

NVTC Commission Meeting

November 4, 2021

The meeting will start momentarily.



Meeting materials available at www.novatransit.org

NVTC November 4, 2021 Meeting Agenda

1. Opening Remarks
2. **ACTION ITEM:** Approve the October 7, 2021 NVTC Meeting Minutes
3. **ACTION ITEM:** Consent Agenda
4. Transit Technology Program
 - Zero-Emissions Bus Roundtable
5. Commuter Choice Program
 - **ACTION ITEM: Authorize the Executive Director to Issue a Call for Projects for I-66 Corridor Round Five**
6. Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
 - Draft 2020 Annual Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA
7. Legislative Update
 - Proposed 2022 NVTC Legislative and Policy Agenda
8. Virginia Railway Express
9. Department of Rail and Public Transportation
 - Transit Equity and Modernization Study
10. Executive Director Report
11. Closed Session

1. Opening Remarks

2. Approve Minutes

ACTION ITEM: Approve the Meeting Minutes from the October 7, 2021 Commission Meeting

3. Consent Agenda

A. Approve the 2022 NVTC Meeting Schedule

B. Authorize the Chair to Sign a Letter of Endorsement for Arlington County's Application to NVTB for the Ballston Metro Station Second Entrance



4. Transit Technology Program

A. Zero/Low-Emission Bus Roundtable

- **Josh Baker**, DASH GM/CEO
- **Patricia Happ**, NVTC Transit Technology Program Manager
- **Allan Fye**, NVTC Director of Programs and Policy

B. Northern Virginia Regional Fare Collection Update (written update in kit materials)





ALEXANDRIA TRANSIT COMPANY

ZERO EMISSIONS
ELECTRIC BUS PROGRAM

ZEB PROGRAM GOALS

- Environmental:
 - Eco-City Alexandria: 2040 goals of 50% emissions reduction by 2030 and 100% reduction by 2050
 - Non-attainment zone, highly polluted region of the US
 - Significant regional and local support for zero emission vehicles
 - Purchase only Zero Emissions Buses by 2027
 - Full fleet transition to 100% Zero Emissions Buses by 2035
- Fiscal:
 - Desire to reduce operating cost, recognition of unpredictable fuel costs
 - Excessive expense of maintaining clean diesel technology/unreliability
 - Operating environment is low mileage stop and go, ideal for Electric



STUDIES AND RESEARCH

- ZEB Feasibility Study (Completed 2019) – CTE
- ZEB Implementation Study Phase 1 (Completed 2021) - WSP
- ZEB Implementation Study Phase 2 (In Progress)
- Future studies to evaluate performance of vehicles, driver habits, and other metrics from the fleet



SUCCESSSES & CHALLENGES



SUCCESSSES

- Early buses showing more reliable than diesel counterparts
- In good weather/operating conditions, range has been adequate
- Drivers and Passengers happy with vehicles
- Initial observations
(Maintenance cost per Mile)
 - Electric: \$.33-.47/mi
 - Diesel: \$1.00-1.20/mi

