

NVTC JOINT WMATA COMMITTEE/LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2025
Via Electronic Participation
Public Streaming via [YouTube](#)
6:00 p.m.

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If the livestream transmission fails, please contact NVTC staff via email at support@novatransit.org, which will be monitored during the meeting.

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
2. Meeting Summary of the February 20, 2025 Joint NVTC WMATA Committee/Legislative and Policy Committee Meeting
3. NVTC Work Towards Long-Term Sustainable Dedicated Funding
 - A. DMVMoves
 - B. SJ 28: Northern Virginia Growing Needs of Public Transit Joint Subcommittee
 - C. Draft Commission Resolution: NVTC Principles in Response to DMVMoves Funding Concepts (proposed for Commission approval June 5, 2025)
4. 2025 Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA Update
5. Transit Service Delivery Advisory Committee (TSDAC) Update
6. Other Items
 - Next Joint Committee Meeting Date: Wednesday, June 18, 2025, 6:00 p.m., Suite #230

WMATA Committee Members:

Walter Alcorn, Chair
Canek Aguirre
Matt de Ferranti
Matt Letourneau
Paul Smedberg
David Snyder

Legislative and Policy Committee Members:

Canek Aguirre, Chair
Maureen Coffey
Adam Ebbin
Matt Letourneau
Catherine Read
David Snyder
James Walkinshaw

**MEETING SUMMARY
NVTC JOINT WMATA COMMITTEE / LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
NVTC Suite #230 Conference Room
2300 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Virginia
Public Streaming via YouTube
February 20, 2025**

WMATA Committee Members Present:

Walter Alcorn, Chair
Canek Aguirre
Matt de Ferranti (*via electronic participation*)
Paul Smedberg
David Snyder

Legislative and Policy Committee Members Present:

Canek Aguirre, Chair
Maureen Coffey
Catherine Read
David Snyder
James Walkinshaw

WMATA Committee Members Absent:

Matt Letourneau

Legislative and Policy Committee Members Absent:

Adam Ebbin
Matt Letourneau

Other Commissioners Present:

Juli Briskman

Staff and Others Present:

Kate Mattice, Executive Director
Andrew D'huyvetter
Rhonda Gilchrest
Adam Hager
Daniel Knickelbein
Scott Kalkwarf
Ann McGrane
Tenley O'Hara
Sophie Spiliotopoulos
Melissa Walker
Aimee Perron Seibert (*via electronic participation*)
Carter Whitelow (*via electronic participation*)

WMATA Committee Chair Walter Alcorn called the joint meeting of the WMATA Committee and the Legislative and Policy Committee to order at 6:03 p.m. He explained that the meeting is being livestreamed via NVTC's YouTube channel. He confirmed a quorum is present and stated that he is co-chairing the meeting with Legislative and Policy Committee Chair Canek Aguirre.

WMATA Committee Chair Alcorn stated that Mr. de Ferranti requested to participate virtually from Arlington County for a medical reason as he is caring for ill family members. Mr. Aguirre moved, with a second by Ms. Coffey, to approve Mr. de Ferranti's virtual participation. The vote in favor was cast by WMATA Committee members Aguirre, Alcorn, Smedberg and Snyder.

WMATA Committee Chair Alcorn asked for any changes to the meeting summary of the November 21, 2024 Joint WMATA Committee/Legislative and Policy Committee meeting. There were no changes to the meeting summary.

Joint Committee Overview and 2025 Workplan

WMATA Committee Chair Alcorn asked staff to proceed with the presentations related to the Joint WMATA/Legislative and Policy Committee scope and responsibilities and proposed 2025 workplan. Mr. Hager provided a refresher on the scope of work of the WMATA Committee and how it relates to the Commission and is supported by a regional staffing structure. Mr. Knickelbein similarly showcased the scope of the Legislative and Policy Committee, its interaction with the Commission and regional context as it relates to NVTC's legislative efforts. Mr. Knickelbein also presented the joint committee proposed workplan for the 2025 calendar year. In response to a question by Mr. Snyder, Ms. Mattice explained that she expects DMVMoves to publish key recommendations throughout the calendar year, and the Commission will respond as those arise. Anticipated timelines for those recommendations are embedded into the proposed workplan for the joint committee.

Mr. Walkinshaw joined the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

Updates

WMATA FY 2026 Budget. Mr. Hager provided an update on the WMATA FY 2026 Budget, reporting that the public comment period closed on February 10 and NVTC's comments were submitted by the deadline. He stated that WMATA staff plan to present the revised proposed FY 2026-2031 Capital Improvement Program at the February 27 WMATA Board meeting. He did not anticipate major changes from the January work session regarding this revised proposal. He added that FY 2026 budget adoption is anticipated in March. Chair Alcorn stated that additional state and local funding has helped strengthen this budget.

