# **NVTC Commission Meeting** February 4, 2021

The meeting will start momentarily.







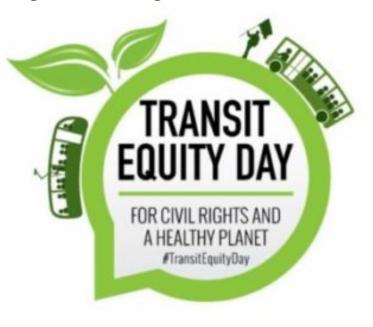
Meeting materials available at www.novatransit.org



# Welcome by the NVTC Chair



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









# **NVTC February 2021 Meeting Agenda**

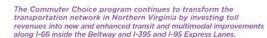
- 1. Opening Remarks
- 2. Consent Agenda
  - Resolution #2437: Finding Need to Conduct February 4, 2021 Meeting Electronically
  - Resolution #2438: Approve the FY 2022 State Transit Assistance Applications to DRPT
- 3. Approve the Minutes
- 4. Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
- 5. NVTC's FY 2022 General and Administrative Budget and 2021 Work Plan
  - Presentation
  - Public Comment on 2021 Work Plan

- 6. Report from the Chair of the Legislative and Policy Committee
- 7. Commuter Choice Program
- 8. Virginia Railway Express
- 9. Department of Rail and Public Transportation
- 10. Executive Director Report
- 11. Closed Session



\$203.4mil

**Commuter Choice** 



For the first time, NVTC staff analyzed the performance of the active projects funded through the program. Commuter Choice's 24 operational and completed transit people through the I-66 inside the Beltway and I-395/95

In addition to moving more people, the buses, stop improvements and park-and-ride facilities funded as part of the active projects will continue to benefit corridor

project ideas with other agencies and advocate for more diverse and readily measurable projects.

and enhanced bus services, including S6 additional mmuter buses each day on the I-66 corridor. However the near-term demand for further transit services is likely dest due to behavior changes brought about by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

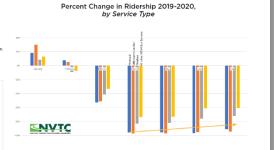


#### **Transit Resource Center**

highly skilled planners and engineers who are working closely with our jurisdictional staff as well as analyzing egional transit trends. In 2020 the team

Provided analysis of COVID-19 pandemic on transit

ol to help Fairfax County evaluate les related to Phase 2 of the Silver Line eville and Franconia-Springfield and thern Virginia.



ENVIC 14

#### \$228.3<sub>MIL</sub>

\$25.6<sub>MIL</sub> **COMMUTER CHOICE** PROGRAM

**ENTE** 

#### **Metro Policy and Governance**



#### Found Virginia's

Budget Cap a Useful Tool

At the request of the General Assembly, NVTC convened a special working group comprised of transportation professionals, stakeholders and former elected officials to dive into budget growth at WMATA comprised of transportation professionals, stakeholders and former elected officials. The resulting Report on Virginia's 3% Cap on the Growth in Operating Assistance Payments to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), examines Virginia's operating subsidy payments to Metro to identify and differentiate the true drivers of past and present operating subsidy increases from assumed cost drivers.

#### **Transit 2020 YEAR IN REVIEW**

**Advancing** 



#### sit Technology

#### are Collection Program

ior update of the Northern Virginia Regional Fare Collection Strategic Plan. The update orthern Virginia transit agencies, documents the vision for an enhanced regionally stem and identifies NVTC's role in supporting and coordinating implementation of is in Northern Virginia. While considerable progress and innovation was accomplished on of the 2018 strategic plan, the need to meet new challenges and maintain state of good

mic disrupted fare collection across the region, NVTC continued planning for the safe

