



Speaker and Panelist Bios

Donald Beyer

Congressman Beyer, a first-term term U.S. Representative from Virginia's 8th District, represents Arlington, Alexandria, Falls Church and parts of Fairfax County. He serves on the House Committee on Natural Resources and is a member of the New Democrat Coalition. He was the lieutenant governor of Virginia from 1990 to 1998 and Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein under President Obama. Rep. Beyer's signature work as lieutenant governor included advocacy for Virginians with disabilities and ensuring protections for Virginia's most vulnerable populations. Rep. Beyer was Virginia's Democratic nominee for governor in 1997. After leaving office, Rep. Beyer spent 14 years as chair of Jobs for Virginia Graduates, a highly successful high school dropout prevention program, and was active for a decade on the board of the D.C. Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. As chair of the Virginia Economic Recovery Commission, he helped pass permanent pro-business reforms and was co-founder of the Northern Virginia Technology Council.

Sharon Bulova

Chairman Bulova has served 27 years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. She was elected chairman in 2009. Mrs. Bulova is a founder of the Virginia Railway Express and has served on the VRE Operations Board since its inception in 1989. She was appointed by former Governor Mark Warner to chair the Governor's Commission on Rail Enhancement for the 21st Century in the Commonwealth of Virginia, which has resulted in effective partnerships for investments in rail to fund projects (both freight and passenger) that have a significant public benefit. Mrs. Bulova was appointed by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOC) to chair the Greater Washington 2050 Initiative, culminating in the Region Forward Compact among COG's 21 participating jurisdictions. Region Forward promotes better regional planning and smart growth strategies. She is a member of the MWCOC's Air Quality Committee and Development Planning Committee, Northern Virginia Regional Commission and Northern Virginia Transportation Authority. She has been a NVTC Commissioner since 1988.

Mark G. Carrier

Mr. Carrier is the senior officer of the B. F. Saul Company Hospitality Group. The B. F. Saul Company is a privately held diversified real estate and banking concern based in the Washington DC area. The Hospitality Group owns and operates a portfolio of 19 business class hotels, which are affiliated with Intercontinental Hotels Group, Marriott and Hilton and The Hay-Adams. The Hospitality Group generates \$140 million in revenue and employs 1,350 team members in the operation and management effort. Carrier's leadership responsibilities for the B. F. Saul Company include strategic direction, overall operational leadership, acquisition and development of properties, long term financial and capital planning along with the development and implementation of corporate policies, procedures and management systems. He represents the company in relation to lenders, franchisors, clients, governmental agencies and industry associations. Serving on Fairfax County's Economic Advisory Council he provides representation of hospitality interests to that body. He also serves as a member of the Dulles Corridor Rail Association Board of Directors and is the chairman of the Tyson's Partnership.

Terry L. Clower

Dr. Clower is Northern Virginia chair and professor of public policy at the School of Policy, Government and International Affairs at George Mason University. He also is deputy director for GMU's Center for Regional Analysis. The center provides economic, housing, and public policy research services to sponsors in the private, non-profit and public sectors. Prior to joining GMU, Dr. Clower was director for the Center for Economic Development and Research at the University of North Texas. He also has substantial private industry experience in logistics and transportation management positions. Dr. Clower has authored or co-authored over 120 articles, book chapters, and research reports reflecting experience in economic and community development, economic and fiscal impact analysis, transportation, land use planning, housing, and economic forecasting. Dr. Clower has been a principal investigator or co-principal investigator on more than \$2.8 million in funded research, including \$1.8 million since 2009.

Barbara Comstock

Congresswoman Comstock was elected in 2014 to represent Virginia's 10th Congressional District. She currently serves on the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee; Science, Space & Technology Committee, where she is chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Research and Technology; and the House Administration Committee. Rep. Comstock served in the Virginia House of Delegates from 2010 to 2015 and is a 30+ year resident of McLean. She began her career in public service first as a senior aide in the 1990s to Virginia Congressman Frank R. Wolf, who represented Virginia's 10th Congressional District. Rep. Comstock eventually was recruited to serve on the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee, where she became chief counsel and led hearings and oversight of investigations into waste, fraud and abuse. She was a NVTC Commissioner from 2010-2013.

Gerald E. Connolly

Congressman Connolly is in his fourth term in the U.S. House of Representatives serving Virginia's 11th District. He serves on the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. Prior to his 2008 election to Congress, Connolly served 14 years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, including five years as chairman. Rep. Connolly is a results-oriented legislator who gets things done for his Northern Virginia district. He is a former member and chairman of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, Northern Virginia Regional Commission, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, and Virginia Association of Counties. Rep. Connolly's efforts to promote transit in Fairfax and throughout the region have been recognized with the Virginia Transit Association's Outstanding Contribution by a Public Official Award and the American Public Transportation Association's Local Distinguished Service Award.

