



NVTC Joint WMATA and Legislative & Policy Committee Meeting

Meeting materials available at novatransit.org

February 20, 2025

Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
2. November 21, 2024 Meeting Summary
3. Joint Committee Overview and 2025 Workplan
4. Updates
 - a. WMATA FY 2026 Budget
 - b. General Assembly
5. NVTC Work Towards Long-Term, Sustainable, Dedicated Funding
 - a. DMVMoves
 - b. SJ 28: Northern Virginia Growing Needs of Public Transit Joint Subcommittee
 - c. Northern Virginia Transit Funding Guide





3. Joint Committee Overview and 2025 Workplan

WMATA Committee Scope and Responsibilities

Commission
<i>Meets Monthly</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discuss and inform Commissioners during the WMATA portion of the agenda• Receive reports from the WMATA Committee and WMATA Board Members• Take formal action on NVTC policy positions on WMATA

NVTC WMATA Committee
<i>Meets 5-6 times a year</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides a forum for consensus-based recommendations to the Commission on WMATA policy positions• Provides strategic guidance to staff on WMATA related policy matters and NVTC's responsibilities from legislation

Regional Staffing Structure
<i>Meets Bi-weekly or Monthly</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NVTC staff coordinate a regional staffing structure that includes DRPT and jurisdictional staff• Prepares Virginia WMATA Board members for WMATA Board meetings• Builds consensus on Virginia issues related to WMATA and facilitates multi-jurisdictional representation

Legislative and Policy Committee Scope and Responsibilities

Commission
<i>Meets Monthly</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discuss legislative updates from Washington and Richmond• Receive reports from Legislative and Policy Committee Members• Take formal action on annual NVTC federal and state legislative agenda

NVTC Legislative and Policy Committee
<i>Meets 5-6 times a year</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forum for Committee members to discuss federal and state policy and impacts to NVTC• Provide strategic guidance to staff on legislative and policy matters• Develop annual legislative agenda for Commission review and approval

Regional Context
<i>Ongoing coordination</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weekly NOVA Legislative Liaisons meetings during General Assembly session• Stakeholder engagement on relevant issues throughout the year

Proposed 2025 Workplan



Joint Committee Engagement

WMATA

- Joint Committee Workplan

- 2025 Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA work session
- Better Bus implementation

- Develop 2025 Report on WMATA
- Preliminary discussion of WMATA FY 2027 budget

Leg & Policy

- Joint Committee Workplan
- General Assembly update

- DMVMoves and SJ 28 update
- Legislative strategy & 2026 GA look-ahead

- SJ 28 updates and recommendations
- Develop 2026 Legislative Agenda
- Continued engagement on funding principles

Commission Engagement

WMATA

- WMATA GM and Board Chair visit NVTC

- **Action: Authorize submission of the 2025 Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA**

Leg & Policy

- 2025 Virginia General Assembly legislative session debrief

- **Action: Approve 2026 Legislative and Policy Agenda**





4. Updates

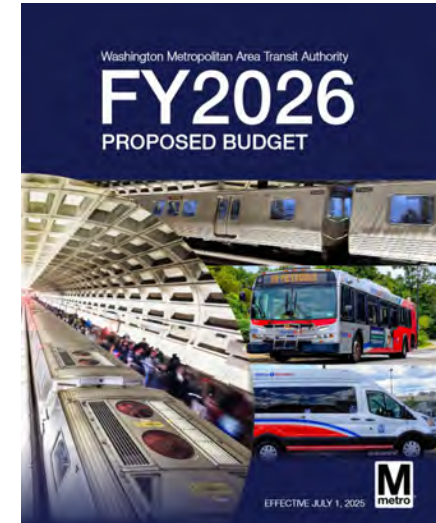
a. WMATA FY 2026 Budget

b. General Assembly



WMATA FY 2026 Budget

- Public comment period closed February 10.
 - [NVTC comments](#) were submitted by the deadline.
- Revised proposed FY 2026-2031 Capital Improvement Program at the February 27 Board meeting.
 - Rescoped capital projects reflecting funding availability; [previewed in January](#).
- Anticipated budget adoption in March.