- Assisting regional partners in maintenance and rehabilitation of aging fareboxes through the Driver Control Unit (DCU) Upgrade program.
- Coordinating and supporting partners in working with Metro on procurement of new fareboxes.
- Coordinating regional partners in defining the fare
- Coordinating and supporting regional efforts for
- Coordinating and supporting launch of the Smar Trip mobile app and mobile wallet for Apple IOS users, with an Android and Google Pay launch in the pipeline.
- DASH Bus App pilot project and mobile upgrade for Virginia Railway Express.
- accelerated innovation such as procurement for rear-door payment validatio



ENVIC 13

#### **NVTC In The News**

NVTC appeared in the news on television, radio and in print in 2020. Many stories focused on adapting transit and transit funding in the era of the COVID-19 pandemic. News outlets also featured projects that are part of NVTC's Commuter Choice program.

#### **Key Stories**

- > Public Transit Organizations Ask Congress for Emergency Funding 0
- ) I-66 Tolls Push More Commuters into Car Pools or Buses, Report Says O What I-66 Toll Money Could Pay for
- Next (If Traffic Returns) in Northern VA 0
- A New Rail Authority in Virginia Could Revolutionize Connections for Riders Throughout the State O
- How the Pandemic is Threatening Public Transit Systems Across the US 0





#### Telling the Story of Transit During a Pandemic

In the Community

NVTC Communications and Outreach Manager Matt Friedman served as a panelist for an online discussion on the topic of "Communications in a Time of Pandemics.' DC Family Communicate a group for LGBTQ professionals working in



#### **NVTC Demo** Innovative I to Regional

Transit Boardings Es Matt detailed the deve transit database for TBEST as well as the technical



capabilities of the software, including stop-level

ridership projections, equity and accessibility analys







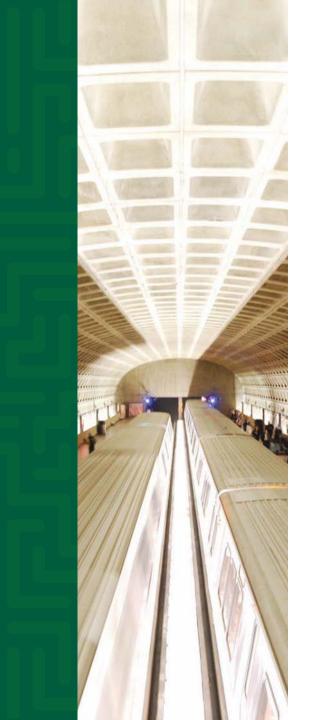
# 2. Consent Agenda

- A. Approve Resolution #2437: Finding Need to Conduct February 4, 2021 Meeting Electronically
- B. Approve Resolution #2438: Approve the FY 2022 State Transit Assistance Applications to DRPT

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

# 3. Approve Minutes

 Approve the Meeting Minutes from the January 7, 2021 Commission Meeting



metro



## 4. WMATA

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









## 4. WMATA (continued)

- C. Report from the Chair of the NVTC WMATA Committee
  - Presentation on WMATA's FY 2022 Budget

# Discussion and Comments on WMATA's FY 2022 Proposed Operating & Capital Budget

- Revised FY 2022 WMATA Budget
- Discussion: Proposed staff recommended themes with feedback from the WMATA Committee to include in comments
- Next Steps



## **Background**

- Congress passed the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (the Relief Act) before the new year.
- With additional funding from the Relief Act, a projected funding gap of \$209.8 million in the FY 2022 budget remains.
- On January 14 the WMATA Board authorized the WMATA GM/CEO's revisions to the public docket on the Proposed FY 2022 budget to reflect federal funding from the Relief Act and proposed actions to close the funding gap.



