



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION COMMITS TO WORK WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA TO ADDRESS METRO FUNDING AND LOCAL AND STATE ROLES IN THE GOVERNANCE OF METRO

Arlington, VA— At its October 7, 2010 meeting, the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) addressed the Commonwealth of Virginia’s request that two of the four Virginia representatives to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Board of Directors represent the Commonwealth.

Resolution #2157 was adopted. The resolution passed with an affirmative vote of 12 and a dissenting vote of 6.

Resolution #2157 reflects the commitment of NVTC and its members to “work with the Commonwealth to establish an enhanced and supportive relationship in order to consider and resolve all of the issues” referenced in the resolution (see attached). These issues include “state and local roles in governance and funding of WMATA.”

“NVTC is ready and willing to discuss these issues with the Commonwealth,” said Cathy Hudgins, Chairman of NVTC and a WMATA Board member. “This resolution does not shut the door on discussions of a state role on the WMATA Board. It identifies the reasons why sufficient representation on the WMATA Board by local elected officials is essential to protect the interests of local taxpayers and customers. It also links the need for adequate funding of WMATA to the discussion of governance. It provides a strong basis for productive discussions.”

According to the WMATA Interstate Compact (Article III Section 5(a)), NVTC has the sole responsibility of appointing, from its members, Virginia’s voting members and alternates of the WMATA Board. More than a third of NVTC’s 20 board members represent the Commonwealth,

which is more than the percentage of support provided by the Commonwealth for WMATA compared to local taxpayers and riders.

Currently Virginia's voting seats on WMATA's board are held by local elected officials: Cathy Hudgins (Fairfax County Board of Supervisors); Chris Zimmerman (Arlington County Board). Alternate seats are also held by local elected officials: Jeff McKay (Fairfax County Board of Supervisors) and Bill Euille (Mayor, Alexandria City Council). They were selected by NVTC to serve this year with a unanimous vote in January, 2010.

More details about NVTC and its board members are available at the commission's website: www.thinkoutsidethecar.org.

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 1.6 million. The agency manages over \$203 million of state and federal grant funds each year for public transit and serves as a forum for its board of 20 state and local elected officials to resolve issues involving public transit and ridesharing. **For more information please visit www.thinkoutsidethecar.org or call 703-524-3322.**

NVTC