



NVTC PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE / NVTC-PRTC JOINT COMMISSION WORKING GROUP

Thursday, September 19, 2024

All Virtual Meeting

[Public Streaming Via YouTube](#)

4:30 p.m.

AGENDA

4:30 p.m. Joint NVTC Program Advisory Committee/Joint NVTC-PRTC Commission Working Group

ALL-VIRTUAL ([public streaming](#))

This meeting is an ALL-VIRTUAL public meeting as permitted under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and NVTC’s Electronic Participation Policy. If the meeting method is changed, NVTC will provide a new meeting notice in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. If the livestream transmission fails, please contact NVTC staff via email at support@novatransit.org, which will be monitored during the meeting.

Other September 19 NVTC Committee Meetings:

6:00 p.m. Joint WMATA Committee/Legislative and Policy Committee Meeting – IN-PERSON

NVTC Suite #230 Conference Room ([public streaming](#)) (see separate agenda)

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
2. NVTC-PRTC Joint Commission Working Group
 - A. Summary of the NVTC-PRTC Joint Commission Working Group April 20, 2023 Meeting
 - B. Commuter Choice Presentation: I-395/95 Call for Projects (FY 2026-2027)
 - C. Next Joint PAC/JCWG Meeting: Spring 2025
3. NVTC Program Advisory Committee
 - A. Summary of the NVTC Program Advisory Committee April 11, 2024 Meeting
 - B. Transit Technology Presentation: Northern Virginia Regional ZEB Update
4. Other Business

PAC Members:

Dalia Palchik, Chair
Sarah Bagley
Juli Briskman
Libby Garvey
David Snyder

JCWG Members:

Dalia Palchik, Chair (NVTC)
Sarah Bagley (NVTC)
Libby Garvey (NVTC)
Tinesha Allen (PRTC)
Kenny Boddy (PRTC)
Jannan Holmes (PRTC)

**NVTC-PRTC JOINT COMMISSION WORKING GROUP
MEETING SUMMARY
Via Electronic Participation
Public Streaming via YouTube
April 20, 2023**

NVTC-PRTC Joint Commission Working Group Members Present:

Jeff McKay, Chair (NVTC)
Tinesha Allen (PRTC)
Sarah Bagley (NVTC)
Kenny Boddye (PRTC)
Libby Garvey (NVTC)
Jeanette Rishell (PRTC)

Other NVTC Commissioners Present:

Walter Alcorn
John Foust
David Snyder
Mike Turner

Staff and Others Present:

Kate Mattice, NVTC Executive Director
Allan Fye
Adam Hager
Xavier Harmony
Ann McGrane
Ben Owen
Melissa Walker
Ronnetta Zack-Williams
Joe Stainsby (PRTC)

Joint Commission Working Group Chair McKay called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. He noted that staff followed procedures and guidelines to give notice to JCWG members, both Commissions, staff and the public about today's meeting. He explained that the meeting is an all-virtual public meeting as permitted under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and NVTC's Electronic Participation Policy and is being streamed live via NVTC's YouTube channel.

Mr. Fye called the roll and determined a quorum was present. He then introduced staff.

Chair McKay noted that committee members were provided with a summary of the previous Working Group meeting held on September 15, 2022. He asked if anyone had comments or changes to share with staff; there were none.

Chair McKay then thanked the committee members for continuing to serve on the Working Group. He explained the purpose of the Working Group, noting it serves as an intermediary between the two Commissions and corridor jurisdictions during the I-395/95 Commuter Choice funding cycle. He then asked Mr. Owen and Mr. Hager to go through their presentation.

Ms. Allen joined the meeting at 4:07 p.m.

I-395/95 Commuter Choice Program

Mr. Owen began by noting some of the unique circumstances around this Commuter Choice program, namely the strong demand for program funding and relatively large amount of funding available. He then explained the principles staff used to develop a draft Program of Projects for consideration by the Working Group, including accommodating larger capital projects, continuing support for high-performing transit services, spreading the wealth to ensure each applicant receives funding for its highest priority project and supporting a variety of regional transit investments.

Mr. Owen then covered highlights of the proposed program, noting that, once implemented, the 13 recommended projects would support 11,000 additional daily trips in the corridor, a 76% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions relative to driving alone, \$4 million in annual savings for commuters in fuel costs, and 138,000 hours of delay saved each year.

Mr. Hager reviewed each of the 13 projects in the staff recommended program, starting with capital projects and then transit service improvements. He also explained that in order to fund the two 'larger' capital projects, the Crystal City Station Expansion and Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit Implementation, each project would receive approximately \$10 million in this round while the remainder of the funding needed to complete the requested amount, totaling \$18 million, would be provided in the FY 2026-2027 program.

Mr. Owen detailed next steps in the program development process, indicating that both Commissions would receive briefings in May followed by program adoption and referral to the Commonwealth Transportation Board in June.

Mr. Boddye joined the meeting at 4:19 p.m.

Chair McKay then asked for questions and feedback from the Working Group.

Ms. Rishell mentioned a concern around the proposed advanced commitment of funding but said \$18 million is a relatively small amount compared to the overall transportation picture. She said she was happy to support as recommended and thanked staff for an earlier one-on-one briefing.

Ms. Garvey also thanked staff for an earlier briefing and noted she was glad that there are several projects that benefit Arlington County, not just the Metrobus 16M Service Enhancement.

Chair McKay mentioned his strong support for the program as presented and confirmed the general support from the Working Group collectively. He said he looked forward to presentations to the Commissions in May.