## Revised GM/CEO Proposed FY 2022 WMATA Budget

(\$ in millions)	Revised GM/CEO FY 2022 Proposal (1/14/21)
Projected Remaining Funding Gap	\$209.8
Management actions to reduce the funding gap	- \$58.4
Metrobus service reductions	- \$102
Metrorail service reductions	- \$69.4
Additional costs for Silver Line Phase 2 Title VI adjustments	+ \$20.0
Final Gap/Balanced Budget	\$0.0

Source: Jan. 14, 2021 WMATA Finance and Capital Committee



### Revised GM/CEO Proposed FY 2022 WMATA Budget

#### **Other Key Highlights**

- Forgoes 3% subsidy growth\*
- Assumes Silver Line Phase 2 revenue service begins July 2021
- Does not shift any additional operating expenses to the capital program for preventive maintenance
- Includes an estimated \$108 million for additional coronavirus relief aid for local bus operators

Source: Jan. 14, 2021 WMATA Finance and Capital Committee

<sup>\*\$42</sup> million of additional costs (Silver Line Phase 2, Cinder Bed Road Bus Facility, and safety mandates from the WMSC) are included in the proposed FY2022 subsidy



# Discussion: Proposed staff recommended themes with WMATA Committee feedback to include in comments

- Open Silver Line Phase 2 as soon as possible with full service to all stations
- Minimize, to the greatest extent possible, shifting operating expenses to the capital program for preventive maintenance to maintain a state of good repair for the capital program and preserve dedicated funding debt capacity
- Maintain a dependable and sufficient level of service throughout FY 2022 by avoiding significant service reductions in the second half of FY 2022 that would adversely impact essential workers' much-needed access to transit and curtail our region's recovery efforts
- Engage regional employers to develop innovative solutions to increase ridership as the region recovers while implementing strategies to demonstrate that it is safe to return to transit
- Continue to seek additional federal support to avoid layoffs and support our region in recovering from the economic fallout of the pandemic





#### **Commission**

- (FEB 4): Commission will discuss FY 2022 WMATA Budget
- (MAR 4): Commission will authorize the NVTC Chair to submit a letter of comments on the FY 2022 WMATA Budget
- (MAR 4): WMATA
   GM/CEO will speak at
   the March Commission
   Meeting

# NVTC WMATA Committee

After the Feb. 4
 Commission discussion, staff will work with NVTC WMATA
 Committee Chair to refine and develop a draft letter.

#### **WMATA**

- (FEB 20 MAR 16 tentative): Public
   Comment Period on the WMATA GM/CEO's Proposed Budget
- (MAR): Public Hearings
- (APR): WMATA Board anticipates adopting the FY 2022 Operating & Capital Budget



# 5. NVTC's FY 2022 General and Administrative Budget and 2021 Work Plan

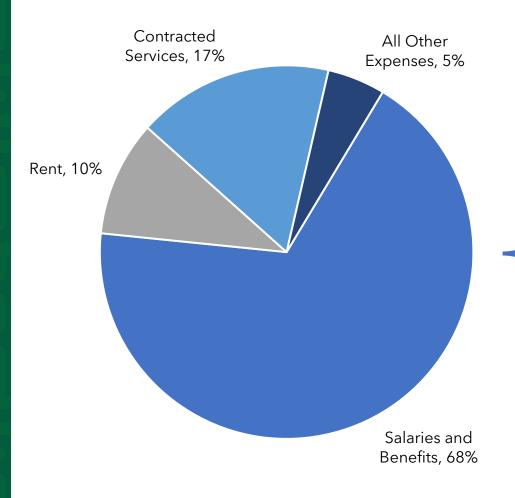
- FY 2022 G&A Budget
- Proposed 2021-2022 NVTC Work Plan
- Public Comments



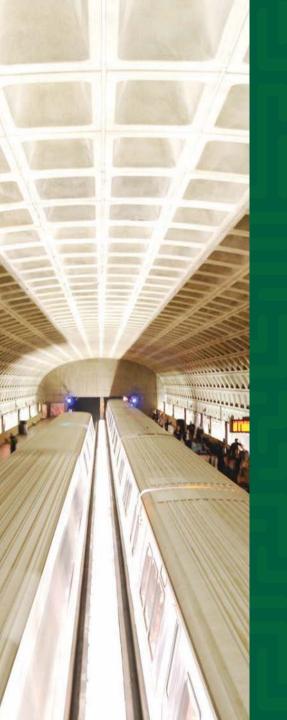
## **NVTC's General and Administrative Budget**



