

 Throughout 2015, NVTC built on its long record of excellence in financial management and creation of regional transit systems by establishing key programmatic areas and leading innovation in transit finance and funding. NVTC had another year of exemplary financial management and exponentially expanded our public engagement. We have three new programs: regional bus, multimodal investment, and transit means business.

This special Executive Director's Report provides a brief guide to our programs and cross-cutting functions, the first monthly update on the Transform 66 Multimodal Program and status reports on other key work.

I am excited by the opportunities NVTC has to transform transportation in Northern Virginia for the 500,000 daily transit riders and one million plus commuters in the region, from Spotsylvania to Loudoun. Multimodal solutions make the ride better for everyone and are more cost effective.

[Kelley Coyner](#)  
Executive Director

View the  
**2016 Commission  
Annual Agenda**

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## Financial/Grants Management

Strong financial management is a core function of NVTC. NVTC manages state assistance for local transit systems and WMATA. NVTC administers a 2.1 percent regional gas tax, dedicated for WMATA operating and capital requirements. NVTC is the grantee and recipient of Virginia's financial assistance to VRE. As a designated recipient of FTA funds, NVTC acts on behalf of its jurisdictions, ensuring compliance with federal requirements. NVTC manages proprietary, governmental and fiduciary funds.

### 2015 Highlights

- A clean audit
- \$200 million in state transit assistance
- \$37.9 million in regional gas tax funds
- Multiyear audit contract for VRE, NVTC and PRTC
- Grant applicant for HB2 capital/operating assistance, and construction funds
- A new budget process

## Transform 66 Multimodal Project: January Update

After a special public comment session on December 9, the [Commonwealth Transportation Board \(CTB\) unanimously approved a Memorandum of Agreement \(MOA\) establishing a partnership with the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission on the Transform 66 Multimodal Program](#). At the December 8 CTB hearing, the Commonwealth reported that HB599 and cost-effectiveness assessments of two proposals for I-66 showed that the multimodal project, inclusive of widening, is three times more effective in addressing congestion and six times more cost-effective than widening without other multimodal investments.

In a related action, the CTB approved funding for the **Initial Multimodal Program**. Project selection is slated for spring 2016. NVTC and VDOT have worked jointly with the jurisdictions of Planning District 8 to identify projects that can be in place by toll-day one in the summer of 2017.

The Memorandum of Agreement between NVTC and the CTB sets out the respective roles and responsibilities, triggers for widening and the categories of eligible activities, and determines the minimum percentages of excess toll revenues to be available for multimodal projects (20%) and the widening project (40%). With respect to the Multimodal Components, NVTC will be responsible for a project selection and prioritization process, managing excess toll revenues, and evaluating the effectiveness of the multimodal project components. The CTB will approve the selected project components, provided that the components meet the requirements of the MOA and applicable federal and state law. The Commonwealth is further responsible for implementing widening on the eastbound lanes of I-66 between Exit 67 and Exit 71 at such time as agreed-upon triggers are met on either I-66 or on the adjacent roadways.

NVTC's next steps in implementing the Transform 66 Multimodal Project include public outreach and approval of the selection and prioritization process by the Commission. At the January Commission meeting, NVTC staff will present a public outreach plan, including the launch of a new informational web page, slated for the end of January, and opportunities for public comment on component selection. This plan will build on the public comment and stakeholder outreach NVTC has supported since March 2015.

Milestones in the coming month include:

- Work sessions on evaluation criteria and the selection process
- Briefings for entities eligible to apply for funding of multimodal components
- Report to the Transportation Planning Board on the final Memorandum of Agreement
- [Public hearings on the design of the tolling facility to be held on January 25, 26 and 27](#)



### **Transform 66 Resources**

[Draft Agreement between NVTC and CTB](#)

[NVTC Resolution supporting Agreement \(December 3, 2015\)](#)

[CTB Resolution supporting Agreement with NVTC \(December 9, 2015\)](#)

[Commonwealth's Presentation to the CTB on Transform66 \(December 8, 2015\)](#)

# NVTC Programs and Projects

## Virginia Railway Express

NVTC co-owns VRE, Virginia's only commuter rail system. The Fredericksburg and Manassas lines together provide 20,000+ daily trips, saving the equivalent of a rush-hour lane mile on I-66 and I-95. NVTC and PRTC provide governance and oversight of VRE directly and through their appointments to and support of the VRE Operations Board. The Commissions manage local, state and federal funding and regional planning activities.



