

NVTC Commission Meeting

November 5, 2020

The meeting will start momentarily.



KATIE CRISTOL
NVTC CHAIR
ARLINGTON COUNTY



CANEK AGUIRRE
NVTC VICE CHAIR
CITY OF ALEXANDRIA



JEFFREY MCKAY
NVTC SECRETARY-TREASURER
FAIRFAX COUNTY



MATTHEW LETOURNEAU
NVTC IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR
LOUDOUN COUNTY

Meeting materials available at www.novatransit.org



Welcome by the NVTC Chair

- Virtual Meeting Guidelines
- Commission Roll Call to Establish a Quorum
- Identify Staff Participating in Meeting
- Overview of Agenda
- Opening Remarks

NVTC November 2020 Meeting Agenda

1. Opening Remarks
2. Consent Agenda
 - Resolution #2422 Finding Need to Conduct September 3, 2020 Meeting Electronically
 - Authorize submission of NVTC Report on 3% Cap on Growth in Operating Assistance to WMATA
3. Approval of October 1, 2020 Meeting Minutes
4. Resolution #2423 Authorizing Delay in FY 2022 NVTC General and Administrative Budget
5. Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
 - Presentation of NVTC's Draft 2020 Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA
6. Commuter Choice
 - Resolution #2424: Approve Policy Changes Governing Commuter Choice
 - Resolution #2425: Commuter Choice in the I-395/I-95 Corridor Call for Projects
7. Legislative Update
 - Presentation of NVTC's Draft 2021 Legislative and Policy Agenda
8. Virginia Railway Express
 - ~~Resolution #2426: Authorize Agreement for Manassas Park Garage (deferred)~~
9. Department of Rail and Public Transportation
10. Executive Director Report
11. Closed Session

2. Consent Agenda

- A. ACTION ITEM: Resolution #2422: Finding Need to Conduct November 5, 2020 Meeting Electronically
- B. ACTION ITEM: Authorize submission of NVTC Report on 3% Cap on Growth in Operating Assistance to WMATA

Commission will be updated on any public comments received prior to the meeting.

3. Approve October 1, 2020 Meeting Minutes

ACTION ITEM: Approve the Meeting Minutes from the October 1, 2020 Commission Meeting



KATIE CRISTOL
NVTC CHAIR
ARLINGTON COUNTY



KATE MATTICE
NVTC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

4. ACTION ITEM: Resolution #2423 Authorizing Delay in FY 2022 NVTC General and Administrative Budget

- NVTC By-Laws require its annual budget to be submitted in December to Executive Committee and to full Commission in January
- A delay is requested to allow NVTC to use revised state assistance projections for FY 2022 from the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), scheduled for release in December
- A delay until early 2021 will not affect NVTC operations



PAUL SMEDBERG
COMMONWEALTH APPOINTEE TO
THE WMATA BOARD OF
DIRECTORS



5. WMATA

- A. WMATA COVID-19 Response
- B. Report from the Virginia WMATA Board Members
- C. Other WMATA News