#### **NVTC Budget Cost Drivers**



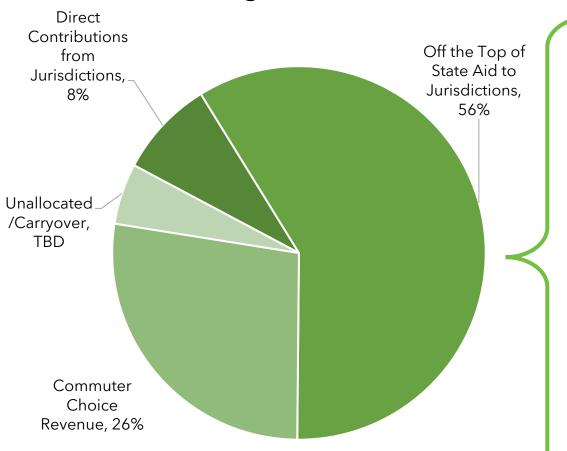
- Financial management of gas tax, toll revenues, state aid and federal grant funding
- Program management of Commuter Choice, WMATA Oversight
- Technical and data analysis that improve local transit planning decisions
- Facilitation of regional efforts such as major station shutdowns and new fare technologies
- Meeting planning and communications to allow Commission to thrive
- ✓ **Internal Operations** to support communications and IT functions



## **NVTC's General and Administrative Budget**



#### **NVTC Budget Revenue Sources**



- NVTC's G&A Budget is primarily from state aid (DRPT funding)
- Only 8% comes directly from jurisdictional budgets (fixed total value for >10 years)
- ✓ In FY 2021, NVTC managed \$228M in state aid on behalf of our jurisdictions
  - NVTC "overhead" is less than 1.2% of state aid
- Commuter Choice funding is approved by CTB each year
- Unallocated/Carryover varies
   from year to year, depending on
   staff turnover and other budget
   surpluses





### FY 2022 G&A Budget - Proposed Approach

Maintain near zero growth in G&A budget while covering fixed cost obligations and supporting strong professional staff.

Two options were provided to Commission for consideration; no action this evening.

- ✓ Continue strong support of Commission priorities
- ✓ Fulfill state and federal reports and requirements
- ✓ Reduce financial management exposure
- ✓ Retain and train highly skilled staff
- Continue robust regional technical and coordination efforts
- ✓ Continue staff coordination of WMATA efforts including support to WMATA Board members
- ✓ Be able to immediately leverage opportunities for addition federal and/or state funding
- ✓ Sustain human resources, legal and legislative support



## Organization of 2021-2022 NVTC Work Plan



#### ✓ NVTC Program Administration

- Commuter Choice
- NVTC Oversight of WMATA
- Transit Resource Center
- Transit Technology
- Staff support to VRE's annual surveys

# ✓ Financial Analysis and Administration

- Support for Member Jurisdictions
- Financial Analysis (including regional gas tax)
- Grants Management, Trust Funds, Contracts and Compliance

#### ✓ Communications / Engagement

- Transit Marketing Campaign
- Media Relations

#### ✓ Legislative and Policy Efforts

- Development of Legislative and Policy Agenda
- Legislative tracking

#### ✓ Commission Management

 Support and meeting logistics for committee and Commission meetings and events

### ✓ Internal Operations

- ✓ Information technology
- ✓ Human Resources

### 2021-2022 NVTC Deliverables and Actions



#### **Commuter Choice**

- I-395/95 Round Two Selections
- I-66 Round Four Supplement + Round Five Call for Projects
- Corridor Transit Analyses
- Annual Reports to CTB

#### **NVTC Oversight of WMATA**

- Annual Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA
- Supplemental Report from the 3% Cap Working Group
- WMATA budget letters and testimony, when appropriate