Kelley Coyner

Appointed in 2013, Ms. Coyner is executive director of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission. She is a lecturer and researcher at leading universities in the fields of transportation and infrastructure investment and a member of the Eno Foundation Board of Advisors. Ms. Coyner has a long history in the transportation field including service as the Administrator of Research and Special Programs at the U.S. Department of

Transportation. Prior to NVTC, Coyner worked to ensure transportation in the National Capital Region was safe and secure during any kind of emergency and was an expert advisor to the National Academy of Sciences on transportation and national security issues. A native Texan, Ms. Coyner earned a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service from Georgetown University and a law degree from University of Virginia. She clerked for the Hon. George P. Kazen, Federal District Judge, Southern District of Texas.

Catherine M. Hudgins

Ms. Hudgins was elected to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, representing the Hunter Mill District, in 1999. Currently, she chairs the Human Services and the Housing and Community Development Committees. Supervisor Hudgins is a smart growth advocate and works to obtain mix use development that integrates the environment, transportation and housing with the goal of creating sustainable communities. She has been honored for her leadership and work in transportation, mental health and affordable housing, including recognition as the 2011 Public Official of the Year by Virginia Transit Association. Supervisor Hudgins serves on many regional and state boards and currently is second vice chairman of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. She joined NVTC in January 2004 and served as chairman in 2010.

Tim Kaine

Senator Kaine has helped people throughout his life as a missionary, civil rights lawyer, teacher and elected official. He is one of 20 people in American history to have served as a mayor, governor and United States Senator. Sen. Kaine was elected to the Senate in 2012 as a can-do optimist skilled in bringing people together across old lines of party, race or region. In the Senate, he serves on the Armed Services, Budget, Foreign Relations and Aging Committees and is Ranking Member of the Armed Services Readiness Subcommittee. Sen. Kaine was first elected to office in 1994, serving as a city councilmember and then mayor of Richmond. He became lieutenant governor of Virginia in 2002 and was inaugurated as Virginia's 70th governor in 2006. During his tenure as governor, Virginia attained national recognition as the best state for business in America, the best managed state in America, and the state where a child is most likely to have a successful life.

Shyam Kannan

Mr. Kannan brings extensive planning and transit-oriented development experience in the public and private sectors to WMATA (Metro). At WMATA, he directs the authority's strategic planning efforts, called Momentum, as well as supervises long-range planning, sustainability, and smart growth. He has a particular interest in the economic benefits of transit as well as coordinating closely with the business community in the region. Active in the region's planning community, Mr. Kannan is a committee member of the Urban Land Institute and the Region Forward Coalition of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, and an adjunct faculty member of Georgetown University. Mr. Kannan has a master's degree in public policy and urban planning from Harvard University and is a graduate of the University of Virginia.

Aubrey L. Layne, Jr.

On November 22, 2013, Governor-Elect Terry McAuliffe appointed Aubrey Layne as Secretary of Transportation for the Commonwealth of Virginia. He was sworn into office on January 12, 2014. As Secretary, Layne oversees seven agencies with over 10,000 employees and combined budgets of more than \$5 billion. Prior to his appointment, he represented the Hampton Roads area on the Commonwealth Transportation Board from 2006 until January 2014. Sec. Layne most recently served as president of An Achievable Dream Academy in Newport News, Virginia, a unique partnership between public schools and the local business community providing at-risk students with opportunities to succeed. Prior to joining An Achievable Dream, Sec. Layne was president and principal broker of Great Atlantic Properties. He joined the company in 1994 and was responsible for operational activities, new business acquisition, and capital improvement strategy. Before joining Great Atlantic, he held various positions at Hofheimer's Inc., ending his tenure there as president. Sec. Layne began his career as a certified public accountant with KPMG.

Victor Mendez

Mr. Mendez has served as the 20th U.S. Deputy Secretary of Transportation since July 30, 2014. As Deputy Secretary, Mr. Mendez is the Department of Transportation's chief operating officer, responsible for day-to-day operations of the 10 modal administrations and the work of more than 55,000 USDOT employees nationwide and overseas. Sec. Mendez is focused on ensuring the safety and efficiency of America's

transportation system, which plays a key role in economic development. Before becoming Deputy Secretary, Mr. Mendez was the administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, where he oversaw the agency's 2,900 employees in Washington and field offices across the country. While at FHWA, he parlayed his lifelong interest in innovation and technology into launching the Every Day Counts initiative, which gives states a range of tools and technologies to streamline construction projects and make them more cost effective. Before joining DOT, Sec. Mendez served as director of the Arizona Department of Transportation. He has more than 20 years of state DOT experience.