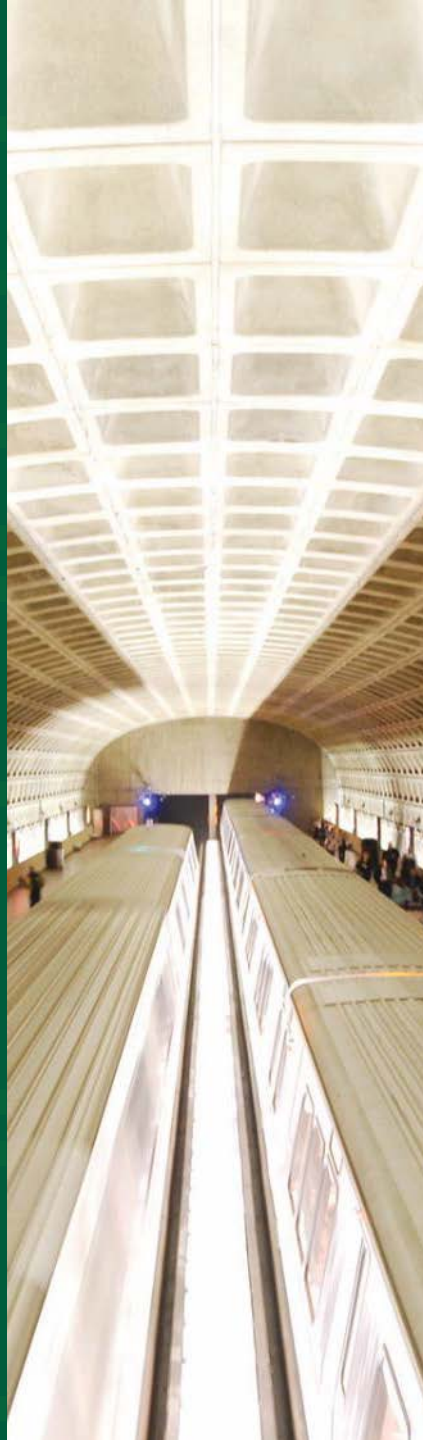
CANEK AGUIRRE

NVTC VICE CHAIR
NVTC WMATA COMMITTEE CHAIR
CITY OF ALEXANDRIA



ANDREW D'HUYVETTER

WMATA PROGRAM MANAGER



5. WMATA (continued)

D. Report from the Chair of the NVTC WMATA Committee

- Presentation: NVTC's Draft 2020 Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA

Agenda Item #5D:

2020 Annual Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA

- **COVID-19 update**
- **Strategies to reduce the growth in costs and improve efficiencies**
- **Uses of the dedicated capital fund**
- **Safety, reliability and financial performance data**
- **Next Steps**
- **Discussion**

Background

- Virginia's 2018 transit funding legislation which created dedicated capital funding for WMATA also required NVTC to produce an *Annual Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA*.
- The legislation directs the report to include **strategies to reduce the growth in costs and improve efficiency at WMATA**, uses of the dedicated capital funding, and reporting on financial, safety, and performance data.
- NVTC WMATA Committee provided guidance to staff on key policy priorities.

WMATA Committee Feedback

- General support for continuing and new strategies
- Reiterate context about budget impacts of COVID-19
- Emphasize recommendations that improve the bus service overall
- Include additional narrative on reliability and performance data
- Continue to use other vehicles to communicate concerns or support to WMATA

COVID-19 Context

- COVID-19 caused significant declines in WMATA's ridership and fare revenue and required additional unplanned expenses to ensure safety of operations.
- CARES Act funding provided WMATA with short-term financial relief, but with a prolonged recovery CARES Act funding is anticipated to be depleted by January 2021.
- Without additional federal aid, WMATA anticipates potential layoffs, service cuts, and other cost saving measures.
- NVTC's recommended strategies to improve efficiency will help WMATA's recovery and rebuild ridership and revenue, but they will not single-handedly address WMATA's immediate fiscal challenges.

Strategies to Reduce the Growth in Costs and Improve Efficiency at WMATA - *Proposed*

Overarching Strategies	Highlighted Recommendations*
1) Rebuild Metrorail & Metrobus Ridership	• Communicate and encourage a safe return to transit
	• Improve weekend rail service
	• Optimize parking facilities
	• Develop, enhance, and expand fare pass and other parking pass products
	• Develop the next generation of fare collection technology
	• Pursue capital investments that increase reliability and efficiency
2) Improve the Operational Efficiency of Metrorail and Metrobus	• Adapt rail service to match demand during the pandemic and subsequent recovery period
	• Leverage the expertise of local and regional partners to improve the efficiency of the bus network
	• Implement pilot programs to increase the speed of Metrobus operations

*A complete report draft with all proposed recommendations included in meeting materials

