



On a Sunday morning in mid-April, Arlington and Alexandria cut the ribbon on the first regional BRT system in the metropolitan area. This could serve as the initial component of a regional BRT and express bus network operating on dedicated and HOT lanes. The Crystal City-Potomac Yard Transitway Project is one of many exciting transit and TDM developments in Northern Virginia that promise more travel choices for riders in the region. Here are a few more....

**Transform 66** | 19 applications for new and enhanced transit service and strategies to make carpooling easy show promise for commuters from Loudoun and Prince William to Arlington, and all points between.

**Envision Route 7** | Interest is growing in what BRT can offer on Route 7 and how it could both link with Metrorail's Orange and Silver lines and become part of a network of dedicated bus and HOT lanes, providing reliable travel to and from work each day for thousands.

**Silver Line** | A recent Loudoun TOD workshop highlighted the value that Silver Line Phase II has brought to the Dulles area.

From advances on transit development plans, I-395, VRE's Gainesville-Haymarket Extension study, Braddock Road HOV, next steps on Route 1 BRT and more, there's plenty to celebrate.



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[NVTC's Calendar of Monthly Agenda Items](#)

## Transform 66 Multimodal Project

### Share Your Thoughts

- [visit our website \(novatransit.org/i66multimodal\)](http://novatransit.org/i66multimodal)
- email [i66multimodal@nvtdc.org](mailto:i66multimodal@nvtdc.org)
- mail to 2300 Wilson Blvd., Suite 620, Arlington, VA 22201
- call 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321)

### Come to Our Public Hearings

- May 5:** 6-7 p.m., [2300 Wilson Blvd.](#), Main Floor, Arlington, VA 22201  
**May 18:** 4:30-6 p.m., Reston Station, [1904 Reston Metro Plaza](#), Reston, VA 20190



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Arlington, VA 22201  
703-524-3322  
[info@nvtdc.org](mailto:info@nvtdc.org)  
[www.novatransit.org](http://www.novatransit.org)

## Transform 66 May Updates

On April 25, NVTC released [the technical evaluations of the 19 applications](#) submitted for funding under the [FY2017 Call for Components](#). NVTC staff evaluated the applications using the [criteria that the Commission approved](#) at its March meeting to determine how well each meets the Multimodal Project Improvement Goals. Over the course of the last month, NVTC staff and the Multimodal Working Group reviewed the scoring and applications. The Multimodal Working Group includes representatives from Prince William County, PRTC, all NVTC jurisdictions, VRE, WMATA and NVTA.

### Improvement Goals

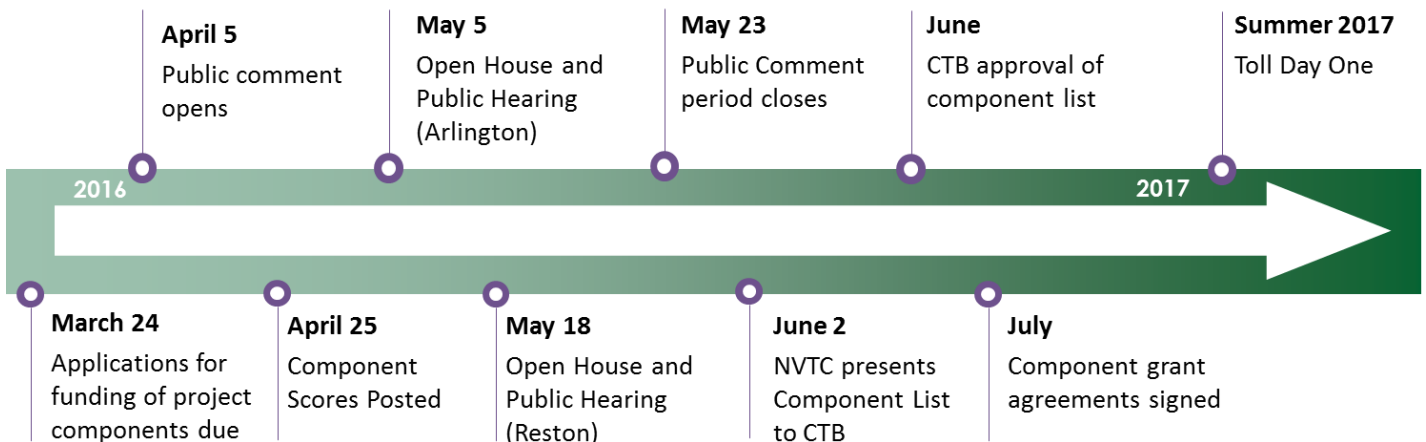
- ✓ Move more people
- ✓ Enhance transportation connectivity
- ✓ Improve transit service
- ✓ Reduce roadway congestion
- ✓ Increase travel options

In reviewing the component scoring, note that the measures align with the MOA's five improvement goals. The measures focus on increasing the number of people who can travel through the corridor, connectivity across modes, travel time reliability and access to jobs. In scoring potential benefit, the greatest weight is given to congestion relief as measured by person throughput.

