



Northern Virginia Regional Commission

NEWS RELEASE

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Northern Virginia Study Includes Strategies To Link Land Use, Climate Change and Transportation

Northern Virginia jurisdictions have long-standing programs that tackle some of the challenges of land use and transportation coordination – transit-oriented development, long-range land use planning and green building standards. Yet, even as some of the initiatives are carried out with success at the local level, traffic congestion grows, commuting distances increase, and air quality remain regional challenges.

A report presented to the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) on Jan. 22 identifies specific strategies for Northern Virginia which would improve linkages between land use, climate change and transportation. The study highlights strategies to reduce travel times, reduce vehicle miles traveled, mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, and promote sustainable energy use practices.

The report, entitled “ATLAS” for Alternative Transportation and Land Use Study, includes recommendations, which if implemented, would help encourage the growth of denser, attractive, livable places served by a multi-modal transportation system. The study notes that different local and regional governments use different approaches to tackle land use and transportation coordination challenges. “However, we all share a common goal of changing modes of travel, reducing traffic congestion and vehicle miles traveled and encouraging walking, biking and transit use,” said NVRC Chairman Harry J. “Hal” Parrish, II, who is also Mayor of Manassas.

For more information about NVRC or the ATLAS study, contact G. Mark Gibb, Executive Director of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission at gmg@novaregion.org or 703.642.0700.

The Northern Virginia Regional Commission is a coalition of 14 cities, towns and counties that work together on regional issues including the environment and land use, transportation, human services, legislative analysis and emergency planning. For more information about NVRC, check the web site www.novaregion.org or call 703.642.0700.

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