



RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION

- SUBJECT:** Commending DRPT Director Jennifer DeBruhl on Her Departure from the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission
- WHEREAS:** The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) serves as the voice of public transit in Northern Virginia, promoting the region’s transit network through effective and efficient public transit and ridesharing programs to foster economic vitality in the region and the Commonwealth;
- WHEREAS:** On March 11, 2022, Virginia Secretary of Transportation W. Sheppard Miller III selected Jennifer DeBruhl to serve as the acting director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) and appointed her to serve on NVTC as the Commonwealth’s alternate;
- WHEREAS:** In June 2022, Governor Glenn Youngkin appointed Ms. DeBruhl to serve as the director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation;
- WHEREAS:** Ms. DeBruhl has dedicated over 30 years of distinguished public service to the transportation community, at DRPT since 2016, and previously at the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA);
- WHEREAS:** The Department of Rail and Public Transportation oversees and supports the funding, planning and implementation of public transportation and rail services throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia;
- WHEREAS:** Ms. DeBruhl has played a significant role in the development and implementation of Virginia’s Making Efficient + Responsible Investments in Transit (MERIT) program increasing accountability in public transportation funding, launching the Virginia Breeze intercity bus service, and spearheading the new Transit Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP) to expand regional connectivity and reduce barriers to transit use.
- WHEREAS:** Under DRPT Director DeBruhl’s leadership, DRPT advanced several major infrastructure elements of its \$3.7 billion Transforming Rail in Virginia plan by successfully applying for \$849 million in highly competitive federal grant funding for a new Long Bridge and the Franconia Springfield Bypass, projects which will double rail capacity across the Potomac River between Virginia and Washington, DC. and greatly expand passenger and freight rail service, connecting the Commonwealth with the Northeast Corridor and the eastern seaboard rail network;
- WHEREAS:** Ms. DeBruhl has served as a member of the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), which makes transportation funding decisions for the state, and chaired the Board of Directors of the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA), which was created to expand opportunities for passenger rail travel across the state;

WHEREAS: During her tenure as DRPT Director, Ms. DeBruhl has supported and partnered with NVTC to improve transit in Northern Virginia;

WHEREAS: Ms. DeBruhl has been a valuable proponent of dedicated funding for WMATA and VRE, resulting in long-term financial investments in Northern Virginia's two rail systems and enabling them to provide safe and reliable service that supports Northern Virginia's growing economy; and

WHEREAS: Ms. DeBruhl informed the Youngkin Administration of her intent to retire from state service effective July 1, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission hereby commends Jennifer DeBruhl for her service to the citizens of Northern Virginia and to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NVTC prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Ms. DeBruhl as an expression of its gratitude and in appreciation for her leadership and work on the Commission in promoting and funding public transit and ridesharing in Northern Virginia.

Approved this 2nd day of May 2024.



Matt de Ferranti
Chair