Transform 66 Multimodal Project Evaluation Criteria and Weights			
Evaluation Category	Evaluation Criteria	Criteria Objective	Max Points
Congestion Relief	Person Throughput	To move more people through the corridor efficiently.	45
	Peak Period Travel Time	To provide consistent travel during congested periods for users of the corridor and improves operational efficiency of the transportation network	15
	Connectivity	To create, complete, or link transportation network elements and/or modes.	15
	Accessibility	To provide people access to opportunities.	15
Diversion Mitigation		To mitigate the impacts of trips diverted from I-66 inside the Beltway as a result of tolling and/or high occupancy vehicle restrictions	10
Total Benefit Score			100
Cost Effectiveness Score			$\frac{\text{Total Benefit Score} \times 1,000,000}{\text{Funding Request}}$
Cost Sharing			Percent of Costs Requested

### Transform I-66 Resources

- [FY2017 Component Scores](#)
- [List of FY2017 Submitted Applications](#)
- [Transform 66 Evaluation/Prioritization Process](#)
- [Transform 66 Memorandum of Agreement](#)
- [Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Fact Sheet](#)
- [2013 DRPT Transit/TDM Study for the I-66 Corridor](#)
- [VDOT I-66 Multimodal Study – Inside the Beltway](#)



## State Update

### General Assembly News

On April 20, at the “veto session,” the General Assembly adopted the Governor’s [HB1069](#) recommendations regarding tolling. The same day, the [Joint Transportation Accountability Committee \(JTAC\)](#), chaired by Delegate Tim Hugo, met to discuss [HB461](#), Use of Handheld Personal Communications Devices While Driving. JTAC plans to meet again in May or June in Northern Virginia.

### TSDAC Reconvenes on May 5

The [Transit Service Delivery Advisory Committee \(TSDAC\)](#) will meet on May 5 in Richmond to review the performance based operating assistance formula and capital tiering required by [SB1140](#). Since TSDAC’s inception, NVTC provided significant technical expertise in the development of the system and sought changes in the way ridership was originally calculated for Metrorail and in the inequitable impact of the change in calculating local match to state capital. Kelley Coyner will participate in TSDAC as a Committee member representing NVTC through the Virginia Transit Association.

### Commonwealth Transportation Board

The CTB approved [HB2 Recommended Scenario and Modifications](#), repurposing \$43 million from the Northstar Boulevard project to fully fund Route 7 Phase II widening. It also approved a \$47.3 million design-build contract for Richmond’s BRT project.

DOT Commissioner Charles Kilpatrick briefed the CTB on [the Atlantic Gateway project](#) in advance of the Commonwealth’s submissions to the federal [FASTLANE](#) and [TIGER](#) grant programs. The Commission [endorsed both applications in April](#).

CEO Doug Allen [reviewed VRE’s service, System Plan 2040, and financial plan](#) as part of a General Assembly directed assessment VRE’s finances, ability to expand market share, and impact on traffic volumes in the I-66 and I-95/I-395 corridors. A report is expected by November 15, 2016.

## Federal Update

### FTA News

FTA Senior Advisor [Carolyn Flowers](#) has been named the agency’s Acting Administrator.

On April 18, [FTA detailed findings of its recent safety blitz](#), giving WMATA 10 calendar days to submit a plan to inspect and fix safety equipment in the tunnels and conduct safety briefings for track workers.

FTA is working with WMATA to [investigate the April 24 smoke incident on the Red Line](#).

### USDOT Funding

**BUS GRANTS** | FTA published a [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for buses and bus facilities of approximately \$211 million. \$55 million for low- and no-emission vehicles is also available. Apply by May 13 at [grants.gov](#).

**TOD PLANNING GRANTS** | FTA announced [\\$20.5 million in TOD Planning Grants for BRT, light rail, commuter rail](#). The grants support planning for projects seeking New Starts, Small Starts, and Core Capacity funds. Apply by June 13 at [grants.gov](#).

