

# NVTC Commission Meeting

## October 7, 2021

The meeting will start momentarily.



Meeting materials available at [www.novatransit.org](http://www.novatransit.org)

# NVTC October 7, 2021 Meeting Agenda

1. Opening Remarks
2. **ACTION ITEM:** Approve the September 2, 2021 NVTC Meeting Minutes
3. **ACTION ITEM:** Consent Agenda
4. Report from the Chair of the Program Advisory Committee  
**ACTION ITEMS:**
  - Contract Award for Envision Route 7 Phase IV
  - Submit FY 2021 Commuter Choice Annual Report to CTB
  - Approve I-66 Round 4 Supplemental Program of Projects (FY 2022)
5. Report from the Chair of the Legislative and Policy Committee

6. Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
7. Virginia Railway Express  
**ACTION ITEMS:**
  - Refer the Preliminary FY 2023 VRE Operating and Capital Budget to the Jurisdictions
  - Amend a Site License Agreement for Real Property at Leeland Road Stations
8. Department of Rail and Public Transportation
9. Executive Director Report
10. Closed Session

# 1. Opening Remarks

## 2. Approve Minutes

**ACTION ITEM:** Approve the Meeting Minutes from the September 2, 2021 Commission Meeting

## 3. Consent Agenda

- A. Authorize the Notice of Direct Contributions** to the Jurisdictions
- B. Resolution #2460: Authorize the Executive Director to Apply** for DRPT Transit Recovery Marketing Initiative
- C. Authorize the Chair to Sign a Letter of Endorsement** for Fairfax County Transit Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP) Application



**KATIE CRISTOL**  
NVTC CHAIR  
ARLINGTON COUNTY

# 4. Report from the Chair of the Program Advisory Committee



**DAVE SNYDER**  
CHAIR PROGRAM ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE  
CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

## A. Envision Route 7

- **ACTION ITEM:** Approve the Contract Award for Envision Route 7 Phase IV

## B. Commuter Choice Program at Large

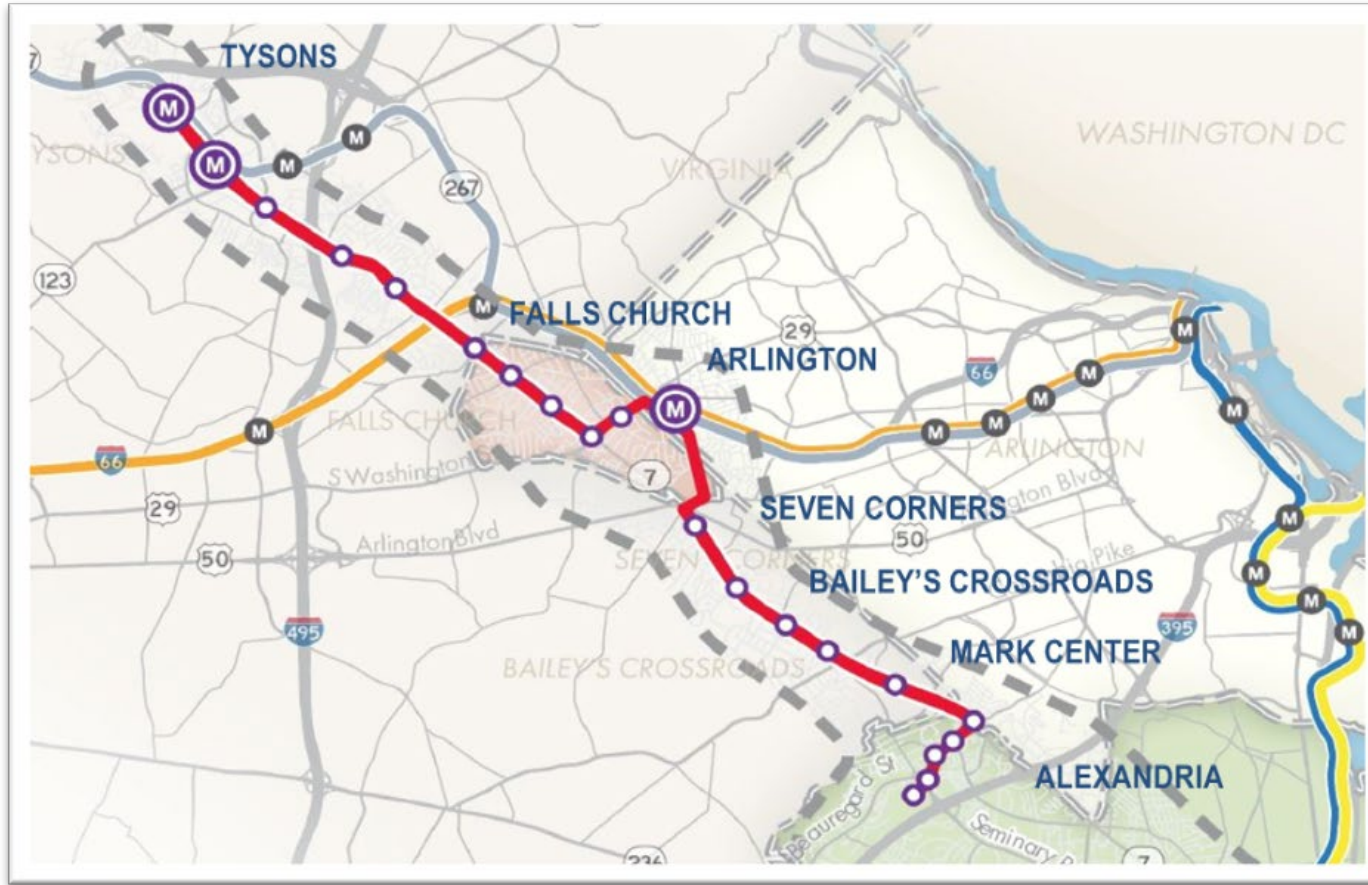
- **ACTION ITEM:** Authorize the Executive Director to Submit the NVTC Commuter Choice Program FY 2021 Annual Report to the Commonwealth Transportation Board