### 2015 Highlights

Managed state assistance, ridership verification and Operations Board staffing

Expanded technical support on regional funding and planning activities, including HB2 grant application, I-66 EIS, DC2RVA EIS, Gainesville-Haymarket EIS and funding strategy, and federal grants

[Opened a new station in Spotsylvania](#) and [added a train on the Fredericksburg Line](#)

Financial Plan

Long Bridge Study

## METRO

NVTC was founded to establish WMATA's Metrorail system. Today, NVTC promotes safe, reliable and cost-effective service. NVTC manages assistance from the Commonwealth and appoints the Virginia Members of the WMATA Board of Directors. NVTC supports member jurisdictions with capital-funding planning, budget analysis, and system performance and safety.



Expanded staffing of Loudoun, Falls Church and City of Fairfax on Metro matters

Supported capital-funding planning, budget analysis, system performance, and safety concerns

[Expanded reporting](#) on funding, financial management, safety, and planning

Provided technical support of Metrorail eight-car trains, WMATA budget, CIP and CFA

Held [regional public forums](#) on safety, reliability, and financial sustainability

## Funding

NVTC's mission, to provide high-quality, high-capacity transit to Northern Virginia, requires sustained federal and state funding. NVTC ensures such funding by performing financial analyses of transit projects, documenting project needs, and developing new sources of funding. NVTC helps local transit agencies identify options for funding transit projects.

Provided technical assistance on FTA funding programs

Analyzed impact of HB1886

Updated gap analysis in light of bond gap in 2018

Convened roundtable on the opportunities for public-private partnerships in transit

Analyzed impact of reduced motor fuels tax on regional gas tax receipts

## Next Generation Fare System

NVTC leads a regional multiyear, multi-million dollar technical-assistance program to procure and implement an open-source New Electronic Payment Program.

Assessed needs and analyzed options for procurement

Requested that WMATA serve as Regional Partners' agent

Assessed Accenture pilot and pricing proposals

Requested and assessed interim solution

Convened Northern Virginia Regional Partners, including Loudoun County Transit, OmniLink and OmniRide, Fairfax Connector, ART, DASH, CUE and VRE

## Emergency Planning

NVTC's regional emergency preparedness program ensures that local transit systems are able to move thousands of riders from the 25 stations in Virginia in the event of an emergency on the Metrorail system.

## Bus Agenda

NVTC brings the region together to ensure that Virginians are served by a strong, coordinated network of bus systems. [The Regional Bus Agenda articulates cross-cutting strategies](#) in the areas of quality, accessibility, efficiency, safety, and financial management.

## Transit Means Business

The Transit Means Business program includes research, a partnership with regional business organizations, and a program of regional and local forums.



## Envision Route 7

NVTC manages Envision Route 7 to identify financially sustainable new transit for 14.5 miles along U.S. Route 7 from Alexandria to Tysons.



## Multimodal Planning

Transform 66, MWCOG/TPB planning studies, DC2RVA High Speed Rail, Gainesville Haymarket, HB2, and VTRANS, and TransAction are among many multimodal planning activities in which NVTC engages. 2016 will mark the beginning of the I-66 Multimodal Program and new I-395 TDM and Transit Study.