[FY 2026
Proposed
Budget](#)



[FY 2026-
2031
Proposed
CIP](#)

General Assembly Update



5. NVTC Work Towards Long-Term, Sustainable, Dedicated Funding



DMVMoves

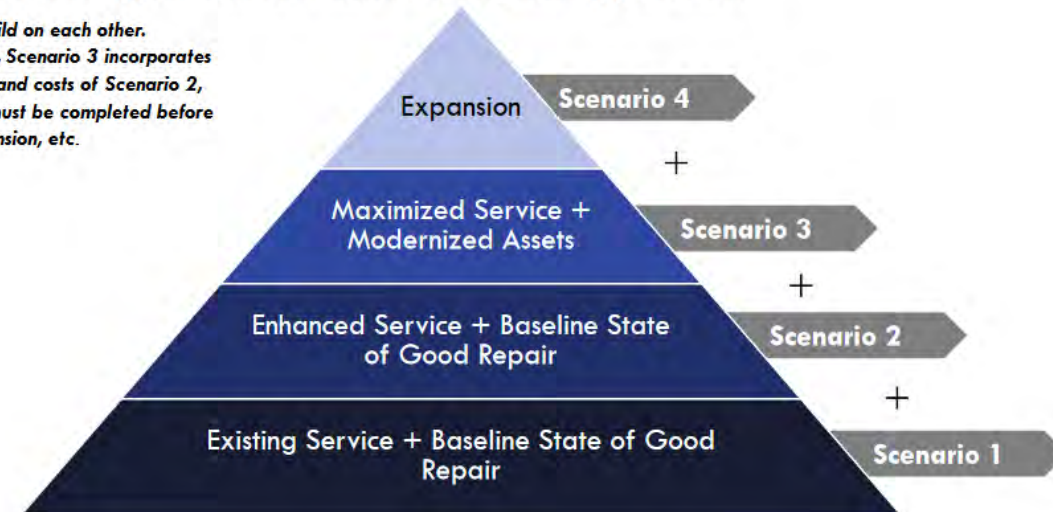
- Task Force met December 2, 2024 and reviewed four funding scenarios and potential funding mechanisms.
- Advisory groups (Community Partners and Government Partners) continue to meet to review scenarios.
 - Six working groups were also established to advance six Action Plans on a series of policies (fare policy, service guidelines, wayfinding, bus priority strategies, shared procurements, consistent training and certification, etc.).
- Next Task Force meeting scheduled for March 24, 2025.

Source: [December 2, 2024 DMVMoves Task Force materials](#)

Potential Transit System and Funding Scenarios

Four scenarios to support near-term needs and long-term opportunities:

*Scenarios build on each other.
For example, Scenario 3 incorporates the changes and costs of Scenario 2, Scenario 3 must be completed before system expansion, etc.*



DMVMOVES

Moving our region forward, together.

[DMVMoves website](#)

