

NVTC JOINT WMATA COMMITTEE/LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025
NVTC Conference Room, Suite #230
2300 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Virginia
[Public Streaming Via YouTube](#)
6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

September 18 Committee Meetings:

4:30 p.m. Program Advisory Committee – NVTC Suite #230 Conference Room ([public streaming](#)) (see separate agenda)

5:30 p.m. Boxed Dinners Available for Committee Members

6:00 p.m. Joint WMATA Committee/Legislative and Policy Committee Meeting – NVTC Suite #230 Conference Room ([public streaming](#))

If the meeting method is changed, NVTC will provide a new meeting notice, in accordance of VA Code §2.2-3707.

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
 - **ACTION: Approve Commissioners Participating Electronically (if needed)**
2. Meeting Summary of the May 29, 2025 Joint NVTC WMATA Committee/Legislative and Policy Committee Meeting
3. DRPT Presentation on MERIT Grant Program Changes
4. NVTC Work Towards Long-Term Sustainable Dedicated Funding
 - A. DMVMoves
 - B. SJ 28: Northern Virginia Growing Needs of Public Transit Joint Subcommittee
 - C. NVTC's 2025 Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA
 - D. Key Funding and Policy Issues
5. 2026 General Assembly Look-Ahead
6. Preliminary 2026 NVTC Legislative and Policy Agenda
7. Other Items
 - Next Joint Committee Meeting: Thursday, October 16, 2025, **7:00 p.m.**, Suite #230

WMATA Committee Members:

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

Legislative and Policy Committee Members:

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

**MEETING SUMMARY
NVTC JOINT WMATA COMMITTEE / LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
Via Electronic Participation
Public Livestreaming via YouTube
May 29, 2025**

WMATA Committee Members Present:

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

Legislative and Policy Committee Members Present:

Maureen Coffey
Adam Ebbin
Matt Letourneau
Catherine Read
David Snyder
James Walkinshaw

WMATA Committee Members Absent:

Canek Aguirre

Legislative and Policy Committee Members Absent:

Canek Aguirre, Chair

Staff and Others Present:

Kate Mattice, Executive Director
Jason Adle
Shannon Bacon
Andrew D’huyvetter
Rhonda Gilchrest
Sarah Godfrey
Adam Hager
Scott Kalkwarf

Daniel Knickelbein
Ann McGrane
Tenley O’Hara
Aimee Perron Seibert
Colie Touzel
Melissa Walker
Henry Watkins
Greg Potts (WMATA)

WMATA Committee Chair Alcorn called the joint meeting of the WMATA Committee and the Legislative and Policy Committee to order at 6:04 p.m. 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. Committee members are participating via Zoom. He added that NVTC staff followed the procedures and guidelines to give notice to committee members, Commissioners, staff and the public about this meeting. He confirmed a quorum was present for the Legislative and Policy Committee but the WMATA Committee did not reach quorum until Mr. Letourneau arrived. WMATA Committee Chair Alcorn noted that the Meeting Summary of the February 20, 2025 Joint WMATA Committee/Legislative and Policy Committee meeting was included in the meeting materials. There were no changes requested.

NVTC Work Towards Long-Term Sustainable Dedicated Funding

Chair Alcorn asked staff to proceed with the next three presentations related to long-term, sustainable, dedicated funding for transit in Northern Virginia. Mr. D’huyvetter provided a refresher on the various efforts that NVTC is currently engaged in related to long-term

funding for public transit, including SJ 28: Growing Needs of Public Transit in Northern Virginia Joint Subcommittee and DMVMoves. Mr. D’huyvetter also introduced a draft Commission resolution regarding NVTC principles in response to DMVMoves funding concepts.

DMVMoves. Mr. D’huyvetter provided an update on DMVMoves, reporting that the last Task Force meeting was held on May 16. At that meeting, the Task Force reviewed WMATA funding concepts, a regional bus priority approach, potential funding strategies and a summary of a draft Action Plan. He highlighted that the Task Force did not support a regional bus priority fund but did support continued discussion of a regional bus priority plan and improved interagency coordination. He added that the majority of the Task Force supported a plan in which jurisdictions figure out how to fund their share of the WMATA need rather than a blanket funding solution, which is consistent with NVTC Resolution #2552: NVTC’s Guiding Principles for Future Transit Funding.

Chair Alcorn stated that there is not significant support for regional bus consolidation, but there is support for regional bus priority in the region. He also highlighted that Virginia has supported WMATA with operating assistance above the 3% cap in recent years in order to fully fund WMATA’s operating budget. He then asked Mr. D’huyvetter how bus priority conversations relate to Northern Virginia relative to the rest of the region. Mr. D’huyvetter responded that it is an ongoing conversation, including the fact that numerous funding sources are already available for bus priority in Northern Virginia. Chair Alcorn added that, because Northern Virginia has funding for bus priority improvements, meeting future funding needs may not be as difficult as other jurisdictions in the region.