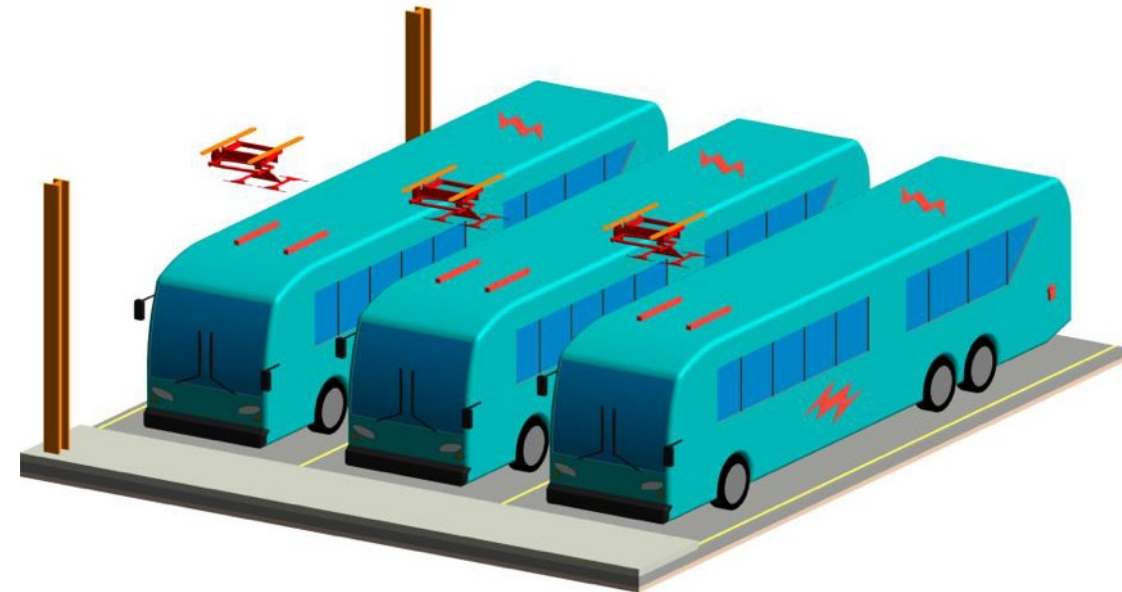
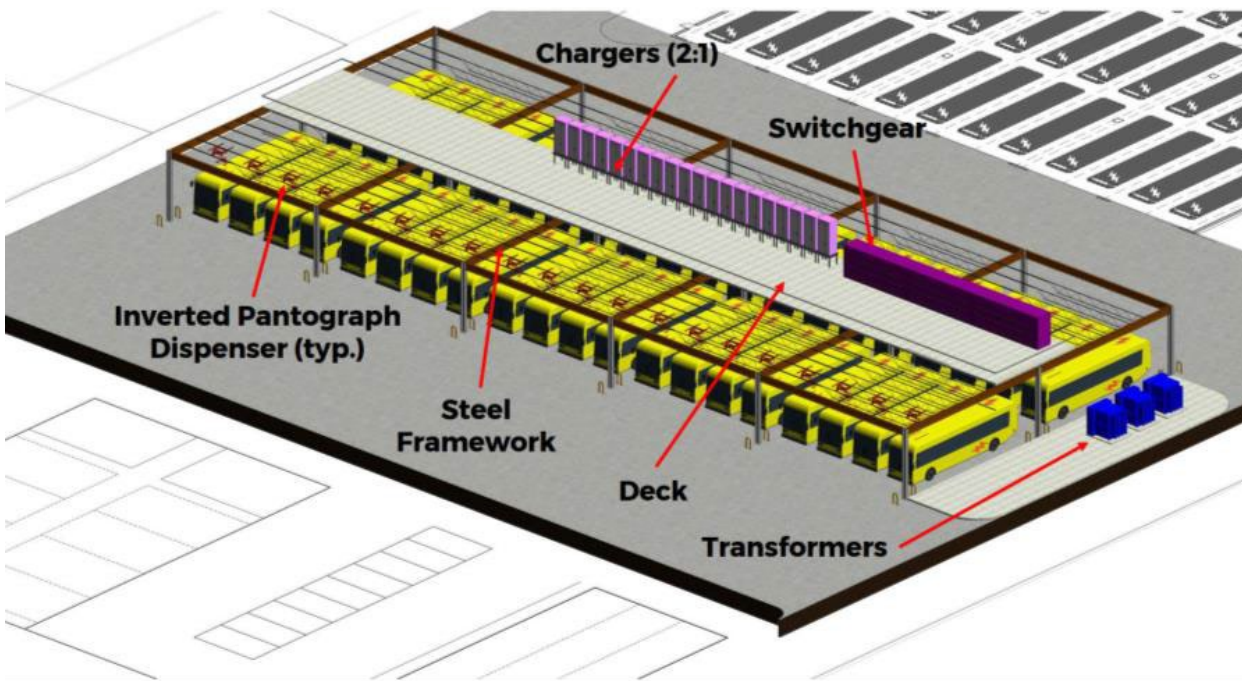


CHALLENGES

- Early adopter challenges: quality, range expectations, build process.
- Heating significantly reduces range.
- Despite standards, interoperability between buses and chargers continue to be an issue.
- Timeframes:
 - Bus build: 9 – 20 months
 - Revenue service: 2-3 months after delivery
 - Chargers can take even longer

FACILITY PROGRAM

DESIGN & ENGINEERING



CHARGING STRATEGIES

NEXT STEPS

- Service design that elevates ZEB productivity
- Sustainable contract sources and joint procurements
- Ongoing training for rapidly changing ZEB technologies
- Data collection and analysis
- Pursuing ongoing technical assistance
- Identifying sustainable funding sources for fleet electrification
- Seeking alternative sources of electricity (i.e. solar/renewable sources)
- Driving partnerships with utility providers