SJ 28: Northern Virginia Growing Needs of Public Transit Joint Subcommittee

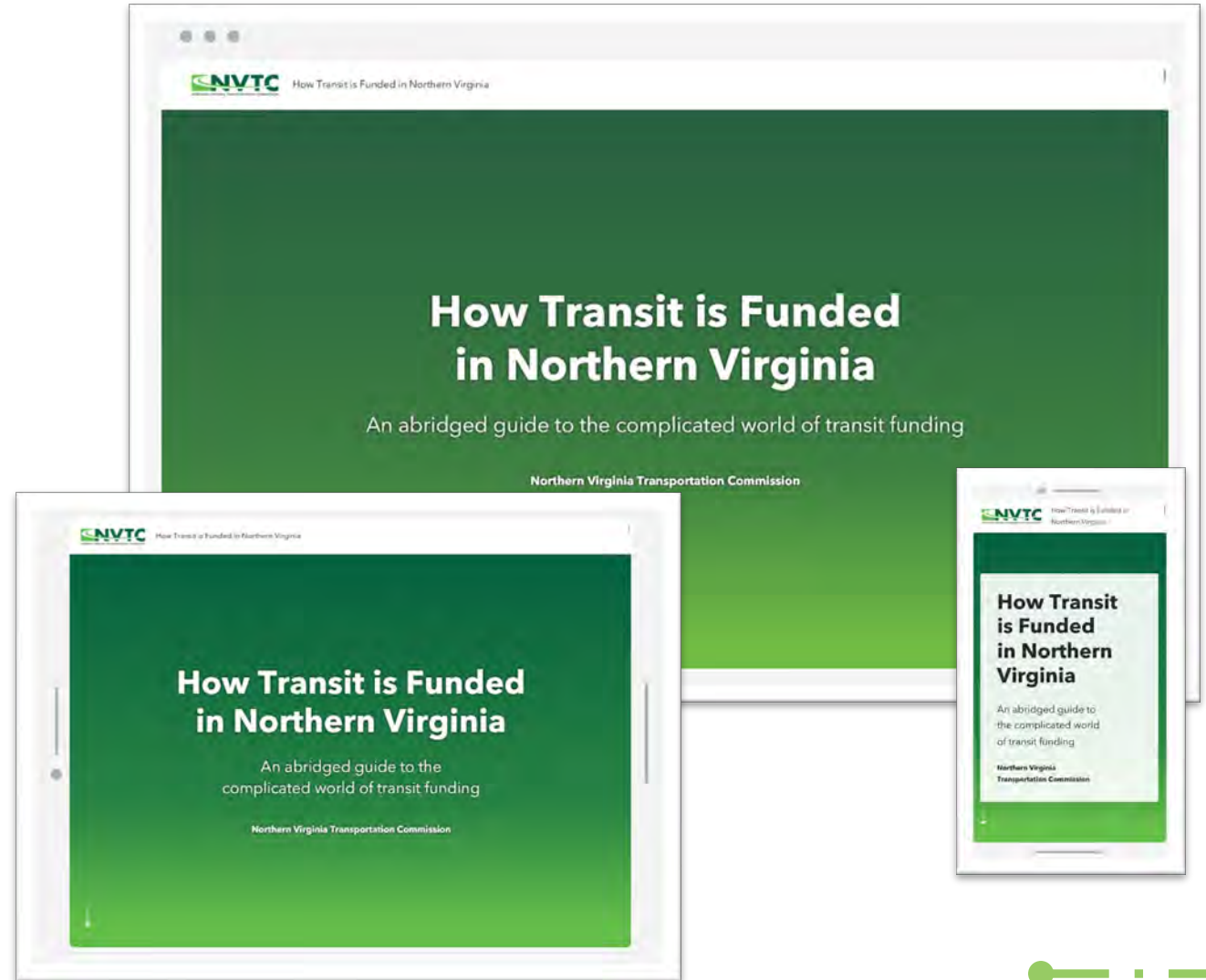
- In addition to the 10 sources identified in NVTC's [Metro Operating Funding and Reform Working Group Report](#), the Joint Subcommittee selected five additional sources to develop an expanded menu of revenue estimates for the (1) NVTC, (2) Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC) and (3) statewide geographies:
 - Regional highway use fee
 - Regional income tax
 - Retail delivery fee
 - I-66 Inside the Beltway tolling outside of peak-period and peak direction, and
 - Regional motor vehicle rental tax
- 2025 Joint Subcommittee Workplan:
 - March/April – Existing Funding Structure
 - June – Reviewing New Revenue Estimates
 - September – Transit Agency Long-Term Needs
 - November – Adopting Recommendations



[SJ 28 website](#)

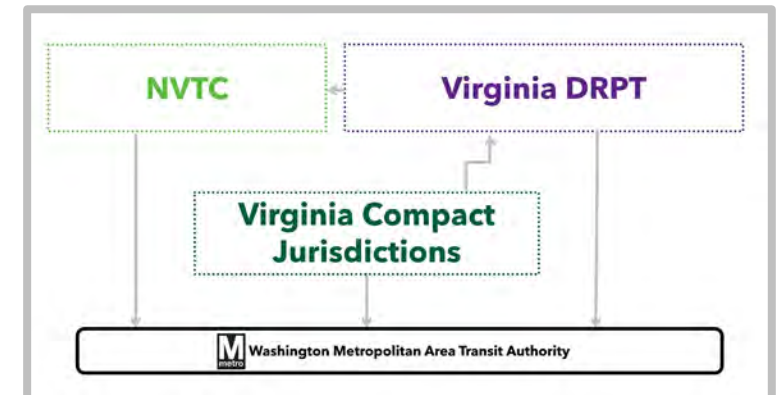
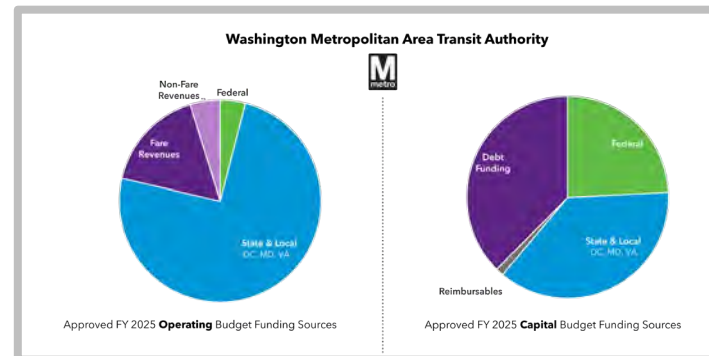
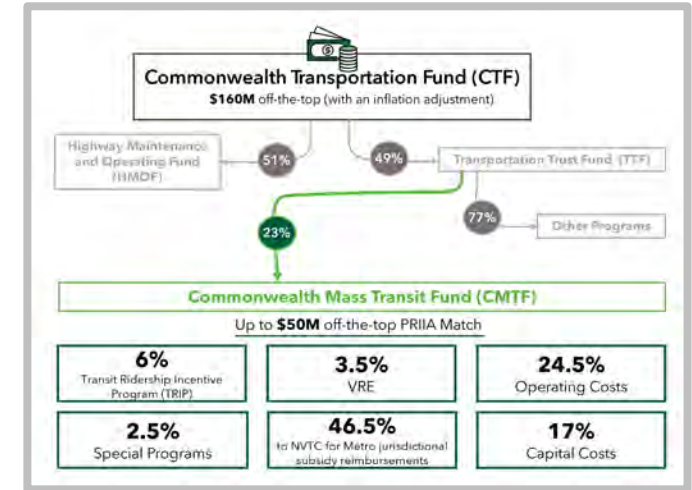
Transit Funding Guide