#### **Transit Technology**

 Implementation of Regional Fare Collection Strategic Plan tasks

#### **NVTC Staff Support to VRE**

Audited annual ridership survey and GIS analysis

#### **Transit Resource Center**

- Annual Transit Performance Report
- Post-COVID Transportation Analyses
- Updated Regional Bus Assessment
- TBEST Analysis Reports
- Route 7 BRT Phase VI Analysis
   Contract Award

#### **Legislative and Policy Efforts**

- Joint NVTC-PRTC Legislative Briefing
- Annual Legislative and Policy Agenda
- Policy briefs and tracking reports

#### **Communications**

- Public outreach for Commuter Choice program milestones
- Daily headlines, weekly and monthly newsletters
- Post-COVID marketing campaign

#### **Financial Analysis and Reporting**

- Administer annual WMATA subsidy and local transit funding
- Annual allocation of regional gas tax
- Financial projections and analysis
- DRPT grant applications and grant agreements
- Commuter Choice reimbursements
- Annual updates to SAM formula
- Federal grant management and reporting
- Title VI certification to FTA

#### **Commission Management**

- Monthly materials
- Annual agenda and meeting schedule

#### **Internal Operations**

- General and Administrative Budget and Work Plan
- Telework and IT support

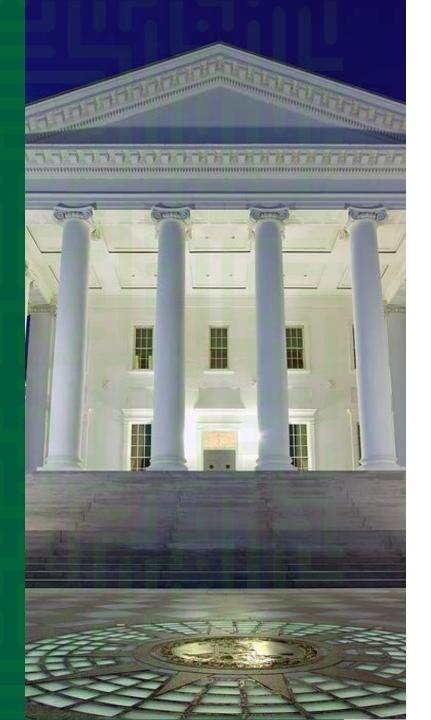


# 6. Report from the Chair of the Legislative and Policy Committee

Chair Meyer: Summary of the February 2 Legislative and Policy Committee Meeting



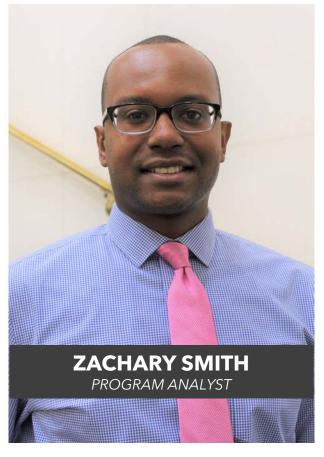




## **A.Virginia General Assembly Update**









# Legislative Bills that NVTC is Monitoring

- HB 1931 (Levine): Allows a member of a public body to attend a meeting electronically in order to provide care for a family member with a medical condition
- HJ 542 (McQuinn): Requests DRPT to conduct a two-year study of transit equity and modernization in the Commonwealth
- SB 1271 (McPike): Allows a public body to meet electronically when a locality in which the public body is located has declared a local state of emergency
- SB 1350 (Lewis): Incorporates "resiliency" considerations into statewide transportation planning, but resiliency is not defined

