



MEDIA RELEASE

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Contact: Kala Quintana
703/ 524-3322 ext 104
kala@nvtdc.org

**THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION TO
HOLD NEXT MEETING IN RICHMOND TO MAKE THE CASE FOR
INCREASED FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION
NVTC ANNOUNCES NEW OFFICERS & 2006 WORK PROGRAM
ADOPTED**

Arlington, VA -- At its meeting on January 5, 2006, the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) agreed to **hold its next monthly meeting in Richmond, VA on February 9, 2006 beginning at 5:00 pm at the General Assembly building**. The commission also agreed to hold the meeting jointly with the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) as a sign of regional solidarity in an effort to draw attention to the current transportation crisis in Northern Virginia and to secure a dedicated funding source for Metro.

NVTC also elected its new officers for 2006. **Gerald Connolly** (Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors), will serve as NVTC Chairman in 2006. **David F. Snyder** (Falls Church City Council) will serve as Vice-Chairman; and **William D. Euille** (Mayor of Alexandria) will become Secretary/Treasurer. NVTC also appointed Northern Virginia's representatives to the WMATA Board. **T. Dana Kauffman** (Fairfax County Board of Supervisors) and **Chris Zimmerman** (Arlington County Board) will continue to serve NVTC in that capacity as principals. Their alternates are **Catherine Hudgins** (Fairfax County Board of Supervisors) and **William D. Euille**.

MORE

The Commission unanimously adopted NVTC's 2006 work program, which is available for review at www.thinkoutsidethecar.org. The work program includes seven goals and 60 specific actions for 2006. NVTC's 2006 work program continues to incorporate performance measures, in keeping with NVTC's overall mission to achieve an effective regional public transportation network.

NVTC's newly elected officers will spearhead NVTC's mission to improve the regional transportation system through sound strategies, identification of new dedicated funding sources for transit, prioritization of transit allocations and the oversight of transit systems such as the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) and WMATA. Among the commission's key objectives for 2006, are:

- **Obtain dedicated funding for WMATA including at least \$1.5 billion in federal funds over 10 years and a quarter-cent regional sales tax.**
- **Provide significant increases in statewide transportation funding from stable, reliable and permanent sources to meet current transit needs and provide for growth.** Northern Virginia has 75% of statewide transit ridership and provides a significant share of the commonwealth's financial resources. Yet, the commonwealth fails to meet its 95 percent statutory target for funding net transit costs. This shortchanged NVTC by \$98 million in FY 2005 alone.
- **Manage transit demonstration projects and planning studies.** Projects include demonstrations of improved technologies for transit (electronic schedules, SmarTrip fareboxes, automated bus arrival systems, hydrogen-injection diesel engines); enhanced transit responses to emergencies; transit improvements to facilitate senior mobility; and better transit performance data.

NVTC is the leading source of information about public transportation issues in Northern Virginia.

NVTC is a regional agency with the mission of managing traffic congestion, restoring clean air, boosting the economy and improving the quality of life for all of Northern Virginia's citizens through effective public transit and ridesharing networks. NVTC includes the counties of Arlington, Fairfax and Loudoun and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church covering over 1,000 square miles with a population of 1.5 million. The agency manages over \$120 million of state and federal grant funds each year for public transit and serves as a forum for its board of 19 state and local elected officials to resolve issues involving public transit and ridesharing. **For more information about the February 9th meeting, copies of NVTC's 2006 work program and the approved 2006 legislative agenda please visit www.thinkoutsidethecar.org or call 703-524-3322.**

NVTC