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CONTACT:

Matt Friedman, NVTC
571-457-9516

NVTC REMEMBERS FOUNDING COMMISSIONER JOSEPH ALEXANDER

Arlington, Va. - Members of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission honored one of their own at tonight's Commission meeting. Joseph Alexander, a founding member of NVTC, died Sunday at age 90.

Mr. Alexander served on NVTC from its inception in 1964 until 1995, serving as chair for a three-year period from 1970 through 1972. He served as the Lee District Supervisor on the Fairfax County Board for 32 years and he represented Fairfax County on NVTC for 31 of those years. He also represented NVTC on the WMATA Board of Directors for over 20 years, from 1971 – 1995, serving as chair four times. He was also a founding member of the VRE Operations Board and served from 1988 -1995. VRE named one of its locomotives after him, honoring him for his service to VRE.

"Joe was just a remarkable individual, a transformative character, really, in Fairfax County. I never met anyone in my life who loved transit more than Joe did," said Commissioner and Fairfax County Chair Jeff McKay, adding that Alexander was, "Someone who was so proud of Northern Virginia and all that we've been able to do for transit."

Throughout his long tenure on NVTC, Mr. Alexander was instrumental in helping establish the 90-mile Metro system and the Franconia/Springfield Transportation Center, the VRE commuter rail project, and many other transit related projects. Even after he retired from political service in 1995, he continued to be active in the Virginia Transit Association and the American Public Transportation Association. Joe Alexander truly was passionate about transit. As a life-long friend and supporter of NVTC, we would see him at many of our events, including last year's December Legislative Briefing.

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NVTC remembers founding Commissioner Joseph Alexander

An illustration of Joseph Alexander from a 1971 NVTC publication

NVTC works to ensure that businesses and residents are served by a high capacity, high quality network of transit systems that allows the region to thrive. It funds and promotes transit in the counties of Arlington, Fairfax and Loudoun and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church. NVTC supports five local bus systems (ART, CUE, DASH, Fairfax Connector, Loudoun County Transit), WMATA (Metrorail/Metrobus) and the Virginia Railway Express. Visit NoVaTransit.org or call 703-524-3322 to learn more.

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Our mailing address is:
Northern Virginia Transportation Commission
2300 Wilson Boulevard
Suite 230
Arlington, VA 22201

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