# **Budget Amendments that NVTC is Monitoring**



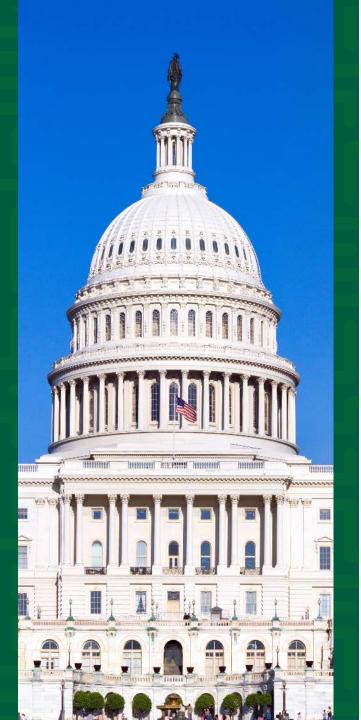
- Item 442 #1h: A one-time allocation of \$30 million from the General Fund to NVTC to be distributed using the NVTC formula to localities to support their financial obligations to WMATA in FY 2022
- Item 442 #3h: Authorizes CTB to waive the 25% cap on funds in the Transit Ridership Incentive Program that reduce the impact of fares on low-income individuals
- **Item 442 #4h:** Provides \$500,000 from the General Fund upon the passage of HJ 542, which requires DRPT to conduct a two-year study of transit equity and modernization in the Commonwealth
- Item 443 H: Governor Northam has proposed a \$50 million budget amendment that would help extend passenger rail service in the New River Valley
- **Item 447 #1s**: Provides \$10 million from the General Fund to the Transportation Partnership Opportunity Fund for an urban smart infrastructure test bed in partnership with the City of Falls Church and Virginia Tech



# **NVTC Budget Amendment (Krizek/Ebbin)**

**Item 442 #1h / Item 442 #1s.:** A one-time allocation of \$30 million from the General Fund to NVTC to be distributed using the NVTC formula to localities to support their financial obligations to WMATA in FY 2022

- NVTC jurisdictions pay on average \$200M/year in local funding to WMATA.
- Local revenues have been hit hard by the pandemic.
- Northern Virginia's **regional gas tax revenues** that are dedicated for use by our localities to pay WMATA (typically \$35M/year) **are down 57%** this fiscal year.
- The federal CARES Act and recent CRRSAA/Relief Act did not provide any direct funding to cities and counties to help address local revenue losses.
- WMATA may offer jurisdictions help on their FY 2022 subsidy payments. Even with the credits, the NVTC jurisdictions will still be obligated to pay WMATA anywhere from \$150-\$200M of local funds in FY 2022 while having less available local and regional revenues to cover the bill.



## **B. Federal Update**



- Transit-friendly appointments at the US DOT.
- Focus on climate change and environmental justice.
- Recent leadership and staff changes on key congressional committees that affect transit.
- Anticipated transportation-related federal legislation:
  - ✓ Additional COVID-19 Relief funding (\$20M?)
  - ✓ WMATA Dedicated Funding (PRIIA Reauthorization)
  - ✓ FAST Act Reauthorization (current bill expires Sept. 30)
  - ✓ Broader Infrastructure bill (?)
- Rebranded USDOT "BUILD" Program TIGER 2.0?





NVTC COMMUTER CHOICE SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER

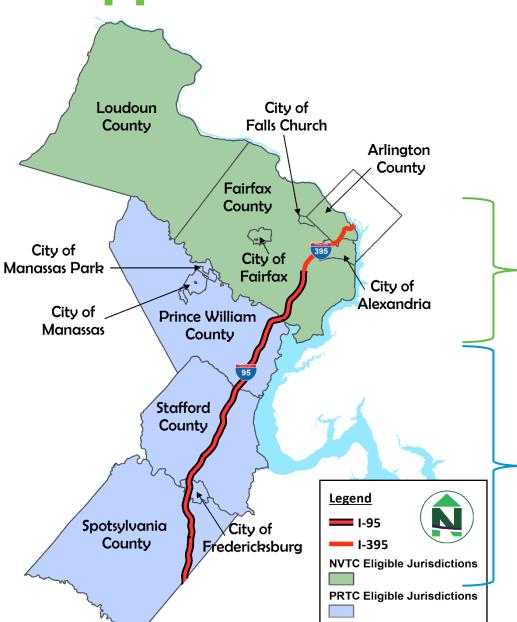
# 7. Commuter Choice Program

- A. Commuter Choice on the I-66 Corridor Round Four Update
- B. Commuter Choice on the I-395/95 Corridor Round Two Update