Maggie Parker

With over 25 years of experience in sales, marketing and communications, Ms. Parker manages all external communications for Comstock Partners, LC, a multi-faceted real estate development firm. Her focus is government, community and public relations. Prior to joining Comstock, Ms. Parker spent 20 years as a key consultant to several mixed-use projects. As a partner of the Reston Town Center management team, she was instrumental in creating the significant "sense of place." She orchestrated key relationships with community stakeholders, not-for-profits, tenants and merchants to maximize the media exposure and general outreach of the project. An active volunteer and fundraiser, Ms. Parker has raised millions of dollars for various charities in the Washington, D.C. region. She currently sits on the boards of the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, the Dulles Corridor Rail Association and the Greater Reston Arts Center.

Robert Puentes

A senior fellow with the Brookings Institution's Metropolitan Policy Program, Mr. Puentes directs the program's Metropolitan Infrastructure Initiative. The Initiative addresses the pressing transportation and infrastructure challenges facing cities and suburbs in the U.S. and abroad. Mr. Puentes' work focuses on policies and issues related to metropolitan growth and development, including transportation and infrastructure, urban planning, growth management, suburban issues and smart cities. He previously was director of infrastructure programs at the Intelligent Transportation Society of America. He holds a master's degree from the University of Virginia, where he served on the Alumni Advisory Board and is an affiliated professor with Georgetown University's Public Policy

Institute. He serves on the District of Columbia's Streetcar Financing and Governance Task Force; Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's Technical Advisory Committee; Tysons Corner Tomorrow Advisory Task Force; and the Falls Church Planning Commission.

Buddy Rizer

Mr. Rizer is director for economic development in Loudoun County, one of the nation's fastest-growing and wealthiest counties. He manages the team responsible for encouraging growth and developing relationships with the county's business community. His personal focus is on the technology arena including Loudoun's thriving Data Center cluster. Mr. Rizer, a speaker at national Data Center events, is co-chair of the Northern Virginia Technology Council's Data Center and Cloud Infrastructure Committee. Mr. Rizer works with a stable of companies that includes Digital Realty Trust, DuPont Fabros, Equinix, Amazon, AOL, Orbital Sciences Corporation, Neustar and the Washington Redskins. He also works to market the benefits of Loudoun County and its business offerings nationally and has extensive international business development experience in Germany, Russia, Taiwan, Japan, Finland and the U.K. He is a certified economic developer (CEcD).

Brian Smith

Mr. Smith is assistant to the president and CEO for organizational advancement at Hampton Roads Transit. He joined HRT in 2008, serving in several roles, including interim chief of staff and chief communications officer during the launch of Virginia's first light rail system, The Tide. Mr. Smith is responsible for strategic planning, public policy and legislative initiatives. He currently is completing his Ph.D. in organizational leadership with research interests including collaborative regional leadership. Mr. Smith is a 14th-generation native of Hampton Roads and a U.S. Army veteran, having served as a stinger missile team chief with the First Infantry Division. In addition to a seminary degree, Mr. Smith holds a master's degree in public policy and an advanced certificate in public administration from Old Dominion University with an emphasis on budgeting and finance.

David F. Snyder

Mr. Snyder was first elected to the Falls Church City Council in 1994 and became a NVTC commissioner in that year. He has served as NVTC's chairman in 2000, 2007 and, again, in 2015. He was selected to serve as vice mayor for the City of Falls Church in 1996 and mayor in 1998 and vice mayor again in 2010. He is vice president, international policy for a property and casualty insurance trade association. Mr. Snyder is a member of the Emergency Preparedness Council, the Council of Governments Transportation Planning Board and the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority. He helped coordinate the transportation and evacuation component of the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan approved by MWCOG on September 11, 2002. Mr. Snyder also received the Council of Governments Scull Award for regional leadership in 2010.

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Alexandria Chamber of Commerce
American Public Transportation Association
Arlington Chamber of Commerce
Committee for Dulles
Dulles Area Transportation Association
Dulles Corridor Rail Association
Eno Transportation Foundation
Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce
Falls Church Chamber of Commerce
George Mason University
Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce
Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce
Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce
Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce
Mobility Lab
Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce
Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance
Southeastern Institute of Research
The Meridian Group
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