

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT



Northern Virginia Transportation Commission

OCTOBER 2014

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50 YEARS OF TRANSIT INNOVATION



OCT. 27TH PLANNING SESSION

Commission Planning Session
October 27th, 12:30 p.m.
Fairfax County Government Center

Commissioners will:

- Evaluate NVTC's progress since Dec. 2013
- Finalize Strategic Framework: Mission, Goals & Objectives
- Identify Next Steps for Developing FY 2016 Budget & 2015 Implementation Plan

NVTC MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

50th Anniversary Remarks

COMMENT SOUGHT: DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) GOAL

NVTC recently requested public comment on a revised DBE goal of 7.0% participation for Federal Fiscal Years 2015, 2016 and 2017, on U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)-assisted contracts. DOT regulations require recipients of Federal funds to set a DBE goal using a methodology based on demonstrable data of relevant market conditions and is designed to reach a goal the recipient would expect DBE's to achieve in the absence of discrimination (refer to: US DOT, 49 CFR Part 26.) NVTC also submitted the preliminary goal and goal methodology to FTA for review. Following the conclusion of the public comment period and pending any reconsideration or possible modification of the goal and/or goal methodology, the Commission will be asked to approve the final FFY 2015- 2017 goal.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY AGENDA

Legislative and Policy Committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. on October 2nd to consider amendments to [NVTC's State and Federal Legislative and Policy Agenda](#) and to provide direction on capital funding and planning issues.

BACKGROUND: IMPACT OF CAPITAL FUNDING OVERHAUL

THE CASE FOR TRANSIT INVESTMENT

Date set: NVTC Forum: Role of Transit in Regional & Virginia Economy

December 12, 2014, NVTC will host a forum with business leaders and members of the General Assembly to discuss the role of transit in the Virginia and regional economy. Stay tuned for details on the program and special guests.

Research Project

Several new NVTC research reports will be available for the forum which will include statistical, graphic, and historical analyses of:

- Jobs in proximity to NOVA transit facilities
- Job growth as it correlates to transit investment and service
- Profiles of Virginia businesses & value of transit access
- Trend economic activity, land use and demographic changes in relation to NOVA transit
- Resources for policy makers, businesses, and transportation agencies

VML Panel: Funding Virginia's Transit Future

Oct. 7th, Kelley Coyner will participate in VML's technical workshop on *Funding Virginia's Transit Future*.

Panel Description: What happens when the demand for transit meets the reality of declining federal and state dollars? Learn how localities can make a business case for putting more money in developing bus and rail systems.

Presiding - Dr. Patricia Woodbury, Council Member, Newport News

Speakers - Jennifer Mitchell, Director, Virginia Department of Rail & Transportation; Kelly Coyner, Director, Northern Virginia Transportation Commission; Brian Smith, Chief Communications Officer, Hampton Roads Transit; Shannon Valentine, Member, Commonwealth Transportation Board.

The audience will be primarily elected council members and mayors from around the state. Will you join us?

PLANNING: REGIONAL AND STATE INITIATIVES



Phase II

NVTC kicked off Phase II of the Transit Alternatives Analysis Study of the Route 7 Corridor by convening the Technical Advisory Committee on July 25th. NVTC and

the TAC are working with the consultants to finalize the revised scope of work, schedule, budget, and outreach plan for Phase II.

I-66 Corridor Improvements Project

In July, the Commonwealth kicked off an I-66 Corridor Improvements Project whose purpose is to identify multimodal improvements for the 25-mile corridor from the Beltway to Haymarket. VDOT's goal is to begin construction as soon as 2017. VDOT and DRPT are scheduled to complete their report on the I-66 Corridor Improvements on this initiative in November. NVTC staff is participating in the project in the study as a member of the stakeholder steering committee and in Transit/TDM Advisory Group (TTAG). To date the TTAG has focused on Express Lanes access points and future rapid bus service assumptions for the travel forecasting

model.