### Other FTA News

[Richmond Wins FTA TOD Tech Support Grant](#)

[FTA Announces \\$22.5 Million in Grants for Clean Buses & Infrastructure](#)

[FTA’s Flowers Testifies on WMATA Safety Oversight](#)

### FY 2017 Federal Appropriations

On April 21, [the Senate Appropriations Committee approved the FY2017 transportation and housing funding bill](#), providing a total of \$56.5 billion for transportation and housing programs, including \$525 million for the TIGER program and full PRIIA funding for WMATA (\$150 million).

The House Appropriations Committee has not yet released notice of its transportation-related funding bill markup.

## NVTC Programs & Projects

### Emergency Preparedness

**Station Plans** | NVTC continues to develop station-specific plans, critical to ensuring that local transit systems are able to evacuate riders from Virginia's 25 stations during an emergency on the Metrorail system. The Transit Emergency Preparedness Group has reviewed 12 plans to date. It will begin work on several Fairfax County stations in May.

NVTC's Fellows are mapping bus and pedestrian routes for each Virginia station. This visual tool will facilitate evacuations, particularly in the event that the number of passengers leaving the station exceeds available bus capacity.

**Exercises/Training** | WMATA and Fairfax County will conduct a full-scale emergency response drill in June. One in a series of live exercises, the drill allows regional first responders to facilitate emergency response training and familiarization. Participation in these exercises is essential to the successful integration of new NVTC transit emergency preparedness plans.

### Regional Bus

Since August 2015, NVTC staff has worked with jurisdictions to define performance measures that would help evaluate how bus is performing across different geographies, socio-economic factors and service types in corridors and in the region. With input from the MAC, NVTC staff is building a GIS database and compiling data. Using preliminary data, NVTC staff has mapped current and [proposed BRT systems](#) in the region and identified current and [proposed HOV and HOT lanes](#) that highlight opportunities for future commuter bus services. In the fall quarter, the Commission will be briefed on the initial analysis.

### Next Generation Fare Payment

On April 14, WMATA's General Manager announced that the agency is not proceeding with a large-scale fare technology change. NVTC has been investigating alternative near-term fare box solutions for its jurisdictions for several months.

While assessment of these solutions advance, transit providers will maintain their SmarTrip fare collection capabilities. NVTC remains committed to working with WMATA and our regional partners to maintain an operational system that meets everyone's needs.

### Multimodal Planning / I-395 Efforts

NVTC participated in the kick off of [DRPT's I-395 Transit and TDM Study](#). This nine-month effort will develop a tiered comprehensive alternative plan that identifies transit and TDM investments to support the conversion of existing I-395 HOV lanes as well as the expansion of the I-95 Express Lanes.

In April, VDOT held two public meetings on the [I-395 Express Lanes Northern Extension](#) project in Arlington and Alexandria.

#### Key I-395 Milestones

Sept 2016	Environmental Public Hearing
Nov 2016	Regional Long Range Plan Decision
Dec 2016	Transit/TDM Study Released
	Final NEPA Decision
	Design Build Contract Awarded
Jan 2017	Final Agreement
Spring 2017	Begin Construction
Summer 2019	Project Completion

### Envision Route 7

NVTC will hold three open houses/public meetings to share the [preferred mode \(BRT\) and alignment \(Spring Hill Metrorail Station in Tysons to Mark Center in Alexandria\)](#) with and garner feedback from the public. All events are from 7-9 p.m.

Monday, June 6

[The Pavilion at the Apartments at Mark Center](#)  
5708 Merton Court, Alexandria, VA 22311

Wednesday, June 8

[Glen Forest Elementary School](#)  
5829 Glen Forest Drive, Falls Church, VA 22041

Thursday, June 9

[Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School](#)  
7130 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22043

## NVTA/FY2017 Program

This summer, NVTA will adopt its [FY2017 Program](#). The Planning and Programming Committee met in April to review the draft HB599 scores for the [24 transportation candidate projects](#). NVTA Members will review the scores. The Authority will seek public comment on both the HB599 and NVTA quantitative scores in May.

### Key FY2017 NVTA Program Milestones:

**April 2016:** HB 599 and NVTA evaluations completed

**May 2016:** Authority approval to post candidate project list for public comment

**June 2016:** Public Hearing and associated Town Hall meetings

**July 2016:** Authority adopts FY2017 Program

## NVTA/TransAction

NVTA is launching a widespread effort this spring to find out what Northern Virginians want in their future transportation network. The [NVTA project team will appear at a wide variety of public places](#).