Adjournment

The Joint Commission Working Group meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

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**NVTC PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING SUMMARY
NVTC Suite #230 Conference Room
2300 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Virginia
Public Streaming via YouTube
April 11, 2024**

NVTC Program Advisory Committee Members Present:

Dalia Palchik, Chair
Juli Briskman
David Snyder

NVTC Program Advisory Committee Members Absent:

Sarah Bagley
Libby Garvey

Other Commissioners Present:

Catherine Read

Staff and Others Present:

Kate Mattice, Executive Director
Allan Fye
Xavier Harmony
Daniel Knickelbein
Tenley O'Hara
Ben Owen
Vikram Sinha
Melissa Walker

PAC Chair Dalia Palchik called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m. She noted that the meeting is being live streamed via NVTC's YouTube page and she confirmed a quorum is present.

I-66 Commuter Choice – Staff Recommended Program of Projects (FY 2025-2026)

Chair Palchik introduced the I-66 Commuter Choice update by noting that PAC members provided staff with feedback on preliminary programming concepts for FY 2025 and 2026 funding at the February 2024 meeting. She then asked Mr. Owen to provide an update on development of the Program of Projects. Mr. Owen began his presentation by noting that, since the February meeting, staff scored all eligible applications and received confirmation from the Commonwealth Office of the Attorney General that all demonstrate a sufficient nexus to I-66 Inside the Beltway

toll payers. He then stated that staff recommend a \$31 million Program of Projects that includes funding for all 15 eligible applications given good overall scoring results, strong cumulative benefits and sufficient available funding. Three of the proposals are also under consideration for Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) I-66 Outside the Beltway funding given the nature and location of their benefits and any that DRPT ultimately funds would not have Commuter Choice funds obligated. Mr. Owen briefly described each proposed project, most of which represent continued funding for successful transit service improvements and commuter incentives. The program also includes \$8 million to complete the Commuter Choice funding award for the Virginia Railway Express Crystal City Station Expansion project a year sooner than planned with I-66 rather than I-395/95 Commuter Choice funding, for which the PAC had indicated its support at the February meeting. Mr. Owen added that the Commonwealth Office of the Attorney General concurred that the project would benefit toll payers in either corridor. Overall, the 15 projects would support 2,700 additional transit trips in the I-66 corridor each weekday, save travelers 250,000 hours of delay each year, reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 70% relative to drive-alone travel and save commuters \$2.6 million annually in fuel costs, among other benefits.

Mr. Owen next provided an update on the proposed I-66 corridor needs assessment that staff raised with the PAC as a concept in February and for which the committee expressed support. He indicated that staff are working closely with DRPT to develop the scope and budget for the work. He further explained that the draft scope would build up to a pipeline of candidate investments for future I-66 Commuter Choice funding support through a review of local transit plans and capital programs, a quantitative assessment of current and future travel needs to identify possible gaps between needs and transit supply, and meetings with jurisdictions and transit agencies to discuss needs and potential projects in more detail. The \$250,000 included in the staff-recommended Program of Projects represents half of the anticipated total budget for the study; DRPT would fund the remaining \$250,000.

Mr. Owen concluded by outlining next steps on the FY2025-2026 Program of Projects. He noted that a one-month public comment period opens on April 12 and that Commissioners will be asked to help spread the word. He added that the full Commission will receive a briefing on the draft Program of Projects in May, prior to actions to adopt the program and authorize contracting for the needs assessment work in June.

Chair Palchik indicated her support for the staff recommendations and asked if additional information on individual projects was available for members of the public to view online. Mr. Owen confirmed that individual project profiles have been posted to the NVTC website. Chair Palchik asked if there were any further questions or feedback from Commissioners, and there were none. She further stated that she is looking forward to progress being made on the I-66 needs assessment study.

Envision Route 7 BRT Strategic Implementation Plan

Chair Palchik asked Mr. Sinha to provide an update on Envision Route 7. Mr. Sinha introduced himself and provided an overview of BRT in the Northern Virginia region, noting BRT projects that are in operation or in planning, proceeding to an overview of Route 7 BRT, which would run 14 miles from Spring Hill Metro to Mark Center and link Tysons, Falls Church, Seven Corners and Bailey's Crossroads en route. The presentation then discussed the existing bus service on Route 7, Metrobus 28A, and how the project represents an opportunity to make a good service better since it will continue to connect multiple Metrorail lines while adding connections to regional high frequency bus service. Discussing where the project is now, Mr. Sinha noted that the project has been in progress for 10 years and has advanced as funding is available. Currently in Phase 4, he noted that Phase 2 was funded by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA).

Mr. Snyder joined the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Sinha then further discussed Phase 4 and noted how an existing Fairfax County study is being integrated with NVTC's studies of Route 7. He added that the upcoming Phase 4-2 Mobility Analysis Study will examine the segment from Seven Corners in Fairfax County to Mark Center in Alexandria.

NVTC Research Strategic Roadmap

Dr. Harmony provided an update on the study, explaining what the key deliverables are, what inputs have been provided so far, and what a draft research pipeline looks like. He particularly emphasized how contributions from attendees from the February 2024 PAC meeting were combined with comments from a March jurisdictional staff workshop to develop three different focus themes for future NVTC research: economics, equity and the environment. Dr. Harmony then demonstrated how these themes can be used as part of a research pipeline that vets potential research ideas. Ms. Read expressed her endorsement of the research themes, especially noting how important the themes are to the City of Fairfax. Ms. Briskman suggested that if potential ideas fit more than research topic, they should receive higher prioritization by NVTC.

Other Business

Chair Palchik asked for any other business before the committee. There were no questions or comments from committee members. She announced that an exact date for the next PAC has not been identified and staff will look for dates in late summer/early fall.

Chair Palchik adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.