



**NVTC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEETING SUMMARY  
Via Electronic Participation  
Public Streaming via YouTube  
September 3, 2020**

**NVTC Executive Committee Members Present:**

Katie Cristol, Chair  
Canek Aguirre  
Eileen Filler-Corn  
Matt Letourneau  
Jeff McKay  
David Meyer  
Paul Smedberg (non-voting member)  
David Snyder

**Other NVTC Commissioners Present:**

Walter Alcorn  
Elizabeth Bennett-Parker  
Jennifer Mitchell

**Staff and Others Present:**

Kate Mattice, Executive Director  
Scott Kalkwarf  
Melissa Walker  
Zach Smith  
Steve MacIsaac  
Aimee Perron Seibert

Chair Cristol called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. She explained that given the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, the Executive Committee meeting is being conducted electronically. This is possible because the governor signed into law on April 22, 2020 a legislative amendment to the budget bill to allow public bodies to meet electronically without a physical quorum present to discuss or transact the business statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of that public body. NVTC staff followed the procedures and guidelines in the legislation to give notice to the Commission, staff and the public.

Chair Cristol reviewed the procedures and instructions for the electronic meeting. She noted that the votes to go into Closed Session and the certification following will be conducted using a roll call vote. The only visual component of the meeting is the presentation slides which are being shown on Webex for Committee members and on YouTube livestream for the public.

Ms. Mattice then called the roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

The summary of the March 5, 2020 Executive Committee meeting was provided and there were no corrections.

Chair Cristol reviewed the Agenda for the September 3 Commission meeting, which starts at 7:00 p.m. She explained that NVTC had planned on a briefing from WMATA General Manager/CEO Paul Wiedefeld at the Commission meeting, but he unfortunately cannot participate. However, he is planning to be at the October 1 meeting, which will be timely as WMATA will be in the middle of major budget discussions. Both Paul Smedberg and Matt Letourneau, who are members of the WMATA Board, plan to speak to the current issues at WMATA in their remarks to the Commission. The Commission meeting will also open with a tribute to Joe Alexander, a 31-year member of NVTC (32 years as a Fairfax County Board Supervisor) who passed away this past weekend. He was a big part of the establishment of both WMATA and VRE. Chair Cristol noted that both the Executive Committee and full Commission will be conducting Closed Sessions regarding the VRE CEO appointment.

Ms. Mattice reviewed the rest of the Commission Agenda, which includes a Legislative Update, including remarks from Speaker Filler-Corn and Senator Ebbin; State of Transit in Northern Virginia Presentation; reports from the WMATA Board Members, DRPT Director and VRE Acting CEO; NVTC Transit Planning (TBEST) Tool Overview; and a Commuter Choice Program Update.

Ms. Filler-Corn joined the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Ms. Mattice and Mr. Kalkwarf provided a preview of the presentation they plan to give at the Commission meeting on the State of Transit in Northern Virginia. Ms. Mattice reviewed the transit ridership and work from home trends and how they have been impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency. As people start to go back to work, a slight increase is being seen in WMATA and VRE ridership. The COVID-19 public health emergency has impacted transit types differently. Mr. Kalkwarf reviewed the impacts from COVID-19 on revenue sources (for NVTC and WMATA), DRPT capital and operating assistance, revenues from the I-66 and I-395/95 Commuter Choice programs, and the NVTC general and administrative budget.

Mr. Letourneau asked about what happens when actual toll revenues don't cover the amount NVTC is guaranteed in the MOA. Mr. Aguirre also asked if the toll revenues are even meeting the Commonwealth's goals needed to operate the toll program. Ms. Mattice stated that the I-66 Inside the Beltway toll program is managed by VDOT. NVTC Legal Counsel Steve MacIsaac is reviewing the I-66 MOA regarding this, but if and when there are toll revenues available above and beyond the operating obligations, then the waterfall chart designates the order in which toll revenues are allocated. The I-395/95 toll program is managed by Transurban, which has publicly stated they will meet their commitments. NVTC should have more information this fall.

Ms. Mitchell gave a brief overview of the Commonwealth's overall funding picture and a shortfall in all revenue sources is expected. There is a budget amendment being considered during the General Assembly Special Session that would allow DRPT to move funds around, which would help meet obligations for NVTC and WMATA. This is a top priority.

Mr. Letourneau also asked about the Long Bridge project. Ms. Mitchell stated that the project is still moving forward. Mr. Letourneau stated that the WMATA Finance Committee Chair has asked

if the jurisdictions (MD, DC, VA) will be able to make their WMATA payments. Ms. Mitchell stated that for the Commonwealth, it is very important that the budget amendments get passed to meet those commitments. DRPT would appreciate NVTC's help in reaching out the General Assembly members to support this budget amendment.

Chair Cristol stated that the annual Joint NVTC-PRTC Legislative Briefing is scheduled for Monday, December 7 in the morning. Shannon Valentine has been invited to participate as the keynote speaker and NVTC should receive confirmation of her participation in October. She explained that staff is proposing to change this event into a virtual format. There were no objections.

Chair Cristol reviewed the Closed Session procedures for the benefit of the listening public. She stated that the livestream will resume when the committee returns to Open Session. Ms. Cristol moved, with a second by Mr. Smedberg, the following motion to go into Closed Session:

Pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (Section 2.2-3711.A.1 of the Code of Virginia), the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission's Executive Committee moves to convene a Closed Session to discuss a personnel matter concerning the appointment of the Virginia Railway Express Chief Executive Officer.

The vote was conducted by a roll call vote and the motion passed. The vote in favor was cast by Committee members Aguirre, Cristol, Filler-Corn, Letourneau, McKay, Meyer, Smedberg and Snyder.

The Executive Committee entered into Closed Session at 6:10 p.m. NVTC Legal Counsel Steve MacIsaac participated in the Closed Session, as well as Commissioners Alcorn, Bennett-Parker and Mitchell. The Executive Committee returned to Open Session at 6:30 p.m.

Chair Cristol moved, with a second by Mr. Meyer, the following certification:

The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission's Executive Committee certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge and with no individual member dissenting, at the just concluded Closed Session:

- 1) Only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act were discussed; and
- 2) Only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened were heard, discussed or considered.

The vote was conducted by a roll call vote and the motion passed. The vote in favor was cast by Committee members Aguirre, Cristol, Filler-Corn, Letourneau, McKay, Meyer, Smedberg and Snyder.

The Executive Committee adjourned at 6:35 P.M.