Strategies to Reduce the Growth in Costs and Improve Efficiency at WMATA - *Proposed* (continued)

Overarching Strategies	Highlighted Recommendations*
3) Increase Non-Fare Revenues	• Maximize advertising revenues and optimize parking revenues
	• Explore nontraditional revenue streams to optimize the value of Metrorail facilities
	• Pursue joint development opportunities on underutilized assets
	• Pursue a real estate and sustainability strategy that generates operating efficiencies
4) Control Cost Escalation and Enhance Efficiency of the Workforce and Contracted Services	• Use the 3% cap as a tool during labor negotiations and annual budget development

*A complete report draft with all recommendations included in meeting materials

FY 2020 Uses of the Dedicated WMATA Capital Fund

- The Commonwealth's 2018 transit funding legislation created dedicated capital funding for WMATA.
- Virginia's share of the \$500 million in dedicated capital funding is \$154 million, with the remainder coming from D.C. and Maryland.

Capital Improvement Program Category	FY 2020 Actual Expenditures (millions)* <i>(Totals may not add due to rounding)</i>
Railcar Investments	\$32.1
Rail Systems Investments	\$28.7
Track and Structures Rehabilitation Improvements	\$15.4
Stations and Passenger Facilities Investments	\$35.6
Bus and Paratransit Investments	\$9.6
Business Support Investments	\$33.0
Total Capital Programs	\$154.3

*Due to the timing of the publication of this report, these expenditures are preliminary and do not represent final audited expenditures.

FY 2020 WMATA Capital Program Highlights

Railcar Investments

- By the end of FY 2020, all the planned 748 7000-series railcars were conditionally accepted by WMATA.

Stations and Passenger Facilities Investments

- In FY 2020, WMATA embarked on Phase 2 of the Platform Improvement Project, rehabilitating platforms at East Falls Church, West Falls Church, Dunn Loring, and Vienna Metrorail stations.



West Falls Church Platform
Before Improvements



West Falls Church Platform
After Improvements

Highlighted FY 2020 (pre-pandemic) Performance Data

- On-time performance and equipment reliability for **Metrorail** increased from FY 2017 to FY 2020 (pre-pandemic). This is primarily the result of **capital investments to improve reliability**, especially the 7000-series railcars.
- On-time performance for **Metrobus** was much lower than for Metrorail FY 2020 (pre-pandemic). The primary factor for low on-time performance is **traffic congestion**, which WMATA does not control.
- **Metrobus** equipment reliability declined in FY 2017 and FY 2018 due to problems with specific bus fleets. Efforts to improve Metrobus equipment reliability, including **replacing and rehabilitating buses**, have yielded success with FY 2020 (pre-pandemic) meeting targets.

Next Steps

- Update remaining safety and financial performance chapters when NTD data becomes available.
- Incorporate comments by the NVTC WMATA Committee and Commissioners.
- Prepare the full report for action at the December 3 Commission Meeting.
- Submit report by December 15 legislative deadline.



