



Infrastructure funding, financing, and safety will undoubtedly engender much discussion in the new year as the legislative session starts in Richmond and a new administration takes hold in Washington, D.C. In advance of these activities, NVTC and PRTC will hold their second annual Joint Legislative Briefing to provide insight into the ever-evolving legislative landscape. This event is an opportunity for local, state and federal officials representing Northern Virginia to engage with transit leaders on issues of importance to the region.

The Dec. 12 event in Springfield will feature:

- Deputy Transportation Secretary Nick Donohue, who will examine opportunities and challenges for transit
- DRPT Director Jennifer Mitchell, who will provide updates on the Metro Safety Commission and pending state funding gap for transit capital
- WMATA GM Paul Wiedefeld, who will speak to Metro's priorities
- VRE CEO Doug Allen, who will address the commuter rail's funding and expansion concerns, and
- Prince William Chamber of Commerce Chairman-Elect Nominee Betty Dean, who will discuss the role of bus in the region.

To support our legislative and policy agenda now and into 2018, NVTC has launched research to demonstrate the revenue benefits to the Commonwealth from high-capacity transit in Northern Virginia. The study will supplement work being done on [the value of Metrorail to the region](#) by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, which will present to the Commission on Dec. 1.

If you've not yet replied to my email invitation to the briefing, please take a moment to do so below. Additional details about the event can be found on page 4. I look forward to seeing you in Springfield on Dec. 12.

~ *Kate Mattice*  
*Executive Director*



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Potomac and Rappahannock  
Transportation Commission

## Inside this Issue

<a href="#">Transform 66 Multimodal Update</a> .....	2
<a href="#">SafeTrack Surge #11</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Headlines from NVTC Jurisdictions</a> .....	3
<a href="#">NVTC/PRTC Legislative Briefing</a> .....	4
<a href="#">Jurisdictions Seek to Collaborate</a> .....	4
<a href="#">VTA Video Looks at Fiscal Cliff's Effects</a> ....	5
<a href="#">Virginia Railway Express</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Transportation Planning Board</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Northern Virginia Transportation Authority</a> .....	6



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## Key Dates

Nov. 30 &	<a href="#">I-395 Express Lanes Design</a>
Dec. 1	<a href="#">Public Hearing</a>
Dec. 1	<a href="#">NVTC Monthly Meeting</a>
Dec. 5 & 8	<a href="#">Transform 66 Eastbound Widening Public Hearing</a>
Dec. 6-7	<a href="#">CTB Meeting</a>
Dec. 7	<a href="#">VRE GHX Meeting</a>
Dec. 8	<a href="#">NVTA Monthly Meeting</a>
Dec. 12	<a href="#">NVTC/PRTC Legislative Briefing</a>
Dec. 14	<a href="#">CTB: Funding the Right Transportation Projects</a>
Dec. 14	<a href="#">Atlantic Gateway Highway, Rail and Transit I-95 Corridor Projects Public Hearing</a>
Dec. 16	<a href="#">VRE Operations Board</a>

## Transform 66 November Update

The first of 10 Standard Component Agreements, which authorize funding under the Transform 66 Multimodal project, has been signed. In early November, [Fairfax County DOT Director Tom Biesiadny](#) and [NVTC Executive Director Kate Mattice](#) formalized the agreement, which stipulates the obligations of both agencies. The Commission previously approved \$3.3 million to fund express bus service between the Government Center in Fairfax and the State Department in Washington, D.C. The remaining nine agreements are awaiting jurisdictional review, approval by jurisdictional boards, or final execution.

### Memorandum of Agreement

The Commonwealth Transportation Board will consider [the amended Transform 66 Memorandum of Agreement](#) (MOA) on December 7 when it meets in Richmond. The amended MOA, which was approved by the Commission in September, removes references to the use of tolls for widening the facility, modifies language to enhance credit-worthiness of the toll revenues, clarifies the use of funds for transit operations, and addresses technical corrections.



From left to right: NVTC Executive Director Kate Mattice, Fairfax County DOT Transportation Planner Malcolm Watson and NVTC Transit Projects and Policy Manager Patricia Happ hold the first signed Transform 66 Multimodal Project Standard Component Agreement for Fairfax Connector Express Bus Service.



## Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Eastbound Widening Public Hearings

All meetings are from 6:30 –8:30 p.m. Formal presentations are at 7 p.m.

Monday, December 5, 2016

[Washington-Lee High School Cafeteria](#)

1301 N. Stafford Street, Arlington, VA

Snow Date: Monday, December 12, 2016

[Arlington County Offices, Room 307](#)

2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Arlington, VA

Thursday, December 8, 2016

[Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School Cafetorium](#)

7130 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA

Snow Date: Thursday, December 15, 2016

[VDOT Northern Virginia District Office, 1st Floor](#)

4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA

### NVTC-Approved Multimodal Components

Bus Stop Consolidation and Accessibility Improvements

Peak Period Service Expansion to ART Bus Route 55

Peak Period Service Expansion to Metrobus Route 2A

Loudoun County Stone Ridge Enhanced Transit

Fairfax Connector Express Bus, Gov. Center to State Dept.

PRTC Gainesville to Pentagon Commuter Service

Expanded TDM Outreach to the I-66 Corridor

Expanded Transit Access, through Capital Bikeshare

Loudoun County Transportation Demand Management

Multimodal Real-Time Transportation Information Screens

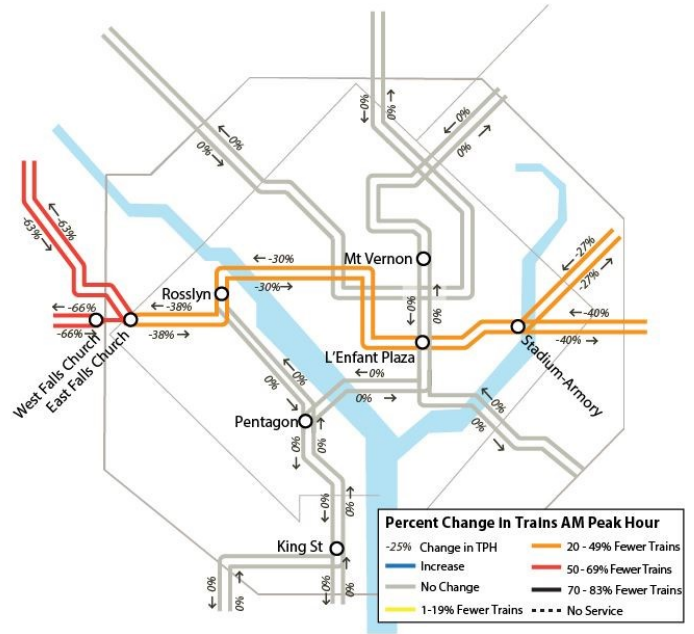
NVTC's Transform 66 website is updated regularly. Visit [www.novatransit.org/i66multimodal](http://www.novatransit.org/i66multimodal) to learn more.

## SafeTrack Surge #11 on Orange/Silver Lines Begins November 28

SafeTrack returns to Virginia on Nov. 28 with continuous single-tracking between West Falls Church and East Falls Church through Dec. 21. Orange and Silver line trains will run every 20 minutes. Crowding is anticipated on both lines. WMATA is urging customers to consider alternate travel options and travel outside of rush-hour periods if possible.

NVTC, as it has done for the six previous surges in Virginia, has convened transit providers, emergency planners and first responders to identify mitigation strategies to reduce the inconvenience of Metrorail service disruptions to commuters and travelers in Northern Virginia. These calls allow stakeholders to gain clarity on issues and provide feedback.

WMATA plans four surges in early 2017, three of which are in Virginia. Specific dates will be provided in December.