### TransAction Spring Workshops:

**May 1:** [Queen of Apostles School](#) (In Spanish)

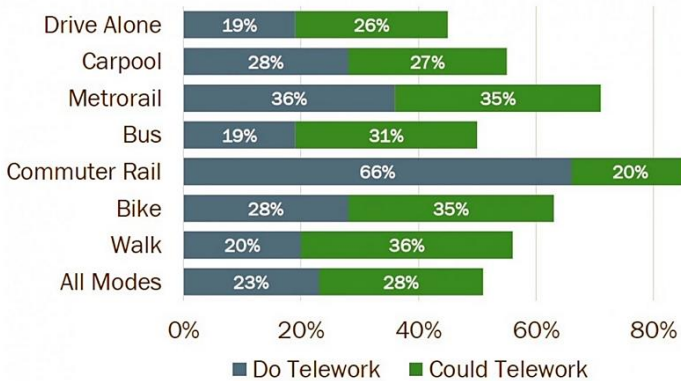
**May 21:** [Manassas Park Community Center](#)

**May 24:** [Loudoun County Senior Center at Cascades](#)

**June 16:** [1776 in Crystal City](#) (Metro Accessible)

**June 21:** [Providence District Office](#) (Metro Accessible)

## TPB/Regional Travel Trends



- 86 percent of commuter rail workers could or do telework.
- 71 percent of Metrorail riders are potential or actual telecommuters.
- Workers who could telework increased from 11 to 27 percent from 2001-2013.

## I-66 Widening Hearings in May

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) will [host public information meetings for the proposed eastbound widening as part of the Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project](#).

### Monday, May 9, 2016 (6:30-8:30 p.m.)

Washington-Lee High School  
[1301 N. Stafford Street](#)  
 Arlington, VA 22201

### Wednesday, May 11, 2016 (6:30-8:30 p.m.)

Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School  
[7130 Leesburg Pike](#)  
 Falls Church, VA 22043



## Meet the Management



Join VRE managers at their annual station visits on Wednesdays in May and June to meet passengers and learn more about the commuter rail's service. Contact [Rhonda@nvtdc.org](mailto:Rhonda@nvtdc.org) for more information.

May 1	L'Enfant	PM Service
May 18	Crystal City	PM Service
May 25	Alexandria	PM Service
June 1	Franconia-Springfield	PM Service
June 8	Spotsylvania	AM Service

## Register for VTA Annual Conference May 24-25



Along with policy and operations roundtables and a chance to meet with DRPT and FTA experts, highlights include:

Phil Washington, CEO of Los Angeles County Metro, keynote speaker.

NVTC Commissioner David Snyder, VTA's incoming president and moderator of Transportation Innovations & Technology—A Brave New World.

NVTC Executive Director Kelley Coyner and leaders from Richmond and Hampton Roads, hosts of the Transit Means Business roundtable.

[Click here to register](#)

## Metroway Extends to Pentagon City

[Metroway – Metro's premium bus service – now runs between Pentagon City and Braddock Road Metrorail stations.](#)

The newest portion of the dedicated transitway, which opened April 17, stretches from S. Glebe Road to 26th Street. During the peak period, transit lanes move customers quickly between 26th Street and the Crystal City Metrorail station.



*NVTC Chairman Jay Fissette, third from left, helps cut the ribbon for the Crystal City-Potomac Yard Transitway Project*

## Key Dates

- May 2 [CTB FY2017 SYIP Hearing \(VDOT NOVA District Office\)](#)
- May 5 [NVTC Transform 66 Multimodal Open House & Public Hearing](#)
- May 5 [NVTC Monthly Meeting](#)
- May 9 [Embark Richmond Highway Project Community Meeting](#)
- May 9, 11 [VDOT Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Widening Public Meetings](#)
- May 18 [NVTC Transform 66 Multimodal Public Hearing](#)
- May 23-25 [VDOT Transform 66 Outside the Beltway HOV-2 to HOV-3 Conversion Public Meeting](#)
- May 24-25 [VTA Annual Conference](#)
- May 27 [Hampton Roads Transit Means Business Conference](#)
- June 2 [NVTC Monthly Meeting](#)
- June 6, 8, 9 [Envision Route 7 Public Meetings](#)