- Transit funding is complex and resources are scattered
- Ongoing efforts to establish long-term, sustainable funding require an understanding of the current funding structure
- We need an easily accessible resource for Northern Virginia



Transit Funding Guide: Outline

1. Elements of a transit budget
2. Transit funding sources
3. How Metro is funded
4. How Virginia funds Metro



Transit Funding Guide: Takeaways

- **Capital expansion** dollars are easier to acquire while **operating** and **state of good repair** funds are scarce
- Some key funding sources in the region are not indexed to inflation
- State aid is projected to decline in the near future



New Ridership
Record!
4.5
MILLION
RIDERS IN
FY 2023!!
Thank You
DASH Riders!

Questions?



Thank you!

The next NVTC Joint WMATA and Legislative & Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 15 at 6:00 p.m.



2300 Wilson Blvd. Suite 230 Arlington, VA 22201

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Appendix

SJ 28: Northern Virginia Growing Needs of Public Transit Joint Subcommittee

Revenue sources for estimation in 2025 at the NVTC, PRTC and statewide levels (where applicable)

10 sources identified in NVTC's [Metro Operating Funding and Reform Working Group Report](#):

- Retail sales and use tax
- Transient occupancy tax
- Grantor's tax
- Regional motor vehicle fuels tax
- Motor vehicle sales tax
- Vehicle registration fee
- Driver's license fee
- TNC sales tax
- Parking sales tax
- Auto repair labor tax

Five new sources selected by the joint subcommittee in November 2024:

- Regional highway use fee
- Regional income tax
- Retail delivery fee
- I-66 Inside the Beltway tolling outside of peak-period and peak direction
- Regional motor vehicle rental tax





NVTC General Assembly Bill Tracking – February 20, 2025 Update

HB 1982 Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund – Delegate Alex Q. Askew (D) – House District 95

SB 1097 Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund – Senator Aaron A. Rouse (D) – Senate District 22

*House Bill Status: **Left in Appropriations Committee***

*Senate Bill Status: **Left in Transportation Committee***

Summary: Creates a new allocation from the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund for the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission, adjusts the amounts of certain other allocations from such Fund, and removes the light rail system operated by the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads from eligibility for funds from such other allocations from such Fund. The bill requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board to withhold 20% of the funds from such new allocation unless the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads submits to it certain information annually. The bill directs the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, for fiscal year 2027, to reserve and utilize certain funds in amounts necessary to provide certain supplemental operating assistance to certain transit providers that would experience a reduction in allocable funds due to the reallocations in this bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. **NVTC Position: Oppose**

HB 2368 Toll relief – Delegate Candi M. King (D) – House District 23

SB 1463 Toll limits – Senator Kannan Srinivasan (D) – Senate District 32

*House Bill Status: **Left in Appropriations Committee***

*Senate Bill Status: **Passed by indefinitely in Transportation Committee***

House Bill Summary: Limits to \$200 per month the tolls charged to residents of the Commonwealth via electronic toll collection devices for the use of toll bridges, toll ferries, toll tunnels or toll roads in the Commonwealth. The bill prohibits misusing, sharing, or transferring an electronic toll collection device for the purpose of (i) generating tolls to reach the toll charges limit or (ii) obtaining toll-free use of toll facilities in the Commonwealth. The bill authorizes the free use of all toll bridges, toll roads and other toll facilities in the Commonwealth for drivers who are recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families benefits.