### 2017 SafeTrack Surges (Tentative)

Date	Stations Affected	Lines Affected	Service Status
Early Jan.	Braddock Road-Van Dorn St/Huntington	YL BL	Single tracking, weekend shutdowns
Late Jan. - Early Feb.	Rosslyn-Pentagon	BL	Line segment shutdown
Mar.	Braddock Road-Van Dorn St/Huntington	YL BL	Single tracking, weekend shutdowns
Late Mar.-Apr.	Greenbelt-College Park	GL	Single tracking, weekend shutdowns

## Around Town: Headlines about NVTC Jurisdictions & Partners



[Georgetown to Rosslyn Gondola Feasibility Study Issued](#)

[Wax Poetic! Submit to ART's Moving Words Contest](#)

[ART Buses Getting New Refueling Station in Crystal/Pentagon City](#)

[Arlington & Fairfax Approve Transportation Measures](#)



[Metro Woes Lead to Surge in Popularity for Fairfax Express-bus Service](#)

[Fairfax County Parkway Multimodal Study Underway](#)



[Fairfax City Multimodal Transportation Plan \(Video\)](#)

[New Potomac River Bridge Back on the Table?](#)



[Residents Share their Hopes for Loudoun's Future](#)

[Proposed rezoning near Dulles draws criticism from airports authority](#)



[Metro to discontinue use of 4000-series railcars in lead positions after safety concern identified](#)

## NVTC & PRTC to Hold Joint Legislative Briefing



**Monday, December 12, 2016**

**9:30-11 a.m.**

**Hilton Springfield**

**6550 Loisdale Road**

**Springfield, VA**

Join NVTC & PRTC Commissioners  
for an overview of federal and state issues affecting transit  
in Northern Virginia

**Featuring speakers from the Commonwealth  
and regional transit leaders, including**

<b>Paul Wiedefeld</b>	<b>Doug Allen</b>	<b>Jennifer Mitchell</b>	<b>Betty Dean</b>	<b>Nick Donohue</b>
<b>GM/CEO</b>	<b>CEO</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>Chairman-Elect</b>	<b>Deputy Secretary</b>
<b>WMATA</b>	<b>VRE</b>	<b>DRPT</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>of Transportation</b>
			<b>Pr. Wm. Chamber</b>	



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## Jurisdictions Exchange Ideas, Seek to Work More Collaboratively

Members of the Alexandria and Falls Church city councils and Arlington County Board officials met jointly in mid-November to discuss how to collaborate on transit, land use and an enhanced 911 system, among other things, in order to save tax dollars. The jurisdictions already benefit from cost-savings associated with NVTC's joint procurement efforts on items such as fare boxes.

"I hope this is not a one-off," said Falls Church council member and NVTC immediate-past chairman David Snyder, [according to The Washington Post](#). "We need to tighten our relationship and exchange information and see where it takes us in the future."

## VTA Video Highlights Looming Fiscal Cliff's Effect on Transit

As the backbone of Virginia's economy, transit attracts jobs and residents to the Commonwealth. A significant reduction in state transit capital funding threatens our economic growth and quality of life. [A new video by the Virginia Transit Association](#) (VTA) looks at the consequences of the [looming \\$1.1 billion funding gap](#) through the eyes of four transit providers in the state.

The VTA video focuses on the contributions of transit to the economies of Hampton Roads, Lynchburg, Northern Virginia, and Richmond and the potentially devastating impacts from a decline in state transit revenues. Narrator Thomas Davis Rust, former chair of the Virginia House of Delegates Transportation Committee and current member of the Commonwealth's Transit Capital Project Revenue Advisory Board, notes that the looming gap in revenues could unravel the economic contributions made by transit agencies across the state.

"Once we hit the fiscal cliff, as we're calling it, agencies will have just a couple of opportunities," says Rust. "One, to cut back on service, cut back on maintenance,

cut back on expansion or some combination of all of those things. Secondly, to raise fares for the users of the system, and that's always difficult. Or, thirdly, go to their local government and ask them for a substantial subsidy. And, in these days and times, that will be difficult."

The bottom line, according to Rust, is that a dramatic reduction in state transit funding will impede the Commonwealth's future growth. Virginia's ability to appeal to new businesses and residents depends on transit.