ALEXANDRIA TRANSIT
COMPANY

ZERO EMISSION BUS PROGRAM

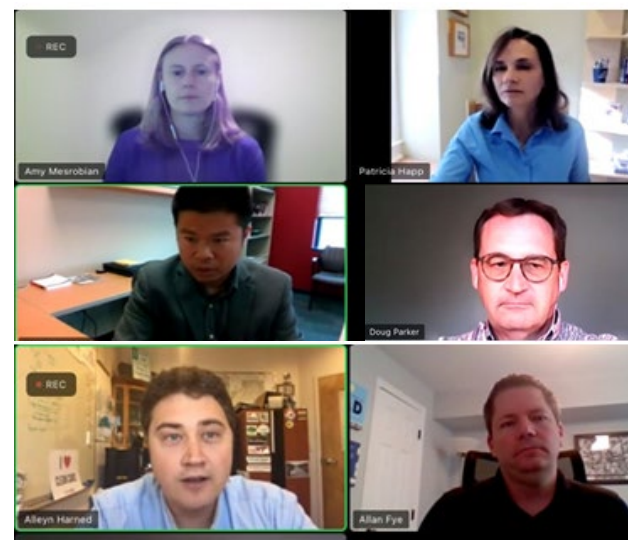




- **50 Participants** including jurisdictional and regional partner staff members
- Provided **a platform to highlight, learn, and discuss** zero-emission bus planning, implementation and procurement
- Designed to better understand regional **zero-emission bus vision and goals**
- **Increased regional expertise** through collaborative discussion

First look: What we learned

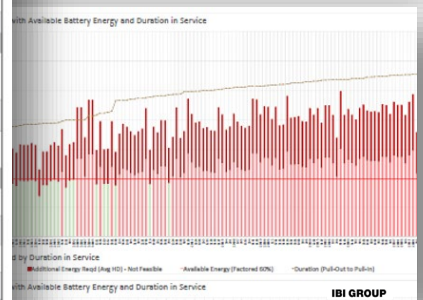
- Start early and strategize for long-term: engage leaders, partner with utilities, and identify funding
- Plan for bus performance and range, charging infrastructure and strategy
- Workforce, procurement, and resiliency planning is key
- Focus on regional coordination with local flexibility









DOT Funding and Financing Programs with EV Eligibilities*

LEGEND

	FY 2021 AMOUNT	Construction and installation of EV charging infrastructure including parking facilities and utilities.	Workforce development and training related to EV infrastructure.	EV acquisitions and engine conversions - cars or trucks.	Planning for EV charging infrastructure and related projects.	Construction and installation of EV charging infrastructure to support operational, resiliency, national energy security, environmental, and community goals for freight transportation.	Installation of EV charging infrastructure as part of transit capital projects eligible under chapter 53 of title 45, United States Code.
FORMULA PROGRAMS							
National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)	\$23.1 B						
Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG)	\$10.2 B						
Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)	\$2.4 B						
National Highway Freight Program (NHFP)	\$1.5 B						
State Planning and Research (SPR)	\$641.5 M						
Metropolitan Planning (PL)	\$357.9 M						
DISCRETIONARY PROGRAMS							
Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) (formerly known as BUILD)	\$1.0 B						
Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant Program	\$889.0 M						
Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment (ATCMTD)	\$53.3 M						
OTHER ALLOCATED PROGRAMS							
Federal Lands and Tribal Transportation Program (FLTP)	\$1.0 B						
Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) (other than for bridges)	\$644.0 M						
Puerto Rico Highway Program (PRHP)	\$74.9 M						
Territorial Highway Program (THP)	\$37.3 M						
INNOVATIVE FINANCE PROGRAMS							
State Infrastructure Banks (SIBs)	Varies						
Transportation Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act (TIFIA)	Varies						



Regional Partner Status

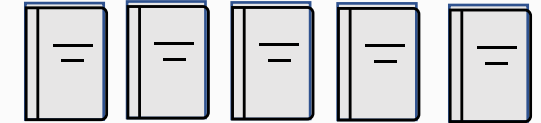
	Interested	Studies or Pilots	Testing
	✓	✓	
	✓		
	✓	✓	✓
	✓	✓	
	✓	✓	
	✓	✓	

Potential Implementation Partners



Energy
Utilities

Zero-Emission Bus Studies or Pilots



Charging Infrastructure



Buses





Options for NVTC's Role in Zero/Low-Emission Buses

- **Continue to engage with transit providers** in NoVA and DC area regarding plans to transition to zero/low-emission buses
- **Identify resources to support and coordinate** planning and implementation of zero/low-emission buses in NoVA
 - Ex. DRPT Technical Assistance Grant (FY 2023) for a *Northern Virginia Zero/Low-Emission Bus Strategic Plan*
- **Provide regular updates** to Committees and Commission
- **Identify changes** to Commuter Choice program at the appropriate time

