



NVTC LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday, NOVEMBER 12, 2021

NVTC Conference Room, Suite #230

2300 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201

Public Streaming Via YouTube

8:30 a.m.

AGENDA

NVTC has returned to in-person meetings. NVTC will continue with its current safety protocols until further notice. We ask that all attendees wear a face mask that must cover both the nose and mouth. Commissioners are asked to wear a mask when not speaking or actively eating.

NVTC encourages non-participating staff and the public to continue to watch the meeting via [Youtube](#).

1. Meeting Summary of the Oct. 7, 2021 Legislative and Policy Committee Meeting
2. General Assembly Update – NVTC Legislative Liaison Aimee Perron Seibert
3. Federal Update – VRE Legislative Liaison Bennett Resnick
4. Proposed 2022 NVTC Legislative and Policy Agenda Review

Members:

David Meyer, Chair
Canek Aguirre
Adam Ebbin
Libby Garvey
Matt Letourneau
Dave Snyder
James Walkinshaw

MEETING SUMMARY
NVTC LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
2300 Wilson Blvd., Suite 230 and via Electronic Participation
Public Streaming via YouTube
October 7, 2021

NVTC Legislative and Policy Committee Members Present:

David Meyer, Chair
Canek Aguirre
James Walkinshaw
Paul Smedberg
David Snyder
Adam Ebbin
Libby Garvey

NVTC Legislative and Policy Committee Members Present via Electronic Participation:

Matt Letourneau

NVTC Legislative and Policy Committee Members Absent:

None

Other NVTC Commissioners Present:

Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Jennifer Mitchell

NVTC Staff and Others Present:

Kate Mattice, Executive Director
Tenley O'Hara
Aimee Perron Seibert
Alex Thorup
Bennett Resnick

Chairman Meyer called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. He explained that we are back to in-person meetings, with a few modifications. With the updated NVTC Electronic Participation Policy, it is now easier for Commissioners to participate virtually for specific reasons, as long as there is an in-person quorum. COVID-19 safety protocols are also being followed due to the surge in the Delta variant. He stated that this meeting is being livestreamed on YouTube for the public and staff.

Chairman Meyer asked for any changes to the October 7, 2021 Legislative and Policy Committee meeting summary. Committee members accepted the summary of the October 7, 2021 meeting with no changes.

General Assembly Session Update

Ms. Perron Seibert reported on actions that have taken place at the state level since the last committee meeting on February 2, 2021. She reported that NVTC is monitoring any developments on HJ542 (McQuinn), DRPT's two-year study of transit equity and modernization in the Commonwealth that focuses on transit services and engagement opportunities for underserved and underrepresented communities. In addition, NVTC is waiting on the November Virginia General Election results to determine its messaging and strategy heading into the next General Assembly Session.

Federal Update

The committee received a federal update from VRE's federal legislative liaison Bennett Resnick. Mr. Resnick stated that Congress passed a 30-day extension of the Fast Act after the Infrastructure Bill did not go through. With focus on both the Infrastructure and Reconciliation bills occurring, there may need to be more extensions as the negotiations, largely over cost and not substance, are still ongoing and may need more time.

2022 Draft Legislative & Policy Agenda

NVTC Executive Director Kate Mattice then outlined the 2022 Legislative & Policy Agenda draft that will be finalized in December 2021, which highlights state and federal legislative priorities for the upcoming year. Many items have carried over from the 2021 Legislative & Policy Agenda. DRPT Director Jennifer Mitchell highlighted the need to amend the language in the section involving the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority Board member appointments, which was agreed upon to be appointees to the VPRA for the NVTC/PRTC districts are selected from lists provided by the NVTC and PRTC Commissions.

Ms. Mattice then asked Director Mitchell if there were any updates to the Transit Equity and Modernization Study, to which she replied that there are no recommendations yet, and that the interim report will include findings so far, but no policy recommendations are expected as it is too premature. Mr. Snyder mentioned that he wanted to make sure the DRPT study is included in discussion for the November NVTC Commission meeting.

Ms. Mattice continued on to say that NVTC wants to protect existing NVTC transit programs and funding, restoration of funding for NVRTA and flexibility for electronic meetings. Ms. Perron Seibert added that the FOIA Advisory Council met and wants to simplify electronic meeting codes and they will draft a bill to move forward, but it won't be until after the election. Clarification was asked for on the protect existing NVTC transit programs and funding section, with the note of adding some specificity.

The committee then shifted focus to the federal priorities, which Ms. Mattice said largely depends on the passage of the Infrastructure Bill. It is important to make sure there is flexibility

in usage of funds for NVTC's jurisdictions. It was noted that Northern Virginia bus operators are not typically in the federal space, and NVTC wants to encourage the jurisdictions to go for federal funding that will hopefully come through with the passage of the Infrastructure Bill. It was noted that formula funding will still be available to WMATA, VRE and OmniRide and that there are currently no changes to the commuter tax benefits.

Chairman Meyer mentioned that the committee will meet post-election in November and asked if Commissioners had any questions or comments before adjournment. There were none.

The meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.