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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NVTC ELEVATES LOUDOUN'S LETOURNEAU TO PRINCIPAL DIRECTOR OF THE WMATA BOARD

Matthew F. Letourneau has served as an alternate since 2019

Arlington, Va. - The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission appointed Loudoun County Supervisor Matthew F. Letourneau as a principal director of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority at its monthly meeting Thursday night. Letourneau joined the board as an alternate director in 2019 and was the first person from the county to serve on the panel. Letourneau serves as NVTC's immediate past chairman. "Matt is a true regional thinker, who understands how critical a sustainable, effective WMATA is to each of our Northern Virginia jurisdictions. We appreciate his leadership and commitment to consensus as he assumes this critical role representing all of us," said NVTC Chair Katie Cristol.

At the same meeting, the Commission appointed City of Alexandria Council Member Canek Aguirre as an Alternate Director. The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission appoints one principal and two alternate directors to the WMATA board. The governor of Virginia appoints the second principal director. Paul Smedberg assumed that role in January 2019 and was elected WMATA Board Chair in June 2019. The Commission appointed Fairfax County Supervisor Walter Alcorn as an Alternate Director at its January 2020 meeting.



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Katie Cristol, NVTC Chair

Letourneau was elected to represent the Dulles District on the Board of Supervisors in November 2011 and re-elected in 2015 and 2019. He serves as chair of the board's Finance/Government Operations and Economic Development Committee. In 2018 he served as chairman of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Board of Directors, becoming the first person from Loudoun County to chair the COG board since 1983

NVTC (<u>novatransit.org</u>) is charged with the funding and stewardship of WMATA on behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Founded in 1964, in part to represent the interests of the Commonwealth during the creation of Metrorail, NVTC continues to serve as Virginia's voice on the WMATA Board of Directors through its appointments to the panel, managing regional and state funding for WMATA on behalf of NVTC's local jurisdictions and reporting WMATA's ridership data. NVTC also provides a forum for regional dialogue on WMATA-related issues, coordinates with WMATA and local jurisdictions on the Commission's regional fare collection program, and facilitates a Northern Virginia transit response coordination group to assist in planning efforts in the event of Metrorail service disruptions.

The WMATA Board of Directors determines agency policy and provides oversight for the funding, operation, and expansion of transit facilities within the Washington Metropolitan Area's defined "Transit Zone." The Metro Board is composed of eight voting and eight alternate directors. Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia and the federal government appoint two voting and two alternate directors each.

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NVTC works to ensure that businesses and residents are served by a high capacity, high quality network of transit systems that allows the region to thrive. It funds and promotes transit in the counties of Arlington, Fairfax and Loudoun and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church. NVTC supports five local bus systems (ART, CUE, DASH, Fairfax Connector, Loudoun County Transit), WMATA (Metrorail/Metrobus) and the Virginia Railway Express. Visit www.NoVaTransit.org or call 703-524-3322 to learn more.

## Check out our #NoVaRides Trip Planning page



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