

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 9, 2013

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: JOEL MARCUSON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #3 - FUNDING UPDATE & ACTIONS OF MAJOR
TRANSPORTATION BODIES

ISSUE: Update of funding and actions of major transportation bodies.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Transportation Commission receive the report.

DISCUSSION: This memorandum provides a brief update on funding and/or actions of major regional transportation bodies as they relate to the City.

General funding updates of local, regional and national importance are provided below. Attachment 1 contains the Commission's regular *Monthly Update of Regional Transportation Board Major Actions and Funding*.

City: City Council

No City Council Meetings were held in July or August, 2013.

State: Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)

No items affecting Alexandria were considered at the July 16-17 CTB Meeting.

State: Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

The General Assembly passed legislation (SB 1140) requiring that any new transit funds be allocated based on performance, but did not dictate the process or specific performance indicators. The Transit Service Delivery Advisory Committee (TSDAC) was appointed to develop a methodology.

The TSDAC met throughout July and August to identify methods for utilizing performance metrics to allocate new state transit funds. They have developed a three phase approach that will reward performance improvement over baseline performance in different phases in transition periods in FY2014 and FY2015, and a final phase to be used in FY2016 and beyond. The TSDAC committee will meet at least annually to consider how the process needs to be modified as it is implemented.

In addition to determining a method for distributing new operating assistance funds, TSDAC is currently developing a set of criteria for capital funds. Staff will provide updates as additional details are available.

Regional: Transportation Planning Board (TPB) and Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA), Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) , Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC)

Transportation Planning Board (TPB)

At the July 17, 2013 meeting, TPB reviewed the draft TPB Regional Transportation Priorities Plan (RTPP), approved the Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan, and approved projects to be funded under the FY2014 Transportation Alternatives and Transportation/Land Use Connections programs. The City did not submit applications for either of these grants as staff is working to complete several open transportation grants.

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)

At the July 25, 2013 WMATA Board meetings, the WMATA Board approved a set of modifications to the WMATA Joint Development Policies and Guidelines. The Board also authorized staff to issue an RFP for the sale of the Royal Street Bus Garage following the groundbreaking of a new garage at Cinder Bed Road in Fairfax County. The WMATA Board also approved that public hearings be held in September, 2013 for a number of bus service changes, including:

- Restructuring Route 9 and or 10 to complement the CCPY Transitway;
- Modifying the running time on Route 25B;
- Modifying Route 25E to stop serving Parkfairfax when the new DASH AT9 is implemented;
- Modifying Route 29K and N, including truncating the service at the King Street Metrorail station, instead of serving Old Town;
- Implement the CCPY transitway bus service;
- Provide service from the King Street Metro to National Harbor on a revised NH-1(if a funding method can be identified).

Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC)

At its July 11th meeting, NVTC received a briefing on the SuperNOVA Implementation Plan from DRPT. The Executive Director reviewed NVTC's missions with the Board. The NVTC Board approved a letter to Congress which endorses the Commuter Parity Act, which would provide the same level of benefits for transit patrons as do people who park cars or transit patrons.

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA)

NVTA held a public hearing on July 24, 2013 and endorsed the recommendations of the project implementation work group for FY2014 regional funding. A bond validation suit was endorsed to test the constitutionality of the NVTA funding package. Jurisdictions

were advised not to spend any NVTAs funds until a ruling is provided on the bond validation suit. The NVTAs decided to locate temporarily at the NVRC offices, where they were offered free office space. NVTAs appointed John Mason, former Mayor of the City of Fairfax, as NVTAs Interim Executive Director.

Federal: Funding Updates and Grant Notices of Awards

No significant federal actions occurred during this month.