



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

April 3, 2013

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KELLEY COYNER TO LEAD THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (NVTC)

Arlington, VA— The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) unanimously appointed Kelley Coyner as its new executive director effective April 3, 2013. She will succeed Rick Taube who is stepping down from the post after 29 years of service.

Board members praised Coyner's long record of building regional partnerships, her expertise in transportation and her management and leadership achievements. Ms. Coyner, most recently served as Chief of Staff to the National Capital Region's Senior Policy Group on homeland security and emergency management.

"NVTC is thrilled to have found an executive director who has demonstrated strong leadership skills by bringing together diverse stakeholders in order to find creative and efficient solutions to transportation and emergency preparedness challenges in this region," said **Jeff McKay**, NVTC Chairman. "Coyner has been a quiet and effective leader bringing together Maryland, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth and the local governments of the National Capital Region on homeland security and emergency preparedness issues. She has brought together hundreds of stakeholders to develop a strategic plan that has become the guiding force for the investment of federal homeland security in transportation, emergency response, and terrorism prevention. Clearly, Ms. Coyner understands how to join all levels of government together to get the job done."

Ms. Coyner said she will concentrate on coordinating with government, business, philanthropic and civic communities in order to achieve regional transportation goals including transit and ridesharing which work in concert to grow Northern Virginia's economy and to provide access for all to the economic opportunities in the region.

Ms. Coyner brings to NVTC a dedication to regional collaboration and supports NVTC's mission of improving transportation in Northern Virginia," said **Paul Smedberg** NVTC's Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the VRE Operations Board.

Dave Snyder, NVTC Secretary and Vice-Mayor of the city of Falls Church, agreed with his colleagues. "Through her work with the National Capital Region, Ms. Coyner has helped to ensure that we have the transportation tools in place for regional emergencies and to ensure that Northern Virginia is prepared for emergencies of all kinds."

Delegate Tom Rust said, "Ms. Coyner comes to us at an important time for Northern Virginia and NVTC. The General Assembly recently passed an historic transportation funding bill which will result in millions more in transit funding for the region. NVTC has a long history of leading the way when it comes to advancing transit service in Northern Virginia and I am confident that Ms. Coyner's expertise in policy and metrics will be an asset to the region."

Sharon Bulova, Chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and long-time member of NVTC's Executive Committee which lead the search for the new executive director stated, "Ms. Coyner is well respected by transportation leaders and local governments across the region. I believe those relationships will serve her well at NVTC."

Fairfax County Supervisor and Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Board Member **Cathy Hudgins** seconded Chairman Bulova's comments praising Ms. Coyner's expertise in working across a broad range of groups. "She also brings experience that recognizes the need for balance across all transportation modes," Hudgins said.

William Euille, Mayor of the city of Alexandria, noted "Ms. Coyner has a clear understanding of how transportation impacts people and businesses. I am confident that she will work hard to ensure that the region's industries and job centers benefit from improved mobility."

Vice-Chairman of the Arlington County Board **Jay Fiset** agreed that Ms. Coyner's "long-term commitment to practical solutions which address environmental challenges will benefit NVTC by helping the region reach its goals of reducing traffic congestion and a protecting the environment."

James Dyke added, "Ms. Coyner's expertise in transportation funding and fiscal management will be vital in achieving NVTC's primary mission of ensuring adequate, long-term, sustainable funding and oversight for transit systems such as VRE and WMATA."

Mary Hynes, Arlington County Board Member and Metro Board Member added, "the region will benefit from Ms. Coyner's expertise in technological innovation as NVTC promotes open data and optimizes the use of performance information."

Additional Background

Kelley Coyner is a nationally recognized transportation practitioner. She serves as an expert on a variety of transportation and performance evaluation research panels of the National Academy of Sciences. She is a lecturer and researcher at leading universities in the fields of transportation and infrastructure with a particular emphasis on security and mobility in transit, rail, and highways. She has a long history in the transportation field including service as the Administrator of the Research and Special Programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

About NVTC

NVTC funds and promotes public transit in a district including the counties of Arlington, Fairfax and Loudoun and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church. It is led by a board of directors consisting of 20 local and state elected officials and a representative of the Virginia Secretary of Transportation. More details about NVTC are available at the commission's website: www.thinkoutsidethecar.org.

NVTC is *the* leading source of information about public transportation issues in Northern Virginia. NVTC is a regional agency with the mission of managing traffic congestion, restoring clean air, boosting the economy and improving the quality of life for all of Northern Virginia's citizens through effective public transit and ridesharing networks. NVTC includes the counties of Arlington, Fairfax and Loudoun and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church covering over 1,000 square miles with a population of 1.7 million. The agency manages over \$170 million of state and federal grant funds each year for public transit and serves as a forum for its board of 20 state and local elected officials to resolve issues involving public transit and ridesharing. **For more information please visit www.thinkoutsidethecar.org or call 703-524-3322.**

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