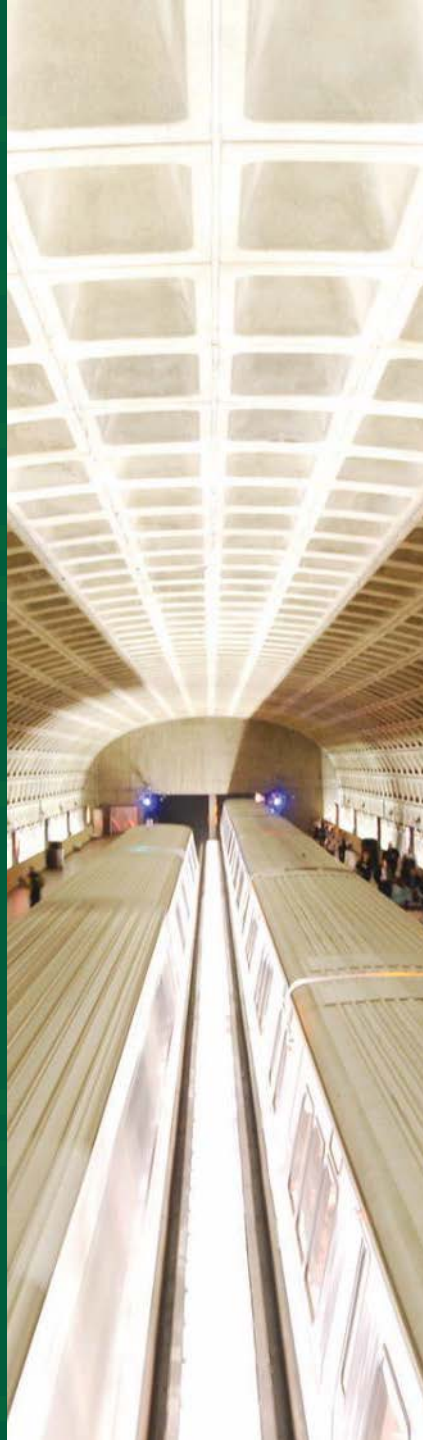
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ANDREW D'HUYVETTER

WMATA PROGRAM MANAGER

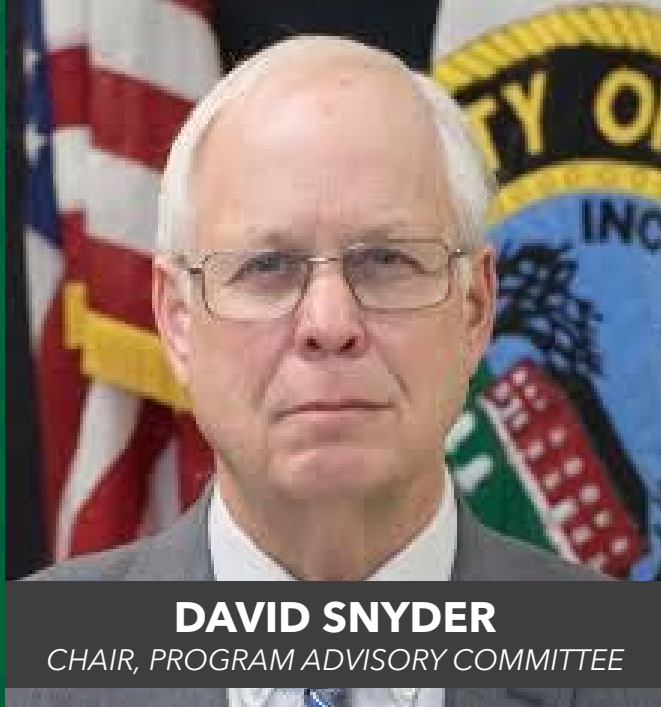


2020 Annual Report on the Performance
and Condition of WMATA

Discussion

6. Commuter Choice Program

- A. Report from the Chair of the Program Advisory Committee





KATE MATTICE
NVTC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



6. Commuter Choice Program (continued)

- B. ACTION ITEM: Approve Resolution #2424: Approve Policy Changes Governing the Commuter Choice Program in Both Corridors, I-66 Inside the Beltway and I-395/95
- C. ACTION ITEM: Approve Resolution #2425: Adopt the Technical Evaluation Process for the Commuter Choice on the I-395/95 Corridor Program and Authorize the Executive Director to Issue a Call for Projects for I-395/95 Round Two (FY 2022-2023)
- D. Commuter Choice on the I-66 Corridor Update



DAVID MEYER

CHAIR, LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY
COMMITTEE



ZACHARY SMITH

PROGRAM ANALYST



7. Legislative Update

- A. Report from the Chair of the Legislative and Policy Committee
- Presentation: Proposed NVTC 2021 Legislative and Policy Agenda



Protect Existing Transit Programs and Funding

NVTC supports preserving transit's revenue sources for local transit systems and dedicated funding for WMATA and VRE.



