quantitative and qualitative factors are then tallied for each project. A graphic snapshot of this list was presented. Public comments are not a part of this project list, which were discussed with 2 graphs depicting most comments were submitted for 4 projects.
- Considering all these factors, 19 out of 41 projects were recommended for funding. With a multimodal perspective, given the list of candidate projects, the selection was guided by - Continued emphasis on road/rail/transit in the Route 1/VRE Fredericksburg Line corridor; Continued emphasis on Fairfax County Parkway corridor; Continued emphasis on BRT solutions; Synergies in Crystal City and western Falls Church; Increased focus on grid network solutions; and Increased focus on active transportation solutions.
- With this presentation, Mr. Jasper stated that committee members may either choose to recommend this list as presented to Authority for adoption, or suggest alternatives. He also invited questions and discussions for the same. Chair Colbert asked how the evaluation process considered geographic balance of funding allocations. Mr. Jasper explained that the set of candidate projects are looked at regionally first to ensure that recommended projects are not concentrated in one part of the region. Also, the analytical process to determine Long Term Benefits for each member jurisdiction ensures that transportation benefits from funding allocations are approximately equal to revenues contributed.
- Council member Suzanne Fox, Town of Leesburg, discussed the current funding situation of the candidate project in the Town of Leesburg (LEE-008: Interchange Improvements at Route 15 Leesburg Bypass and Edwards Ferry Road), and requested the committee to consider a partial funding of \$5 million for the application. Mr. Jasper explained the following reasons to not recommend this project application for funding – the project was ranked low in both CRRC and TransAction rating analyses;

a substantial amount of funding were allocated previously to other projects in Leesburg, which are charged against Loudoun County for Long Term Benefit analysis, where the County is over performing; previous NVTA funding for this project has not been utilized yet; and this particular request for partial funding for design phase does not align with the original project application.

- Board Chair Garvey, Arlington County, appreciated the staff recommendation to fund the NOV-002 application (Arlington W&OD Trail Enhancement), and explained how this funding for design phase will enable the project sponsor to move the project more efficiently. She also requested that NVTA staff explains the Long-Term Benefit analysis in details to the committee members to better understand the process of geographic balance at a future meeting.
- Council member and PCAC Vice-Chair Miles, Town of Dumfries, appreciated the comprehensive evaluation process and the staff presentation. She presented the motion to recommend staff recommendation to Authority for adoption. This motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Bennett-Parker (City of Alexandria). The motion was approved with 11 to 1 vote (1 no vote - Council Member Suzanne Fox, Town of Leesburg).

Discussion/Information

V. NVTA Update

Ms. Backmon

- NVTA Executive Director Ms. Backmon expressed her gratitude to all committee members for their participation and support for this funding program, and mentioned the next round of funding applications in July 2021.

VI. Adjourn

- Chair Colbert mentioned the next meeting to be on July 23, and with that the meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.