VDOT is scheduled to brief NVTC on at our October 2 so that the Commission can provide timely input in the project's development. One issue of key significance to the region is how the transit component is coordinated outside the footprint of the project, e.g. what is the appropriate terminus or connection on the eastern edge of the project, East Falls Church or Ballston? What investments are needed to realize the benefits of the rapid bus transit portion of the I-66 project?

Route 1 Multimodal Alternatives Analysis

The Route 1 Multimodal Alternatives Analysis study is nearing its completion. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met in September to evaluate alternatives under consideration and discuss key considerations for implementation. A meeting of the Executive Steering Committee is scheduled for October 2nd, and public meetings will be held on October 8th and 9th.

The study will conclude in November with a recommended "Locally Preferred Alternative" including a program of multimodal transportation improvements for the corridor.

COMMONWEALTH PLANNING ACTIVITIES: VTRANS & HB 2

VTRANS 2040: New Virginia Long Range Plan

The Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPO) recently kicked off VTrans2040, Virginia's next statewide long-range multimodal transportation plan. On Monday September 8th a statewide forum was held simultaneously at 5 locations across Virginia. The purpose of the forum was to gather ideas on the plan's vision, goals and objectives and share information about the major trends that could affect transportation in the coming years. OIPI is developing VTrans2040 in two phases. The statewide forum supported the first phase, which will result in the VTrans2040 Vision (expected to be released in early 2015). The Vision will establish a policy framework with a vision, goals, objectives and guiding principles to form the foundation for a needs analysis and specific recommendations in the second phase, the VTrans2040 Multimodal Transportation Plan. The full plan is expected to be completed in early 2016.



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HB2: Metrics for Assessing Transit Project

On September 2nd, Deputy Secretary Nick Donahue briefed NVTA on next steps in developing a statewide prioritization process for projects funded by the CTB with construction monies, starting in the FY17-22 Six-Year Improvement Program. The new prioritization framework will cover roadway, transit, rail, technology operational improvements, and transportation demand management strategies if funded by highway construction monies. Mr. Donahue reported that he is beginning the process of developing appropriate metrics relating to congestion mitigation, economic development, accessibility, safety, and environmental quality. He also noted that each VDOT district will determine how these factors are weighed; Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia must give greater weight to congestion mitigation than the other factors. NVTC is working with NVTA and with the Office of the Secretary on identifying best practices for metrics in all categories. NVTC is particularly focused on identifying metrics that are appropriate for assessing transit projects with respect to all five factors.

NEPP PROJECT UPDATE

On September 3rd, the Northern Virginia regional partners held a meeting with Accenture and WMATA to discuss the details of the NEPP pilot and to begin to address questions and concerns regarding the regional adoption and roll-out of the new payment system. In preparation for the meeting, NVTC's technical consultants developed and shared a Conceptual Requirements document that was intended to provide initial detail and guidance to Accenture regarding the needs and plans of Northern Virginia entities for NEPP. The NEPP Northern Virginia working group met on Monday September 22nd. The focus of this meeting was to discuss topics of regional significance, the tentative timeline of NEPP roll-out and regional implementation and how to address funding needs.

METRO BOARD MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

On August 15th Governor McAuliffe issued a [press release](#) announcing his appointment of Jim Corcoran, President and CEO of the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, to NVTC and the WMATA Board of Directors. Mr. Corcoran will replace Jim Dyke who was recently appointed to the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

VRE MASTER AGREEMENT ON TRACK FOR APPROVAL

VRE Master Agreement

In July, NVTC and PRTC forwarded to their VRE jurisdictions the Master Agreement Amendment to incorporate the weighted voting requirement set forth in HB2152 which will become effective July 1, 2015. Once approved by all the participating and contributing jurisdictions, NVTC and PRTC will both approve and execute the Amendment. Seven of the nine jurisdictions have approved the Master Agreement Amendment. NVTC is on track to bring the VRE Master Agreement amendment to the November commission meeting for approval. Alexandria executed the amendment, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has approved the execution of the agreement, and the Arlington County Board approved execution of the agreement at its September board meeting.

KEY DATES