## C. Commuter Choice on the I-66 Corridor

- **ACTION ITEM:** Approve Resolution #2461: Approve the Commuter Choice on the I-66 Corridor Round Four Supplemental Program of Projects for Submission to the Commonwealth Transportation Board and Authorize the Executive Director to Execute Standard Project Agreements
- I-66 Round Five Call for Projects Update



# A. Envision Route 7 Bus Rapid Transit



## ACTION ITEM:

Approve the Contract Award for Envision Route 7 Phase IV

ENVISION  ROUTE 7



# B. Commuter Choice Program New DASH Network Launch Event





# B. Commuter Choice Program

## FY 2021 Annual Report

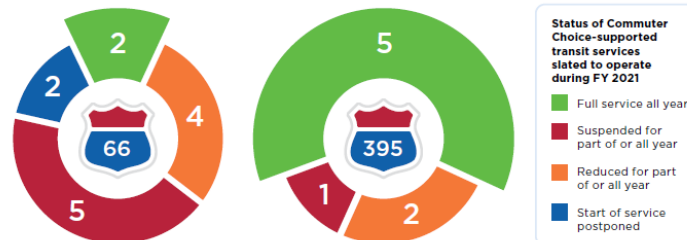
### PROJECT PERFORMANCE

In this disruptive and hopefully atypical year, we focus on the performance of our projects relative to broader travel trends in the region. We continue to provide flexibility to grant recipients as they respond to changes in travel demand and will help them be ready when commuters return in greater volumes. Going forward, we'll continue to work with applicants to foster innovative proposals that respond to changing travel needs — and that are measurable and provide tangible benefits to the region's toll road users.

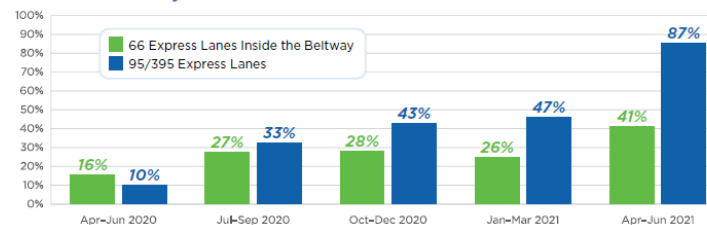


#### Corridor Travel Trends During FY 2021

The continued impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency during FY 2021 affected Commuter Choice's two corridors differently. Traffic volumes more rapidly rebounded and transit ridership was more resilient in the I-395/95 corridor than in the I-66 corridor. Many commute trips in the I-395/95 corridor are bound for Department of Defense facilities, which more quickly began to resume in-person work.