## 2015 Highlights

Formed a working group including NVTC's member jurisdictions, regional and local transit providers, emergency management at WMATA, and each jurisdiction's emergency managers and fire and law enforcement leadership

Prioritized the development or update of plans at 25 stations  
Piloted planning for above- and below-ground stations

In addition to cross-cutting strategies, work began on:

Performance metrics to establish a baseline that will show bus service gaps and opportunities for the region

Regional GIS analysis that will be available as a tool for localities, regional partners, and policymakers

A regional bus investment strategy

Hosted a major conference and 10 follow-on activities

Produced/sponsored a dozen policy and economic research products and research focused on both developing the business case for transit and securing dedicated, sustainable transit funding

Supported formation of a Transit Means Business Partnership

Kicked off Phase II of the Route 7 study, managing the consultant and advisory committee and providing technical review of work products

Conducted outreach to engage and inform a wide range of stakeholders and [launched a website](#) with comment options

Held three public meetings

Completed ridership and cost analyses, showing that new transit would serve 9,000 new riders

[Approval of the MOA on Transform 66 Inside the Beltway](#)

Designated as partner on I-395 TDM and Transit Study

TSDAC representation

Peer review of HB599's application to transit

Provided comments on the HB2 project prioritization process.

Provided technical guidance for Vtrans2040 and TransAction, as well as technical input to further their goals

## Public Engagement

NVTC's commitment to public engagement resulted in...

50 Outreach Events on Route 7, I-66, Transit and Economic Competitiveness, Metro and Transportation Funding and Finance

Transit Means Business Forum with two dozen research and business partners

Joint NVTC/PRTC Legislative Briefing

George Mason Policy Series: P3s and Transit

2 Regional Forums on WMATA

Transit Issue Briefs

Transit and Legislative Maps

2 New Websites

[www.NoVaTransit.org](http://www.NoVaTransit.org)

[www.EnvisionRoute7.org](http://www.EnvisionRoute7.org)

## Research & Analysis

NVTC is building a transit research network and manages the NVTC Transit Fellows Program. In 2015, NVTC's research included:

[Transit and Access to Jobs in NoVa](#)

[Contribution of Transit Services to the NoVa Economy](#)

[Transit Means Business Case Profiles](#)

[National Transit Data System Reporting](#)

Mode Share on I-66 Inside the Beltway

[Transit Access to Jobs, Transit Routes, and Activity Centers Maps](#)

[P3 and Transit Reference Guide](#)

Application of HB 599/TRANSIMS Model to Transit Projects

[Transit by the Numbers for each State Highway District](#)

## Federal Transit News

In year-end action, Congress increased transit funding and reinstated important commuter benefit. NVTC worked closely with the Congressional Delegation on these issues. Take a look at the details:

[Congress approves permanent commuter benefit](#)

[Five-Year Reauthorization increases Transit funding](#)

[Congress fully funds PRIIA at \\$150 million](#)

[\\$500 million for USDOT TIGER program in FY 2016](#)

## Mark Your Calendar

Jan. 7	<a href="#">NVTC Meeting</a>
Jan. 13	NVTC BRT Forum
Jan. 25	<a href="#">VTA Day in Richmond</a>
Jan. 25-27	<a href="#">I-66 Toll Design Hearings</a>
Jan. 27	<a href="#">VML Day at the Capitol</a>
Feb. 11	NVTC/PRTC Meeting in Richmond

Calendar, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter, 2016

**BRT Best Practices Roundtable**

NVTC will host a roundtable discussion at NVTC's offices on the afternoon of **January 13th** to share best practices for implementing and operating bus rapid transit systems. Join national experts in the field of bus rapid transit planning, design, engineering and funding to discuss BRT opportunities and challenges.

**Joint PRTC/NVTC Meeting**

# Save the Date

**Joint NVTC/PRTC Commission Meeting on  
Thursday, February 11 in Richmond**

Meeting will coincide with  
[VACO's County Government Day at the General Assembly](#)

**VTA Legislative Briefing**

# Register Now for...

**The Virginia Transit Association's  
Public Transportation Legislative Briefing**



[January 25<sup>th</sup> in Richmond](#)