# I-395/95 Round Two Applications Received



**18** Applications **\$26.2M** Total Funding Request



NVTC
Jurisdictions and
Transit Providers:

**6** Applications **\$15.0M** Total Funding Request

PRTC Jurisdictions and Transit Providers:

11 Applications\$10.4M TotalFunding Request

**Regional Entities (NVRC):** 

1 Application\$0.8M Funding Request

•	TDM Strategy Outreach Campaign and Collaboration with Vanpool Alliance	\$1.6M	DASH / City of  Enhanced Bus Service from V Dorn Metro to the Pentagor
Arlington County  TDM Strategy Renewal of Pentagon Commuter Store Operations		\$0.2M	Alexandria  Enhanced Bus Service from  Mark Center to Potomac Yard
	of Enhanced Bus Service vale City to Ballston	\$0.3M	NVRC TDM Strategy Campaign f Military Facility Commuter on the 1-395/95 Corridor
	of Bus Service from dboro to the Pentagon	\$0.7M	02
	of Bus Service from dboro to Downtown D.C.	\$1.0M	Renewal of Route 396 Expre
	ategy I-395/95 Corridor ol Monthly Incentive	\$0.4M	Bus Service: Backlick North Park and Ride to Pentagon
	ategy I-395/95 Corridor ol Parking Benefit	\$0.2M	County Enhanced Bus Service for Route 371: Lorton to
ince ' mniR	of Enhanced Bus Service on William Metro Express: lide Transit Center to nia-Springfield Metro	\$0.4M	Franconia - Springfield Med Station
newal oute	of Enhanced Bus Service on 1 Local: Quantico to pridge VRE	\$0.5M	Prince William County  Horner Road Park and Ride Lot Expansion
Ne	ew Park and Ride Lot at FRED Central Station	\$1.8M	Spotsylvania New Park and Ride Lot in
Р	ew Bus Service from Route 208 Park and Ride Lot to Fredericksburg VRE	\$1.2M	County Massaponax  Northern Virginia Transportation Comm

## I-395/95 Round Two Next Steps





• **Eligibility Review** of all submitted applications. Any applicants with ineligible applications will be notified by the end of the month.



- **Update to the Commissions** (Mar. 4) on the set of eligible applications.
- **Technical Evaluation** (scoring) of all eligible applications per the process approved by the Commissions in Nov. 2020.



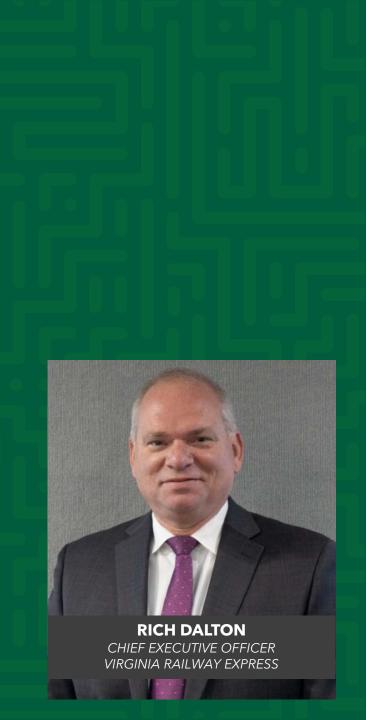
- **Public Comment Opens** on Apr. 16.
- Meeting of the NVTC-PRTC Joint Commission Working Group to review the technical evaluation results and identify a project prioritization approach.



- Public Comment Closes on May 17.
- Briefings to the Commissions (May 6) and Commonwealth Transportation
   Board (mid-month) on the projects under consideration for funding.

Jun.

- Program Adoption by the Commissions (June 3) and Commonwealth Transportation Board (mid-month).
- Distribution of Standard Project Agreements for selected projects.