Mr. de Ferranti commented that he sees the bus priority discussion as a possible extension of conversations regarding agency coordination in the region. He also emphasized that further regional bus coordination conversations will need to occur after the DMVMoves Task Force efforts are complete.

Senator Ebbin joined at 6:16 p.m.

SJ 28: Northern Virginia Public Transit Joint Subcommittee. Mr. D’huyvetter then updated the committees on progress of the SJ 28 Joint Subcommittee. He stated that the most recent meeting was on April 22, 2025 and the group reviewed how transit funding currently works, challenges faces by transit agencies in Northern Virginia and considerations for any new, future transit funding. Mr. D’huyvetter reminded committee members of the current state of WMATA, local bus and VRE funding including capital and operating needs.

Mr. D’huyvetter provided a refresher on current funding sources supporting transit in NVTC jurisdictions. He highlighted that these localities use nearly \$250 million in General Fund revenues each year in Northern Virginia, and new, dedicated sources could reduce pressure on local or regional taxes to fund transit.

The next SJ 28 Joint Subcommittee meeting will be on June 23, 2025 and will focus on new estimates for 15 new revenue sources. Future 2025 meetings will take place in September and November when recommendations will be finalized and adopted.

Mr. Snyder asked whether public opinion will be surveyed prior to new sources being identified and asked what data would be used to allocate potential new funding among transportation providers. Chair Alcorn responded that NVTC Commissioners would be responsible for how and when to gather public input. He also added that NVTC, SJ 28 and DMVMoves conversations will help inform local needs and future allocations.

Senator Ebbin added that the SJ 28 Joint Subcommittee may also consider soliciting public comment. Ms. Mattice stated that SJ 28 and NVTC both have the opportunity for public comments at regular public meetings. Mr. de Ferranti stated that Commissioners may want to get to a more specific set of goals and concepts before soliciting comments for most effective input and should revisit the idea moving forward.

Draft Resolution: NVTC Principles in Response to DMVMoves Funding Concepts: Mr. D’huyvetter introduced a draft Commission resolution to offer a unified Virginia voice in DMVMoves and SJ 28 funding concepts.

Mr. Walkinshaw asked if there is a way to reference the skilled agency workforces in the resolution and the need to retain the workforce. Mr. D’huyvetter responded that NVTC staff can work toward this in the resolution language.

Mr. Snyder clarified that the principles relate not only to WMATA but also to all regional transit services. He also stated that efficiency should be emphasized alongside other values in the resolution. Finally, he stated that improving the quality of bus stops should be mentioned. Mr. D’huyvetter responded that NVTC staff will discuss how to work those points into the resolution.

Ms. Read agreed with Mr. Snyder and stated the Commission should value the quality of amenities including bus stops to attract and retain customers. Mr. de Ferranti agreed with previous comments and then raised a concern about over-emphasizing regional bus priority planning.

Mr. D’huyvetter requested that any additional feedback on the draft resolution be provided to staff by Monday, June 2.

Mr. Letourneau joined the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

2025 Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA Update

Mr. Hager provided an update on the *2025 Annual Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA*. He stated that the 2025 report will focus on long-term, sustainable funding solution for WMATA, reactions to DMVMoves, support for SJ 28’s work and continued focus

on previous issues. He shared the anticipated timeline for the report including committee briefings and discussion in September and October.

Mr. Letourneau stated that the Annual Report may benefit from mentioning WMATA's relationship with the Washington Metrorail Safety Commission (WMSC). He explained that the WMATA Board has some concerns about the new, proposed Program Standards and its proposed fine structure. He also requested that NVTC weigh in publicly on the proposed Program Standards in the form of a letter. Ms. Mattice responded that NVTC has not previously publicly commented on WMSC issues and would need to work with the full Commission on the idea. Mr. Letourneau added that he would urge the Commission to submit a letter similar to those recently submitted by the District of Columbia and Maryland.

Mr. Alcorn asked NVTC staff to draft ideas for a letter as well as points to include in the Annual Report.

TSDAC Update

Ms. Mattice provided an update on the Transit Service Delivery Advisory Committee (TSDAC). She stated that the committee is still in process review. She then explained that the committee is drafting a report to identify operating assistance and capital assistance methodologies but there has not been an update from the committee yet.

Other Items

Chair Alcorn then thanked Mr. Letourneau for his time serving on the WMATA Board which will be coming to an end on July 1. He also stated that the Commission will be voting on new WMATA Board appointments at the June Commission meeting.

Chair Alcorn stated the next in-person Joint WMATA Committee/Legislative and Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for June 18 at 6:00 p.m.

Chair Alcorn adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.