5. Commuter Choice Program

- A. ACTION ITEM: Authorize the Executive Director to Issue a Call for Projects for I-66 Round 5**
- B. I-395/95 Corridor Update** (written update in kit materials)

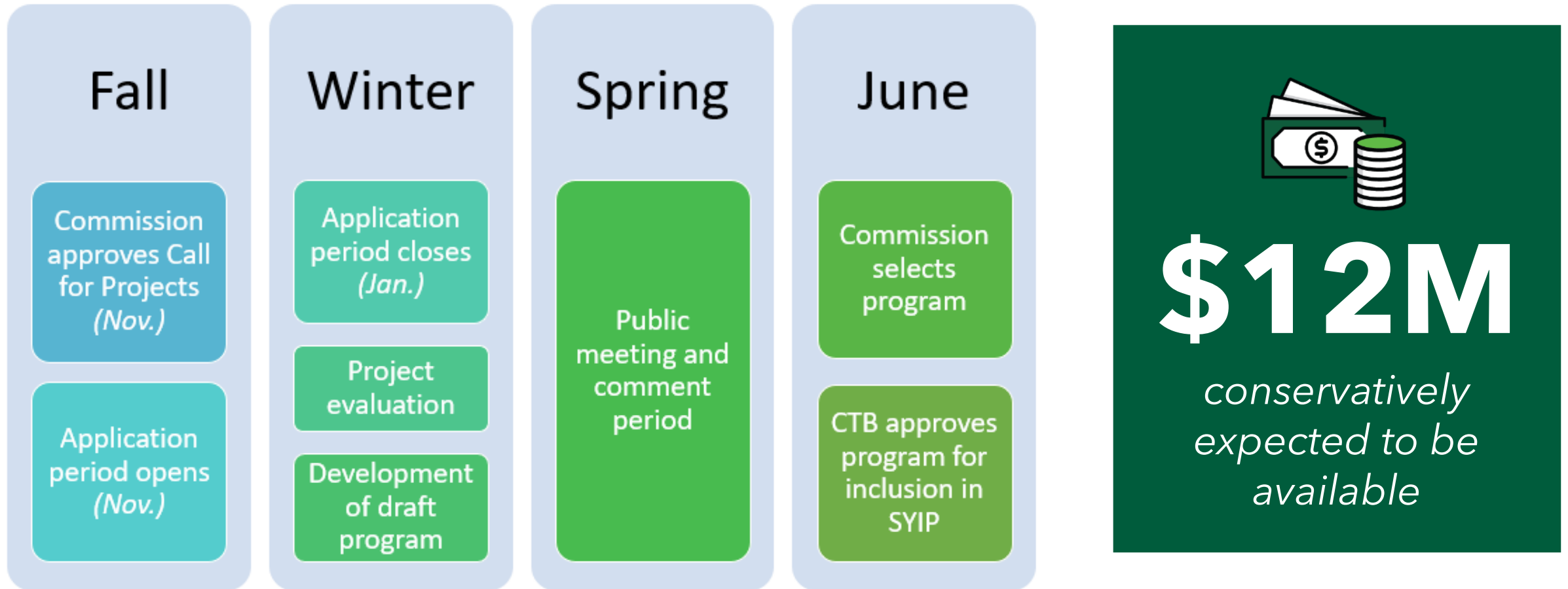


BEN OWEN

NVTC COMMUTER CHOICE
SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER

Commuter Choice on the I-66 Corridor

Round Five (FY 2023-FY 2024) Call for Projects



6. WMATA

- A. WMATA COVID-19 Response
- B. Report from the Virginia WMATA Board Members
- C. Other WMATA News
- D. Report from the Chair of the NVTC WMATA Committee
 - Presentation: Draft 2021 Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA



Strategies to Reduce the Growth in Costs and Improve Efficiencies

Highlighted Strategies from the 2021 Report Update

- **Leverage federal coronavirus relief aid** to prevent layoffs, sustain and improve service levels throughout a multi-year recovery period, and position WMATA for a sustainable long-term ridership and revenue recovery.
- **Communicate and encourage a safe return to transit** by highlighting and promoting enhanced safety efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic and developing a long-term, post-pandemic marketing and communications strategy to rebuild ridership.
- **Implement fare and parking policy changes** that improve revenue and ridership, remove barriers to access and retain newly returning riders.
- **Adapt rail service to anticipate demand** during the COVID-19 pandemic and the region's subsequent recovery period
- **Continue focus on ongoing initiatives to reduce the growth in operating costs and improve operational efficiencies** using NVTC's previously recommended strategies.

