State Board Endorses NVTC's $12 Million Slate of Projects to Improve Commutes in the I-66 Corridor

Transit and Roadway Enhancements Will Benefit I-66 Toll Payers

Arlington, VA - The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) voted Wednesday to allow the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission to fund 15 projects using $12 million in toll revenues in order to benefit commuters in the I-66 corridor. "We appreciate the CTB's support of these projects, which will move another 2,000 people through the corridor during rush hour and save 120,000 hours of travel delay each year," said NVTC Executive Director Kate Mattice. "The projects being funded through I-66 Commuter Choice include both the traditional, such as the expansion of successful bus routes, and nontraditional, including the use of technology to get people into vanpools or to park-and-ride lots," she said.

About 60 percent of the funds, or $7.2 million, will support new or enhanced bus service; 22 percent, or $2.6 million, will improve access to park-and-ride lots, bus stops, and Metrorail and Virginia Railway Express stations; 7 percent, or $0.8 million, will improve incident response in the I-66 corridor; and 6 percent, or $0.7 million, will support transit incentives, carpools and vanpools.
The projects cover a large portion of Northern Virginia. Grant recipients include Arlington, Fairfax and Loudoun counties; the cities of Fairfax, Falls Church, and Manassas; and the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission/OmniRide in Prince William County. The grants also support NVTC’s project oversight and program administration and will allow for targeted outreach to promote transit and other transportation options to help those who commute through the I-66 corridor.

NVTC previously funded 10 projects, totaling $9.8 million, in the I-66 corridor, including popular bus service between Gainesville and the Pentagon; Fairfax County Government Center and downtown Washington, D.C.; and Loudoun County’s Stone Ridge II park-and-ride lot and the District. A newly released report shows that commuter and express bus routes in the Interstate 66 corridor experienced a 12 percent increase in ridership due to tolling and the new service funded by NVTC’s I-66 Commuter Choice program between February 2017 and February 2018.

I-66 Commuter Choice, a 40-year partnership between the Commonwealth and NVTC, is designed to move more people, enhance transportation connectivity, improve transit service, reduce roadway congestion, and increase travel options for commuters in the corridor.