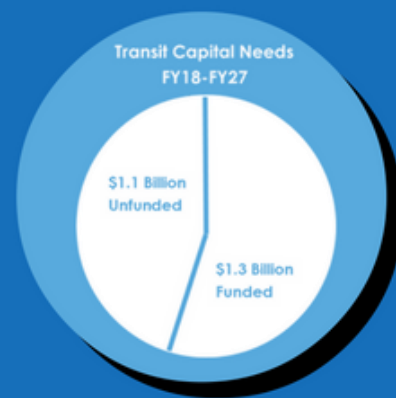
## Transit's Value to Virginia

**VIRGINIA  
TRANSIT  
ASSOCIATION**

Transit is the backbone of Virginia's economy, attracting jobs and residents to the Commonwealth. A potential loss of state transit capital funding threatens our economic growth and quality of life.

### TRANSIT NEEDS SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

A new report by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation details a possible \$1.1 billion gap between state transit capital funding needs and projected state revenues over the next decade. The statewide funding deficit averages \$107 million per year, growing markedly beginning in fiscal year 2021.



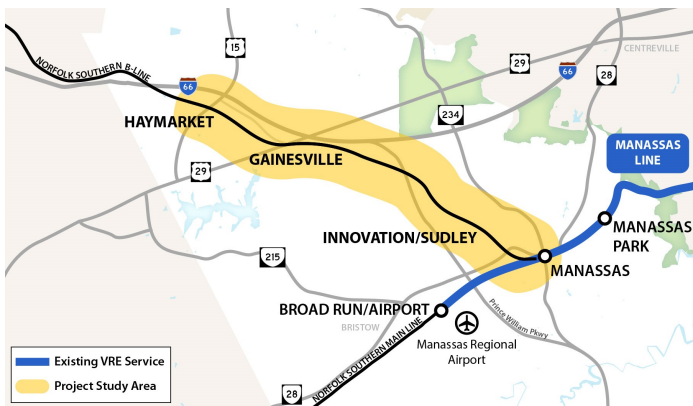
The panel above is one of 10 that [comprise an infographic designed](#) to accompany the Virginia Transit Association's video on the fiscal cliff. The infographic, created with technical assistance from NVTC, illustrates the value of transit to the Commonwealth and includes perspectives from Richmond, Lynchburg, Hampton Roads, and Virginia Railway Express on what the loss of state transit capital funding would mean.

## Virginia Railway Express



The [last opportunity for public comment](#) on the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Gainesville-Haymarket Extension (GHX) study is from 6-8 p.m. [Dec. 7 in Bristow](#). The final draft alternatives – the most viable options to expand VRE’s Manassas

Line service – will be presented to the railroad’s Operations Board in 2017. If the analysis supports continued project development, final design and construction will follow, with passenger rail operations beginning in 2022 or later.



## Transportation Planning Board



Three of the five projects added to the [D.C. region’s Constrained Long Range Plan](#) in mid-November will increase travel options in NoVa. The I-395 Express Lanes project, slated to be complete by 2019 at a cost of \$220 million, is the largest. VRE’s 11 mile GHX project (see above), at \$433 million, is the most expensive. The \$24 million Crystal City Transitway Northern Extension will run one mile, connecting the Crystal City and Pentagon City Metrorail stations.



## Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority



Metrobus is implementing changes to four Virginia routes:

- 5A DC-Dulles*
- 15K Chain Bridge Road*
- 38B Ballston-Farragut Square*

The detour in Rosslyn associated with building of Central Place will end and eastbound (5A/38B) and westbound (5A/15K) trips will use a new bus-only tunnel at Rosslyn Metrorail Station, beginning in late January or early February. Starting Dec. 18, on the 38B only, two additional late-night round trips will be added on Friday and Saturday to provide connections for customers due Metrorail’s earlier closure.

### *16E Columbia Pike*

Late-night weekday and Saturday service will be extended, beginning Dec. 18, from the Pentagon Transit Center to Franklin Square in D.C. via 14th Street to provide connections for customers due Metrorail’s earlier closure.



## Northern Virginia Transportation Authority



Due to an overwhelming response, the deadline to participate in the [NVT’s fall survey](#) has been extended to Nov. 28th. Last spring, the NVT heard from individuals about their transportation challenges and what changes they would like to

see in the future. Based on this initial outreach and an evaluation of current and future travel patterns, the NVT has identified a broad range of transportation needs. As part of its second wave of outreach, the NVT launched a survey, focusing on eight geographic areas, to learn how you think we should prioritize different ways of addressing these needs.