General Assembly. Ms. Perron Seibert and Mr. Whitelow provided an update on the General Assembly Session. Mr. Whitelow highlighted two bills, one sponsored by Delegate Askew and the other by Senator Rouse related to the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund (CMTF). These bills would have created a carve-out in the CMTF for Hampton Road Transit Light Rail, which would result in less funding being available for other transit systems across the Commonwealth. Neither of the bills passed their respective chamber. Mr. Whitelow also provided an update on a pair of bills that would have limited the number of tolls charged to Commonwealth residents to \$200 per month, noting that neither bill was successful this Session.

Ms. Perron Seibert updated the committees on two bills related to the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) and requirements for surplus lines of insurance. Both bills were successful this Session and were subsequently signed into law by the governor, which will result in an estimated annual savings of approximately \$100,000 per year for VRE. She also provided an

update on Senator Ebbin's bill which would have amended how public body meeting agendas would be posted. This bill passed the Senate but received pushback from local governments, and was not passed this Session, instead it was sent to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Advisory Council for further study. Other bills highlighted by Ms. Perron Seibert included a bill from Senator Salim relating to benefits for employees of private transit companies that contract with public agencies to provide transit services, which passed the House and Senate but was subsequently vetoed by the governor, as well as a bill introduced by Senator Surovell that would have created a new fund source for bicycle and pedestrian in Northern Virginia to be administered by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) which did not pass. Finally, Ms. Perron Seibert stated that the General Assembly's amendments to Governor Youngkin's proposed budget were released on February 20 and included the requested \$3.3 million in supplemental funding for WMATA operations that was the subject of a budget amendment from Delegate Sickles and Senator Boysko.

NVTC Work Towards Long-Term, Sustainable, Dedicated Funding

DMVMoves. Mr. D'huyvetter provided an overview of the goals and function of DMVMoves. He stated that the DMVMoves Task Force had not met since December 2, 2024 and there were no action updates. He also stated that staff-level meetings will occur prior to the next Task Force meeting scheduled for March 24, 2025. Ms. Mattice reminded committee members that Mr. de Ferranti and Mr. Smedberg both sit on the DMVMoves Task Force.

SJ 28: Northern Virginia Growing Needs of Public Transit Joint Subcommittee. Mr. D'huyvetter provided an overview of the goals and function of the SJ 28 Joint Subcommittee. He stated that the Joint Subcommittee is looking at both additional funding options and cost containment tools and took action at its previous meeting to identify an expanded list of options for staff to evaluate cost and savings estimates. Mr. D'huyvetter stated that NVTC staff are providing technical assistance in the Joint Subcommittee's work and will be evaluating each option for the NVTC, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC) and statewide geographies.

In response to a question from Legislative and Policy Committee Chair Aguirre, Mr. D'huyvetter stated that long-term cost containment strategies will be discussed at a later SJ 28 Joint Subcommittee meeting in either September or November. Mr. Aguirre stated that the Joint Subcommittee should work closely with DMVMoves on their shared goal, and Mr. D'huyvetter mentioned several of their collaborative efforts. Mr. Smedberg stated that a Virginia study will be moving forward to provide an overview of opportunities for cost containment and efficiencies at WMATA.

Mr. de Ferranti stated that there was a particularly fruitful conversation at the DMVMoves meeting in December and that he hopes that conversation was relayed to appropriate SJ 28 staff. Ms. Mattice said she will follow up to ensure it happened.

Mr. Snyder asked for more information on new funding options proposed by the SJ 28 Joint Subcommittee. Mr. D’huyvetter and Ms. Mattice stated they can follow up with information on these options.

Mr. de Ferranti highlighted that office entry data could be beneficial to present at Commission meetings every few months, as return-to-office mandates will likely affect Metro’s funding considerations. Mr. Smedberg stated that this data is public and available online and can be discussed moving forward.

Mr. D’huyvetter clarified that the list of potential revenue options being explored by SJ28 were collected from conversations with SJ 28 Technical Working Group staff as well as Joint Subcommittee members. Ms. Mattice stated that NVTC will not be making recommendations on what to study at this time but may take positions on the resulting policies such studies provide.

Northern Virginia Transit Funding Guide

Ms. McGrane and Ms. Spiliotopoulos presented the Northern Virginia Transit Funding Guide which explains how transit is currently funded in Northern Virginia. Ms. Spiliotopoulos detailed the guide and provided key information on its development and content. She also highlighted takeaways from developing the guide, including that capital expansion dollars are easier to acquire than operating and state of good repair funds, that some key funding sources are not indexed to inflation, and that state aid is projected to decline in the near future. These takeaways were presented to inform members of current challenges and potential opportunities moving forward.

Mr. Walkinshaw pointed out that the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) had an extensive discussion about the SMART SCALE discretionary grant program which resulted in some valuable takeaways, including that smaller projects tend to do better in the program. He also asked whether the evaluation criteria for his district are statutory or administrative. Ms. Mattice clarified that such criteria are determined by the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB).

WMATA Committee Chair Alcorn stated that future funding guides and other information may benefit from analysis of the state of transit funding at a given time to help inform audiences outside of the Commission.

With no further discussion, Legislative and Policy Committee Chair Aguirre adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m.