



**NVTC LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
MEETING SUMMARY
First Floor Small Conference Room
2300 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Virginia
March 5, 2020
5:15 PM**

NVTC Legislative and Policy Committee Members Present:

David Meyer, Chair (via phone)
Canek Aguirre
David Snyder
James Walkinshaw

NVTC Legislative and Policy Committee Members Absent:

Adam Ebbin
Libby Garvey
Matt Letourneau

Staff and Other Present:

Kate Mattice, Executive Director	Penny Newquist
Zachary Smith	Joe Swartz
Allan Fye	Jen Slesinger
Matt Cheng	Chloe Ritter
Aimee Perron Seibert (via phone)	Tim Roseboom
Andrew D'huyvetter	Todd Horsley
Greg Potts	

Chairman Meyer called the meeting to order at 5:21 P.M.

Mr. Smith reported that the transportation omnibus bills HB 1414 and SB 890 are currently in conference committee to resolve the differences between them before the General Assembly adjourns. According to the Richmond Times Dispatch, the conferees have reached a compromise on raising the statewide and regional gas tax, motor vehicle safety inspections, funding for NVTa, and additional traffic safety measures.

Ms. Mattice stated that NVTC and PRTC proposed a technical amendment for the two Commissions to be consulted when members are appointed to the Passenger Rail Authority as the bills went to conference. Ms. Perron-Seibert stated that the language was included the compromise bill.

Mr. Walkinshaw asked for clarification on how NVTC and PRTC would be consulted regarding the Passenger Rail Authority. Mr. Meyer agreed that clarification will be important in the future. Ms. Mattice responded that with the current Administration there would be the expectation of an endorsement from

either Commission, and that NVTC staff will work with the Commonwealth as they develop guidance and policy to ensure the Commissions' endorsements are considered.

Mr. Snyder arrived at 5:31 p.m.

Mr. Smith stated that the General Assembly passed other legislation that affects transit including a compromise bill on peer-to-peer vehicles; a bill that would change the due date of NVTC's Annual Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA to December 15; and a bill that would add an additional exception to WMATA's 3% operating cap. Mr. Smith reported that there was another bill in a conference committee that would provide employees with transit commuter benefits.

Mr. Snyder asked if a change to the 3% operating cap needs approval by all jurisdictions. Mr. Potts responded that a proposal would have to pass with a majority vote and that the Board has representation from VA, MD, DC and the federal government.

Mr. Smith commented on budget amendments that NVTC is monitoring. Ms. Perron-Seibert stated that the General Assembly must have 48 hours to review proposed budget amendments before a vote, so the General Assembly most likely will extend the session to resolve that.

Mr. Aguirre asked if a possible meeting with the new Central Virginia Transportation Authority in Richmond has been considered. Ms. Mattice responded that the group would be different from the Commission, but staff will look further into the details about any possible synergy.

Mr. Walkinshaw asked if the VMT pilot was included in the final bill. Mr. Smith responded drivers of fuel-efficient and alternative fuel vehicle will have the option of paying a highway-use fee or paying through a VMT fee.

Mr. Smith provided a brief overview of federal legislation including a letter of support that WMATA is circulating to jurisdictions asking Congress to renew dedicated federal funding for WMATA.

Mr. Meyer asked if there was anything else to share with the group.

The committee meeting adjourned at 5:47 P.M.