FY 2021 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 regional \$500 million in dedicated capital funding is \$154 million.

CIP Category	FY 2021 Actual Expenditures (millions)* <small>(Totals may not add due to rounding)</small>
Railcar Investments	\$10.6
Rail Systems Investments	\$18.2
Track and Structures Rehabilitation Improvements	\$17.4
Stations and Passenger Facilities Investments	\$49.6
Bus and Paratransit Investments	\$8.7
Business Support Investments	\$50.3
Total Capital Programs	\$154.9

FY 2021 WMATA Capital Program Highlights

- As of Q1 FY 2022, 17 of 20 outdoor stations have been reconstructed
- Metrobus and Metrorail fleet reliability at an all-time high
- Mobile App introduced for Apple and Android, bus farebox replacements, and new Metrorail faregates
- By installing fiber and upgrading radio communications, WMATA made cellular and data service available in all tunnels.

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

Next Steps

- Update remaining safety, reliability, ridership, and financial performance chapters when NTD data becomes available.
- Incorporate comments by the NVTC WMATA Committee and Commissioners
 - Add appropriate content and context regarding the Blue Line derailment
 - Add context for predicted gradual ridership recovery and extent of federal aid remaining
- Prepare the full report for action at the December 2 Commission Meeting.
- Submit report by December 15 legislative deadline.

7. Report from the Chair of the Legislative & Policy Committee



DAVID MEYER

LEGISLATIVE & POLICY COMMITTEE
CHAIR
CITY OF FARMER

- A. Report from the Chair of the Legislative and Policy Agenda
 - Presentation: Proposed NVTC 2022 Legislative and Policy Agenda
- B. Federal Update
- C. Annual Joint NVTC-PRTC Legislative Briefing

NVTC AND PRTC PRESENT

ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

Join transit leaders and special guests for an in-person overview of federal and state issues affecting transit in Northern Virginia





SAVE THE DATE

8:30 a.m.-11 a.m.
Monday, December 6, 2021
Embassy Suites by Hilton
8100 Loisdale Rd, Springfield, VA





8. Virginia Railway Express

- A. VRE COVID-19 Response
- B. VRE CEO Report and Minutes
- C. Draft VRE 2022 Legislative Agenda



JAMES WALKINSHAW
SECRETARY, VRE OPERATIONS BOARD
FAIRFAX COUNTY



RICH DALTON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS



Timeline of Operations Board Action on CROC-Backed Debt

November 2020

- Authorization to execute VRE-VPRA Funding Agreement (executed March 2021)