Senate Bill Summary: Limits to \$200 per month the tolls charged to residents of Planning District 8 or Planning District 16 via electronic toll collection devices for the use of toll bridges, toll ferries, toll tunnels, or toll roads in Planning District 8 or Planning District 16. The bill prohibits misusing, sharing, or transferring an electronic toll collection device for the purpose of (i) generating tolls to reach the toll limit or (ii) obtaining toll-free use of toll facilities in Planning District 8 or Planning District 16.

NVTC Position: Oppose

HB 1682 (VRE) **Surplus lines broker tax** – Delegate Laura J. Cohen (D) – House District 15

SB 1269 (VRE) **Surplus lines broker tax** – Senator Stella G. Pekarsky (D) – Senate District 36

House Bill Status: Passed House of Delegates/Passed Senate

Senate Bill Status: Passed Senate/Passed House of Delegates

Summary: Provides that any surplus lines broker or any person required to be licensed as one shall not be subject to the annual taxes, license taxes or penalties under current law for any policy of insurance procured during the preceding calendar year on behalf of a commuter rail system jointly operated by the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation District. **NVTC Position: Support**

SB 876 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; notice of public meetings – Senator Adam P. Ebbin (D)
Senate District 39

Status: Passed Senate; Heard in Committee on General Law- Procurement/Open Government

Subcommittee, substitute was adopted, Subcommittee recommends laying on the table and sending the bill to FOIA Council to be studied in the interim

Summary: Requires public bodies subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to include a proposed agenda listing all items expected to be considered by the public body at its meeting. The bill allows for amendments to be made to any such proposed agenda but provides that the public body shall not take any final action on those amended or additional agenda items.

Senate Bill Amendment: The bill was amended to provide that the agenda and any subsequent revisions shall be posted on the public body's official public government website, if any, and made available to the public prior to the meeting. Any items added to the agenda after the meeting commences may be considered and discussed at the meeting, but final action shall not be taken on such an item unless the matter is time-sensitive. **NVTC Position: Tracking/No position**

Other Bills

SB 919 Private companies providing public transportation services – Senator Saddam A. Salim (D) –
Senate District 37

HB 2619 Private companies providing public transportation services – Delegate Dan I. Helmer (D) –
House District 10

Senate Bill Status: Passed Senate, passed House with substitute

House Bill Status: Passed House of Delegates, passed Senate with substitute

Senate/House Bill Summary (with Amendment): Requires the governing body or transportation district commission of any county or city that contracts with a private company to provide transportation services to (i) provide each of its employees (a) compensation at an hourly rate equivalent to the hourly rate paid to an employee of such county or city holding a position requiring equivalent qualifications based on such employee's years of service and the county or city wage progression and (b) benefits, including health and retirement benefits, that are, at a minimum, actuarially equivalent to the benefits provided to an employee of such county or city with a position requiring equivalent qualifications and years of service; (ii) provide transportation services through its own employees; and (iii) ensure that all employees of such

public transportation system employed by a predecessor private company be offered employment with any successor company without loss of compensation or benefits. Requires a county or city or a transportation district commission that contracts with a private company to provide a system of public transportation and subsequently elects to provide its own system of public transportation to: adopt an ordinance or resolution providing for collective bargaining pursuant to relevant law, if such county or city has not already done so; ensure that all employees of the private company are offered employment with such subsequent system of public transportation without loss of compensation or benefits; and ensure the recognition of any lawful collective bargaining representative of the private company's employees as the collective bargaining representative of such employees.

NVTC Position: Tracking/No position

SB 1007 Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund and Program– Senator Scott A. Surovell (D) – Senate District 34

Status: Passed Senate, House of Delegates version referred to Committee on Transportation (Transportation Infrastructure and Funding Subcommittee), Subcommittee recommends reports (6-Y, 2-N), wasn't docketed in full Transportation Committee on 2/13.

Summary: Creates the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund, Subfund, and Program, to be administered by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, to fund bicycle, pedestrian and safety improvements infrastructure projects that are not undertaken in conjunction with road-widening projects. The bill imposes, in counties and cities embraced by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, an annual \$0.50 tax on each parking space of an off-street parking facility, defined in the bill, and allocates the revenue from such tax to the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund.