#### Quarterly Toll Revenues Relative to October-December 2019



Sources: Virginia Department of Transportation quarterly revenue reports to NVTC (66 Express Lanes Inside the Beltway), Transurban first-half and fiscal-year investor reports (95/395 Express Lanes)

### IN A CHALLENGING YEAR

#### The Rise of Telecommuting

Many workers in the metropolitan D.C. area began to telecommute full-time during the COVID-19 public health emergency — which initially led to much less driving and transit use across the region, including in the I-66 Inside the Beltway and I-395/95 corridors. Although many employers are now considering formal return-to-office plans, telecommuting will likely remain at higher levels indefinitely. Commuter Choice grant recipients will need to respond to more varied, dynamic commute patterns — and NVTC will support them in doing so.

Of surveyed regional workers

**60%**  
telecommuted during the peak of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

**91%**  
would like to continue telecommuting at least some of the time.

Source: National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board's Voices of the Region 2020 Survey

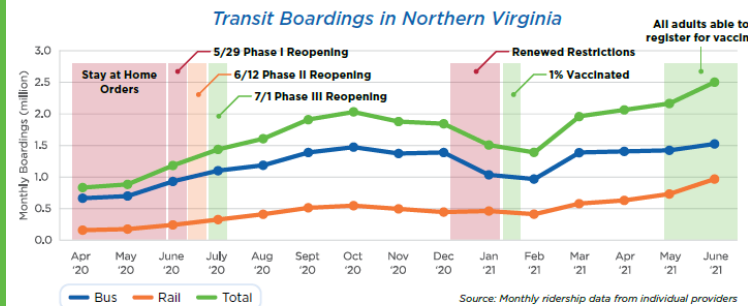
#### Bright Spots in FY 2021

Commuter Choice-supported point-to-point express bus services to the Pentagon achieved 37% of their ridership targets in FY 2021, compared to 15% on Downtown D.C. express routes.

The relative success of Pentagon routes was a function of early return-to-work orders at the Department of Defense and growing traffic congestion, particularly in the I-395/95 corridor.

#### Transit Ridership in Northern Virginia: On an Upswing

Overall transit boardings in Northern Virginia nearly tripled from spring 2020 to June 2021. Bus ridership — which tends to support more essential trips — has been relatively steady during the pandemic, while rail ridership is beginning to show a gradual but steady rebound.



All-day, every-day service improvements funded by Commuter Choice on the I-395/95 Corridor on DASH's AT-1 and AT-9 local routes in Alexandria helped the routes retain most of their riders relative to pre-improvement service. The routes significantly outperformed the overall DASH system.

**AT-1**  
**90%**

**AT-9**  
**98%**

**DASH SYSTEM**  
**40%**

% of Annual FY 2019 Ridership  
Achieved During FY 2021

# B. Commuter Choice Program

## ACTION: FY 2021 Annual Report



### ACTION ITEM:


Authorize the Executive Director to Submit the NVTC Commuter Choice Program FY 2021 Annual Report to the CTB



# C. Commuter Choice on the I-66 Corridor

## Recommended Round Four (FY 2022) Supplemental Program

	Project Name	Applicant	Funding Request
1	TDM Strategy - I-66 Corridor Vanpool Parking Benefit	OmniRide	\$85,000
2	New Bus Service from Reston South to Crystal City	Fairfax County	\$5,110,800
3	TDM Strategy - Fare Buy Down on Bus Service from Reston North to Crystal City	Fairfax County	\$154,500
Program Administration and Oversight for FY 2022		NVTC	\$400,000
TOTAL			\$5,750,300