July 2021

- Approval and referral of amended Financial and Debt Management Principles

November 2021

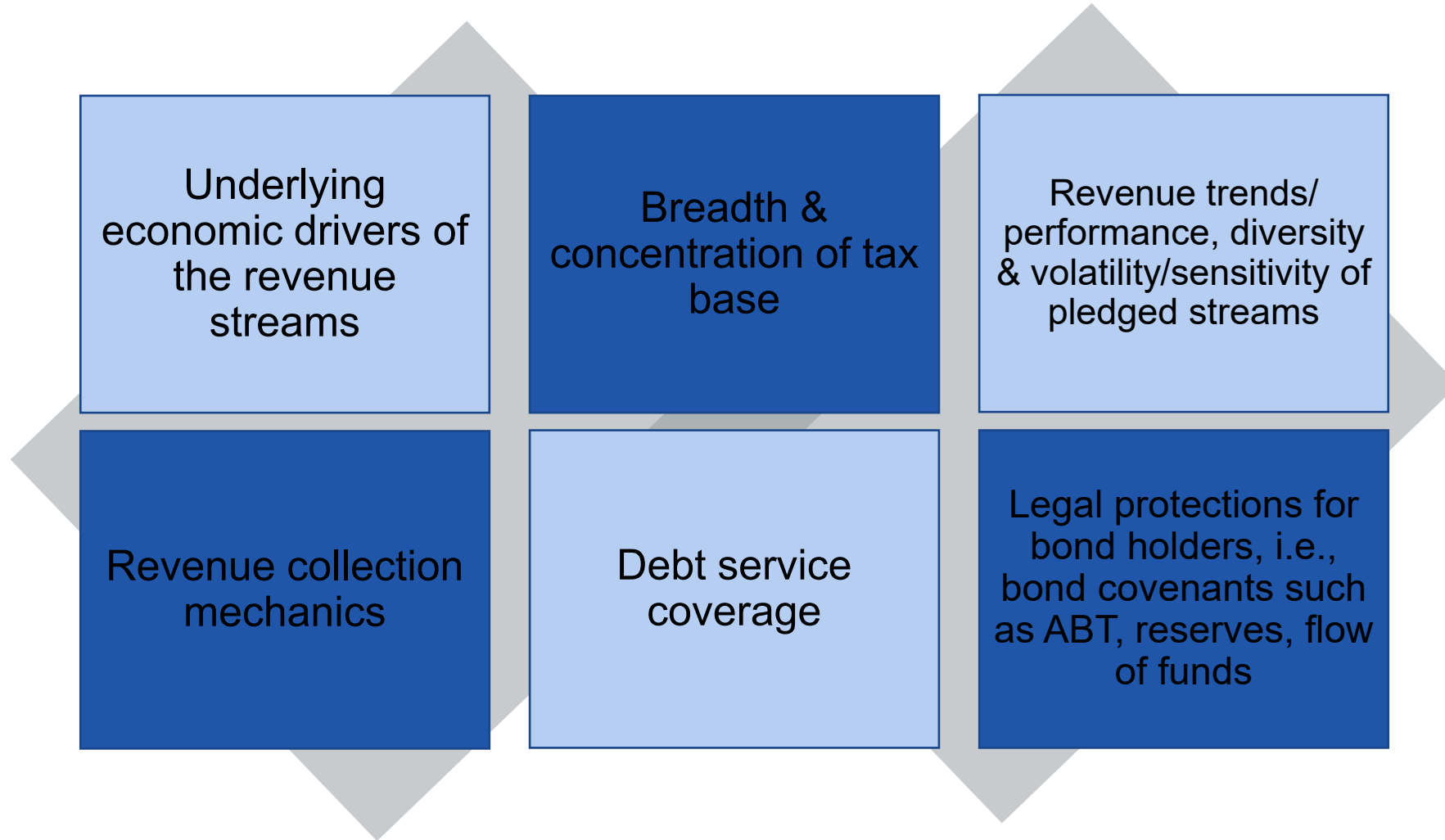
- Anticipated approval/referral to conclude Phase 1 financing analysis and proceed with Phase 2 steps to issue debt (due diligence, indicative credit ratings, selection of underwriter, etc.)

Early 2022 (TBD)

- Anticipated approval/referral of formal debt documents ahead of final credit ratings and marketing and sale of bonds



Credit Factors for Special Tax Bonds





Comparable Virginia Credits

	C-ROC Preliminary	I-81 Senior Lien	HRTAC Senior Lien	NVTA Senior Lien
Moody's	Aa3	Aa1	Aa2	Aa1
S&P	A+ or AA-	AA-	AA	AA+
Fitch	TBD	NR	AA+	AA+
As of Date	n/a	July 2021	July 2020	June 2020
Select Features				
Additional Bonds Test (ABT)	2.0x	2.0x	2.0x	2.0x
Debt Service Reserve Fund (DSRF)	3-prong test	None	None	MADs



Overview of Financing Options

- Public Bond Issue
- Virginia Resources Authority (VRA)
- USDOT Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) Program
- USDOT Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing (RRIF) Program
- Virginia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (VTIB) Loan

9. Department of Rail and Public Transportation

- A. DRPT Monthly Report
- B. WMATA Annual Reporting Requirements
- C. Transit Equity Study Update



JENNIFER MITCHELL
DIRECTOR, VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT
OF RAIL AND PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION



Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation



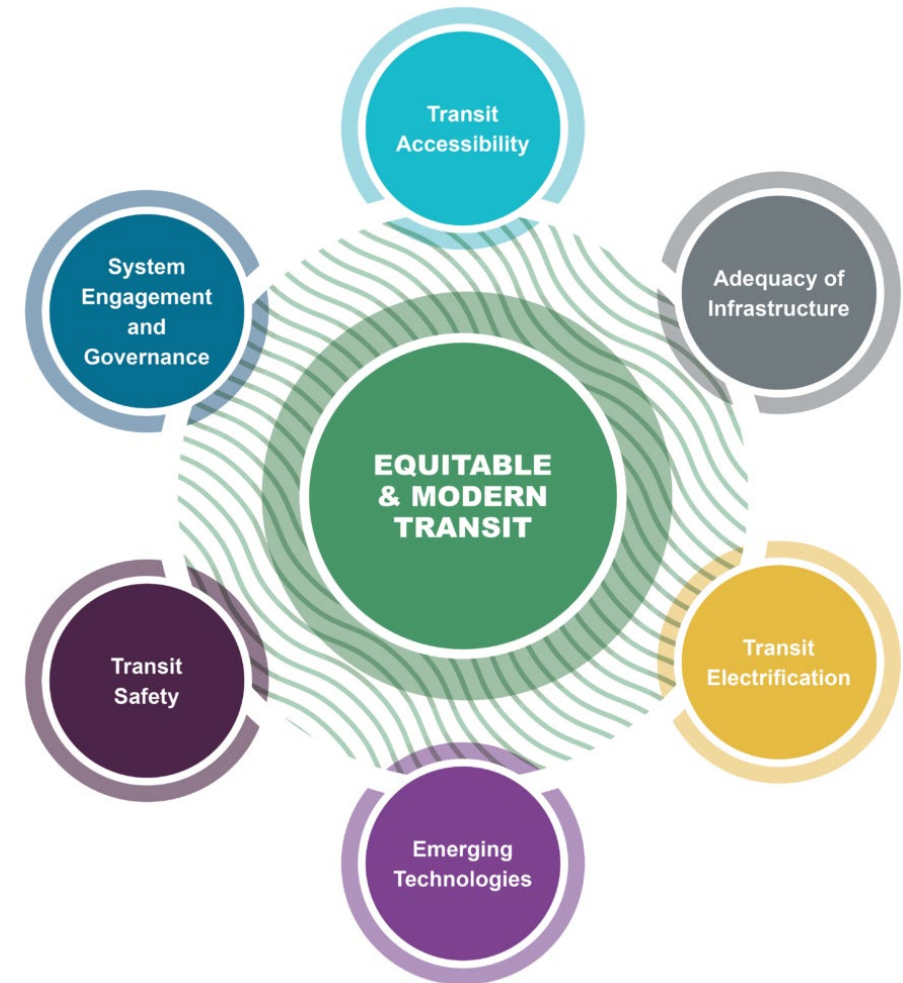
Virginia Transit Equity & Modernization Study

NVTC

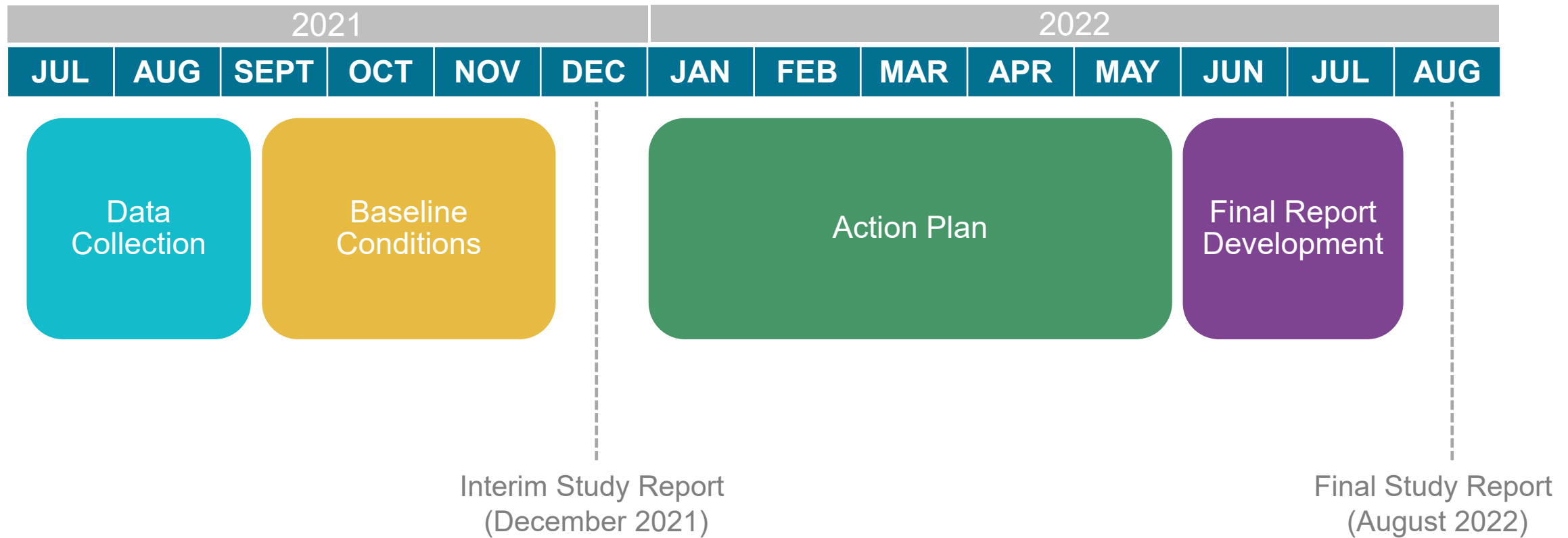
November 4, 2021

What is the Equity & Modernization Study?

