

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION**

**Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, February 1, 2007**

**COMMISSIONERS**

(The names of those present are highlighted)

**Commissioner Hilda M. Barg**  
**Commissioner Sharon Bulova**  
**Commissioner Gerald E. Connolly, NVRC Vice Chairman**  
Commissioner W. S. Covington, III  
**Commissioner Joan Cross**  
**Commissioner Steve DeBenedittis**  
Commissioner Joan DuBois  
**Commissioner Barbara A. Favola, NVRC Chairman**  
Commissioner Penelope A. Gross  
Commissioner Catherine Hudgins  
Commissioner Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.  
**Commissioner Harold Lippman**  
Commissioner Elaine N. McConnell  
**Commissioner Martin E. Nohe**  
**Commissioner Harry J. Parrish, II, NVRC Treasurer**  
**Commissioner Redella S. Pepper**  
**Commissioner M. Jane Seeman**  
**Commissioner Paul C. Smedberg**  
Commissioner Linda Smyth  
Commissioner Stephen Snow  
**Commissioner J. Walter Tejada**  
Commissioner William J. Treuting, Jr.  
**Commissioner Bruce E. Tulloch**  
Commissioner Kristen C. Umstatt  
**Commissioner Fred E. Yohey, Jr.**

**County of Prince William**  
**County of Fairfax**  
**County of Fairfax**  
*County of Prince William*  
**City of Fairfax**  
**Town of Herndon**  
*County of Fairfax*  
**County of Arlington**  
*County of Fairfax*  
*County of Fairfax*  
*Town of Purcellville*  
**City of Falls Church**  
*County of Fairfax*  
**County of Prince William**  
**City of Manassas**  
**City of Alexandria**  
**Town of Vienna**  
**City of Alexandria**  
*County of Fairfax*  
*County of Loudoun*  
**County of Arlington**  
*City of Manassas Park*  
**County of Loudoun**  
*Town of Leesburg*  
**Town of Dumfries**

**STAFF PRESENT**

G. Mark Gibb  
Barbara Gordon  
James Van Zee

*Executive Director*  
*Communications Director*  
*Director, Regional Planning Services*

**GUESTS PRESENT**

Sue Rowland

*SR Consulting*

**CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Favola called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

**TRANSPORTATION PRINCIPLES** Chairman Favola referenced the "Five Principles" (attached) to guide transportation funding legislation and asked for the members' endorsement. Following discussion of support by several Commissioners that a permanent, dedicated source of funding is needed to meet future transportation needs of the Commonwealth, Commissioner Pepper moved adoption of the "Five Principles." The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**LEGISLATIVE MATTERS** Ms. Rowland, the Commission's lobbyist, distributed a list of House and Senate members from Northern Virginia with their office room numbers and encouraged the Commission members to visit their legislators.

**ADJOURNMENT** There being no further business, Chairman Favola adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:

G. Mark Gibb  
Executive Director

Barbara A. Favola  
Chairman

## **Statement of Principles Regarding the Proposed Transportation Plan in the General Assembly**

The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA), Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) and the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) appreciate the efforts made during the General Assembly session to provide a permanent dedicated source of funding for transportation in order to meet the Commonwealth's future economic competitive needs. We believe that this is a step toward a workable solution. At their meetings on February 1, 2007, consistent with the adopted TransAction 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan the NVTA, NVTC and NVRC will affirm their support for the following principles that will guide them in assessing transportation legislation in the General Assembly:

1. The legislation must provide significant increases in transportation funding for all modes from a stable, reliable, and permanent source(s).
2. Transportation is a state responsibility, and therefore, enactment of new Northern Virginia transportation revenue sources must include a substantial state financial commitment. Any regional/local funding effort should include a broad array of options for choosing among a number of revenue sources.
3. NVTA, NVTC, and NVRC oppose the devolution of the secondary road systems to counties as proposed. Such action shifts funding responsibilities from the state to the local tax base and home owners associations and will lead to a disparity in the level of road maintenance around the Commonwealth.
4. NVTA, NVTC and NVRC do not support language that requires the local government and NVTA to consult with General Assembly members when selecting projects to be funded with new Northern Virginia revenues. There are General Assembly members on NVTA, and the TransAction 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan, adopted unanimously by all nine local governments in the region, already prioritizes Northern Virginia investments.
5. Any change in the existing land use authority of local governments should also be based on a deliberative, consultative process and must include the ability to deny development on the basis of inadequate public facilities.

Further, NVTA, NVTC and NVRC respectfully call on the General Assembly to:

- A. Provide a fair share of funding for Northern Virginia in the statewide package.
- B. Limit the use of General Fund dollars, so as to protect current and future funding for core state obligations, such as K-12, higher education, public safety and human services.
- C. Allocate bond funds to all modes, including transit capital, based on the Transportation Trust Fund formula.
- D. Continue to match federal interstate and primary road earmarks with state funds, not shift this responsibility to Northern Virginia regional funds.
- E. Provide an on-going revenue stream of at least \$50 million in capital funding for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) with no sunset, and no federal match requirement. This will provide flexibility beyond matching federal funds, and will ensure that WMATA's on-going capital needs will be funded.