# 8. Virginia Railway Express

- A. VRE COVID-91 Response
- B. VRE CEO Report and Minutes
- C. VRE 2021 Meeting Schedule







# 9. Department of Rail and Public Transportation

**DRPT Monthly Report** 







# KATE MATTICE

**NVTC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** 

# 10. Executive Director's Report

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





#### ARLINGTON VIRGINIA









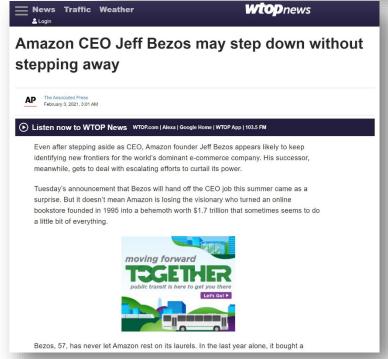






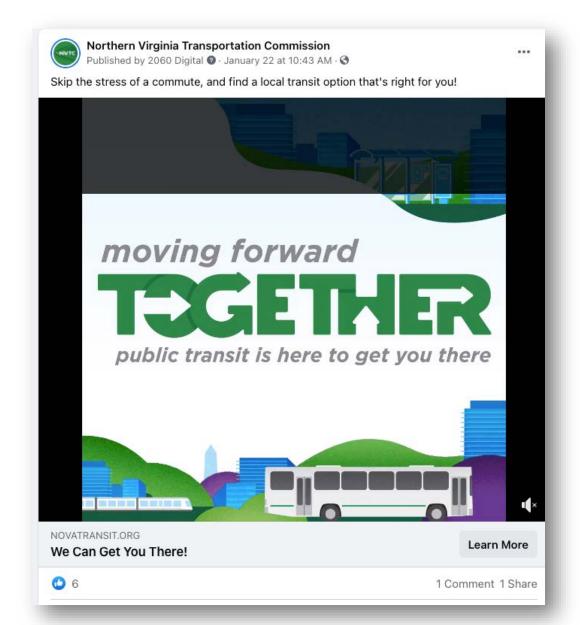


















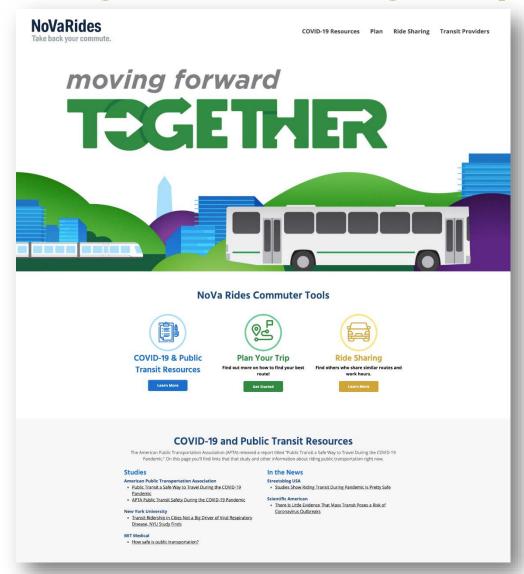


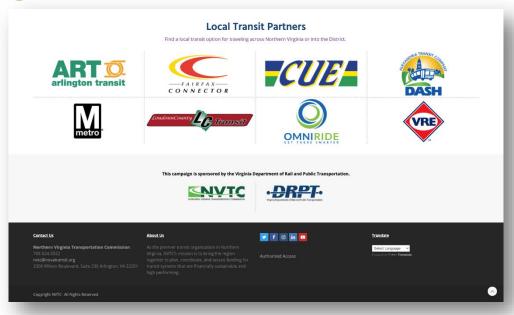












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## **Commissioner Comments**

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

Next Commission Meeting is March 4, 2020





## 12. Closed Session

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



# 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.





# NVTC Commission is back in Open Session.

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

# **NVTC Commission Meeting** February 4, 2021

Meeting is adjourned. Thank you for attending.







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