Bill Amendment: The bill was amended to direct the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority to coordinate with the Department of Transportation; the member jurisdictions of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority; advocates representing bicycle and pedestrian transit, smart growth, and multimodal transportation; and any other stakeholders deemed appropriate by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority to examine the findings of the Department of Transportation's December 2024 Northern Virginia Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Study and make recommendations on a method to implement and fund the infrastructure needs and other objectives identified in such study. The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Transportation and the House Committees on Finance, Appropriations, and Transportation no later than October 1, 2025.

NVTC Position: Tracking/No position

Budget Amendments

Item 433 #1h Restore Funding for WMATA Operating Report – Delegate Mark D. Sickles (D) – House District 17

Item 433 #2s Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority – Senator Jennifer B. Boysko (D) – Senate District 38

Summary: This amendment restores \$3.3 million in general fund support for WMATA operating support. The Governor's amendment moved \$73.4 million from the general fund from the second year to the first year and removed all second year funding, reflecting a net savings of \$11.1 million general fund. An updated estimate shows a revised savings of \$7.8 million compared to Chapter 2.

Both the House and Senate Budget Amendment Reports included this amendment

Item 433 #3h One-Time General Fund Support for Transit Shortfalls – Delegate Alex Q. Askew (D) – House District 95

Item 433 #1s Funding to Support Virginia's Transit Systems – Senator Mamie E. Locke (D) – Senate District 23

Summary: This amendment provides \$50.0 million in general funds to address a shortfall in support for public transit programs. House amendment provides funds in FY2026, Senate amendment provides funds in FY 2025.

Neither the House nor the Senate Budget Amendment Reports included this amendment

Item 151 #5s GMU NVTC and PRTC Parking Fee Study – Senator Scott A. Surovell (D) – Senate District 34

Summary: This amendment provides \$350,000 in general funds the first year to the Schar School of Public Policy at George Mason University to conduct a study on potential revenue from placing a fee on all parking spaces on privately owned/commercial property, including surface lots and parking structures within the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission Districts and potential revenue from the districts surrounding Metro stations and to help determine methods for establishing a permanent revenue source for Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority by creating a tax overlay district around every Metro station pursuant to SJ28 of the 2024 General Assembly Session.

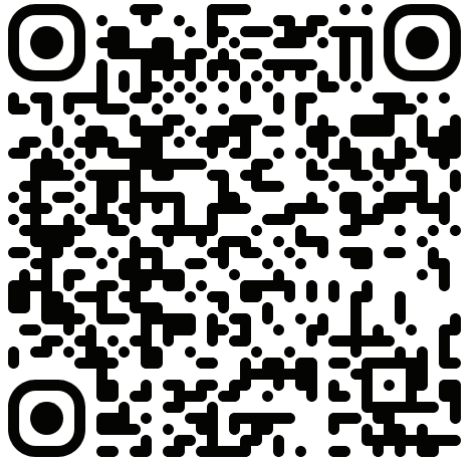
Senate Budget Amendment Report did not include this amendment

433 #3s U.S. 1 Bus Rapid Transit Project in Fairfax County – Senator Scott A. Surovell (D) – Senate District 34

Summary: This amendment provides \$125.0 million in general funds the first year to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation to provide a grant to Virginia Department of Transportation and Fairfax County to complete the construction of roadway improvements and a bus rapid transit system in the U.S. 1 Corridor in Fairfax County. A \$112.5 million gap in funding was identified in 2024 for this project due to receiving less federal funds than anticipated.

Senate Budget Amendment Report did not include this amendment

Northern Virginia Transit Funding Guide



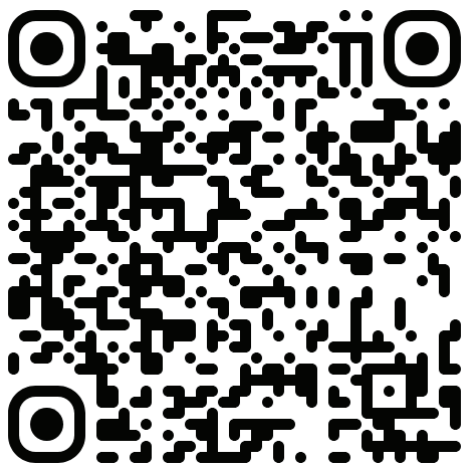
Curious about the complicated world of transit funding?

As Northern Virginia leaders look at new options to fund transit, it's important to understand the existing funding sources and structures that support our region.

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