- HJ 542 requires DRPT to develop a needs assessment and action plan for advancing equitable and modern public transit
- Emphasis on engagement opportunities for underrepresented and underserved communities
- Six technical topic areas must be addressed in the study



Study Process & Timeline



Progress To-Date

	Completed	In Progress	Upcoming
Study Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Data Collection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Baseline Conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Action Plan
Study Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Transit Agency Survey ✓ Rider Focus Groups ✓ Transit Agency Outreach Kits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Study Website ○ Transit Equity Committee ○ Technical Working Groups ○ Stakeholder Meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interim Study Report ○ Virtual Transit Equity Forum ○ Final Study Report

Study Action Plan

- Findings from the Baseline Conditions Assessment and Interim Study Report will inform the development of a Study Action Plan
- The Study Action Plan will include recommendations and implementation strategies that address barriers by topic area and will describe specific actions, next steps, coordination required, timeline for implementation and responsible agencies.
- DRPT anticipates that the Study Action Plan will advise changes to DRPT funding programs and policies, and the development of future plans.

Questions?


www.VAtransitequity.com



10. Executive Director's Report: October Highlights



Clean Cities Awards for Katie Cristol & Arlington Transit



Federal Funding is Available For Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure On the National Highway System

DOT Funding and Financing Program

LEGEND	Construction and installation of EV charging infrastructure including parking facilities and utilities.	Workforce development and training related to EV infrastructure.	EV acquisitions and engine conversions - cars or trucks.	Planning for EV charging infrastructure and related programs.

FY 2021 AMOUNT

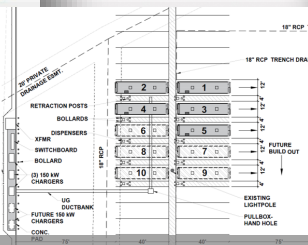

GoRaleigh Electrification

GoRaleigh, Raleigh, NC

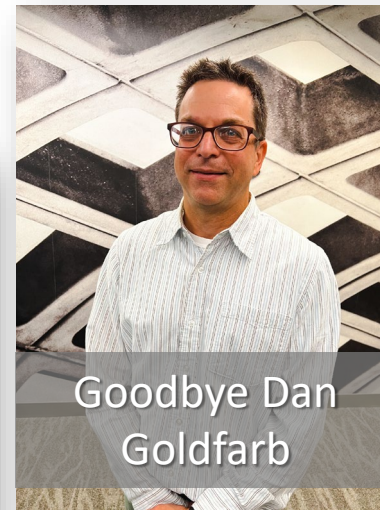
Facility Design

- Scalability provision for fleet expansion
- Existing parking areas designated for 40' rigid and 60' articulated vehicles
- Power supply not already available in outdoor yard
- Evaluated facility activities and space requirements to identify optimal location supporting pilot and growth
- Working with utility provider to design power infrastructure upgrade

IBI GROUP FLEET ELECTRIFICATION PRACTICE OVERVIEW

Zero-Emission Bus Symposium



Goodbye Dan Goldfarb



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TRANSPORTATION

What's New | What's next?

Transit Technology

- ✓ SmarTrip Mobile
- ✓ New faregates
- ✓ Low & Zero Emissions Buses

Metrorail

- ✓ Silver Line Phase 2
- ✓ Potomac Yard Station
- ✓ New station at Crystal City
- ✓ McLean

Passenger Rail

- ✓ VRE & Amtrak (& M)
- New Long Bridge
- Station improvements & Expansions
- System 2040 Plan



Katie Cristol

Chair Cristol speaks to the Alliance

Speakers: CD Doherty, Phyllis Randall, JC Jeanette Chapman

Presenting: Jason Stanford

Live: 27:47

Interactions: Raise hand, Facing problems?



NVTC on stage at International Tolling Conference

NVTC AND PRTC PRESENT

ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

Join transit leaders and special guests for an in-person overview of federal and state issues affecting transit in Northern Virginia



SAVE THE DATE

8:30 a.m.-11 a.m.

Monday, December 6, 2021

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8100 Loisdale Rd, Springfield, VA



POTOMAC & RAPPAHANNOCK
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

11. Closed Session

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



KATIE CRISTOL
NVTC CHAIR
ARLINGTON COUNTY

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
ARLINGTON COUNTY

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 2, 2021**

NVTC Commission Meeting

November 4, 2021

Meeting is adjourned. Thank you for attending.



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