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## NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## NVTC Calls for Continued Cooperation within Virginia on WMATA Reform

Commission Urges Appointments to Any Reform Board Be Made Jointly by NVTC and Virginia's Governor

Arlington, VA – Citing its role in the funding, oversight and reform of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, the Northern Virginia Transportation

Commission (NVTC) today called for continued cooperation between the Commonwealth of Virginia, which recently commissioned a reform report by former U.S.

Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, and NVTC. "We agree that board reforms are necessary, that the general manager should have the tools in place to manage costs and increase productivity, and that WMATA needs dedicated resources for capital funding, including a dedicated federal funding commitment," wrote NVTC Chairman Jeffrey C. McKay in a letter to Governor Terry McAuliffe.

NVTC, which is comprised of the local governments that are obligated to fund Virginia's share of the WMATA budget, has "a strong interest in the implementation of reforms as they will directly affect the residents, businesses and taxpayers in our jurisdictions," McKay wrote. "We are also the appointing body for three of

## **Press Release**

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"...joint action would best support continued cooperation between the commonwealth and localities in regard to WMATA oversight and offer the best opportunity for community support of the difficult actions a reform board must take to return WMATA to excellence.

Jeffrey C. McKayNVTC Chairman

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

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Noting the commonwealth's financial support of WMATA through subsidies to localities and a match to federal funding as well as its appointment to the WMATA board, McKay called for any member of a potential reform board to be jointly appointed by the governor and NVTC. "This joint action would best support continued cooperation between the commonwealth and localities in regard to WMATA oversight and offer the best opportunity for community support of the difficult actions a reform board must take to return WMATA to excellence," he wrote.

"NVTC was founded in 1964, in part to represent the interests of the commonwealth during the establishment of WMATA, and has an ongoing role in managing Northern Virginia's funding of WMATA, appointing Virginia's representatives to the WMATA Board of Directors, and strategic decision-making to find solutions to the challenges facing WMATA," wrote McKay. "As such, NVTC should continue to appoint representatives to the WMATA Board and be a partner with the Commonwealth on the implementation of WMATA reforms now and in the future."

Transit), WMATA (Metrorail/ Metrobus) and the Virginia Railway Express. Visit www.NoVaTransit.org or call 703-524-3322 to learn more.

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