500

more people moving through the I-66 corridor each day



5

regional activity centers better connected









2

strategies to rebuild transit and vanpool ridership

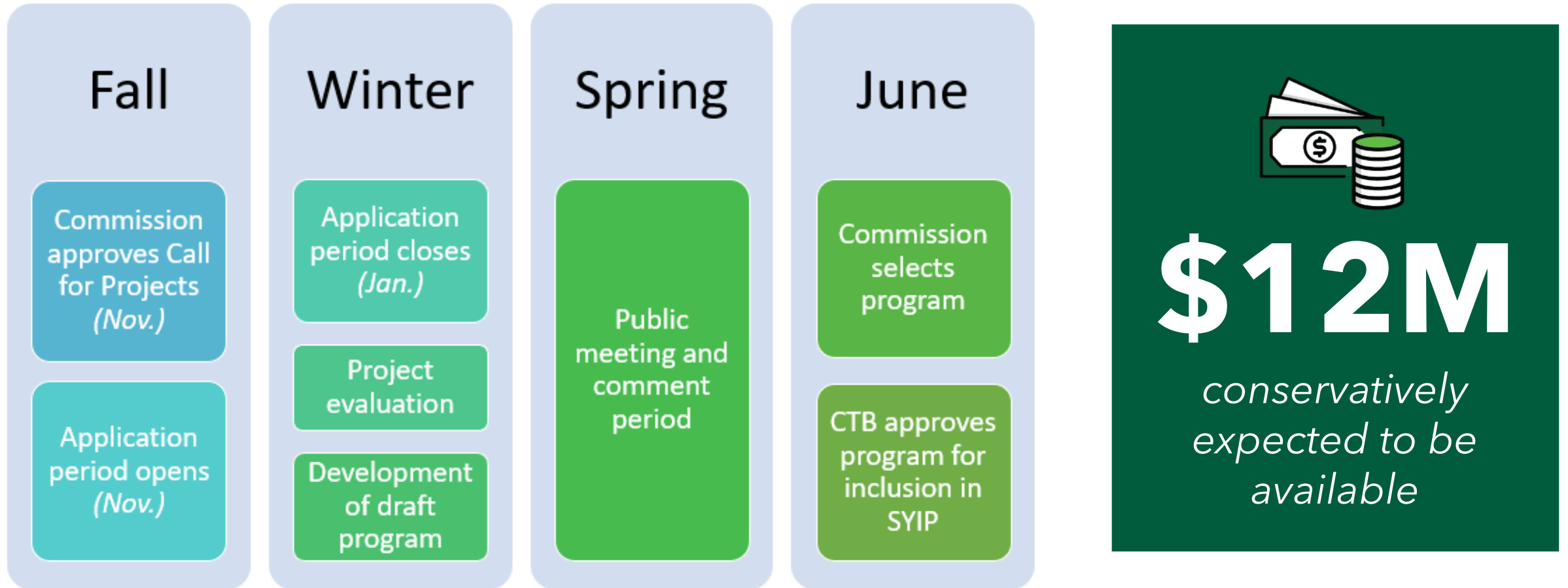
# C. Commuter Choice on the I-66 Corridor

## Regional Transition to Zero-Emission Buses

	Interested	Studying	Testing	Notes
	✓			Plans to conduct study.
	✓			Transition would be consistent with city goals.
		✓	✓	Comparing electric buses (six total) from two manufacturers.
		✓		I-66 corridor pilot soon begins with four electric buses.
		✓		Recently received funding to buy two electric buses.
		✓		Feasibility study beginning.

# C. Commuter Choice on the I-66 Corridor

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





# C. Commuter Choice on the I-66 Corridor

## ACTION: Round Four (FY 2022) Supplemental Program

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	<i>Program Administration and Oversight for FY 2022</i>	NVTC	\$400,000
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,750,300</b>

### ACTION ITEM:

**Resolution #2461:** Approve the Commuter Choice on the I-66 Corridor Round Four Supplemental Program of Projects for Submission to the Commonwealth Transportation Board and Authorize the Executive Director to Execute Standard Project Agreements

# 5. Report from the Chair of the Legislative & Policy Committee



**DAVID MEYER**

LEGISLATIVE & POLICY COMMITTEE  
CHAIR  
CITY OF FIA RFAX

- A. 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



## 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
  - Next NVTC WMATA Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 21 at 6PM







## 7. Virginia Railway Express

- A. VRE COVID-19 Response
- B. VRE CEO Report and Minutes
- C. ACTION ITEM:** Approve Resolution #2462: Authorize the VRE CEO to Refer the Preliminary FY 2023 Operating and Capital Budget to the Jurisdictions
- D. ACTION ITEM:** Approve Resolution #2463: Authorize the VRE CEO to Amend a Site License Agreement for Real Property at Leeland Road Station



**ELIZABETH BENNETT-PARKER**  
CHAIR  
VRE OPERATIONS BOARD



**RICH DALTON**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS

## 8. Department of Rail and Public Transportation

### A. DRPT Monthly Report



**JENNIFER MITCHELL**  
DIRECTOR, VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT  
OF RAIL AND PUBLIC  
TRANSPORTATION



Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation



# 9. Executive Director's Report: September Highlights



Senator Warner and Senator Kaine  
Infrastructure Roundtable





# Upcoming Events

**NVTC's WMATA Committee** October 21 at 6:00 pm



## Zero Emission Bus Symposium

Online Webinar  
Friday, October 22  
9 a.m. - noon

Email [tenleyohara@novatransit.org](mailto:tenleyohara@novatransit.org) to RSVP

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.  
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## 10. 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 **November 4, 2021**

# NVTC Commission Meeting

## October 7, 2021

Meeting is adjourned. Thank you for attending.



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