Connect Riders to Opportunity through Transit

NVTC supports programs that reduce barriers to transit for low-income individuals.



Continue Support for the Transforming Rail in Virginia Program

NVTC encourages continued support for the Transforming Rail in Virginia Program.



Restore Funding for NVT

NVTC supports restoring funding to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVT) to address critical transportation challenges and support economic development in the region.



Preserve NVTC Stewardship of NVTC Programs

The General Assembly should continue to support NVTC's role in administering programs that promote transit Northern Virginia.



Update Remote Public Meeting Requirements

NVTC proposes clarifying language to allow joint meetings of public entities to convene remotely during a state of emergency. In addition, NVTC seeks permission to permanently allow greater use of virtual (electronic) public meetings and hearings.



Proposed 2021 Legislative and Policy Agenda: Federal Priorities

Reauthorize Dedicated Federal Funding for WMATA

- The federal government should renew its financial commitment to “America’s Subway” with dedicated funding.

Continue support for COVID-19 Relief for Transit Agencies

- NVTC urges Congress to support transit in any future COVID-19 emergency response legislation to offset transit agencies' increased costs and revenue losses.

Reauthorize the FAST Act and Fix the Highway Trust Fund

- NVTC proposes reauthorizing a multi-year surface transportation bill and a structural fix to the Highway Trust Fund to address long-term funding stability and to meet the needs of transit today and in the future.

Identify Federal Funding and Financing for Long Bridge

- NVTC supports federal funding for this project of local, regional and national significance.

Continue Support for Commuter Tax Benefits

- NVTC supports the continuation of federal transit commuter benefits.

8. Virginia Railway Express

- A. VRE COVID-19 Response
- B. VRE CEO Report and Minutes
- C. ~~ACTION ITEM: Approve Resolution #2426: VRE Agreement for Design, Construction, Operations, and Maintenance of a Parking Garage at VRE with Manassas Park Station (deferred)~~
- D. VRE Draft 2021 Legislative Agenda
- E. Virginia Passenger Rail Authority Agreements



**ELIZABETH BENNETT-
PARKER**

VICE CHAIR
VRE OPERATIONS BOARD



RICH DALTON

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS



VPRA Agreements with NVTC/PRTC

Passenger Rail Operations and Access Agreement - (*Operating and Access*)

- Operations
- Access (Fees)
- Station Leases
- Planned Improvements
- Planned Additional Service



VPRA Agreements with NVTC/PRTC

Passenger Rail Improvements and Funding Agreement - (*Funding Agreement*)

- CROC-Backed Debt Issuance (est. 30 years)
- PAYGO Contribution (10 years)
- Debt Issuance Process
- Next Steps



9. Department of Rail and Public Transportation



- A. Monthly DRPT Report
- B. WMATA Annual Reporting Requirements



Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation



KATE MATTICE
NVTC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

10. Executive Director's Report

- A. Executive Director Newsletter
- B. NVTC Financial Reports (September 2020)

Save the date for
NVTC-PRTC Joint *Virtual* Legislative Briefing
Monday December 7th at 9:00 am



KATIE CRISTOL
NVTC CHAIR
ARLINGTON COUNTY

11. Closed Session

Chair Cristol will request a motion to move into Closed Session to discuss personnel matters.

NVTC Commission is in Closed Session.

For the listening public, if there is an interruption in the live feed, please go to NVTC's YouTube channel to connect to a new live feed.



KATIE CRISTOL
NVTC CHAIR
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NVTC Commission is back in Open Session.

Chair Cristol will request a motion to certify the Closed Session.



KATIE CRISTOL
NVTC CHAIR
ARLINGTON COUNTY

Commissioner Comments

Chair Cristol will open the floor for any final questions and comments from Commissioners

Next Commission Meeting is December 3, 2020

NVTC Commission Meeting November 5, 2020

Meeting is adjourned. Thank you for attending.



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