

# *City of Alexandria, Virginia*

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## **MEMORANDUM**

DATE: MAY 18, 2016

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: CARRIE SANDERS, ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #4 – NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION  
AUTHORITY FY 2017 REGIONAL REVENUE FUND PROGRAM

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**ISSUE:** Proposed Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) FY 2017 Regional Revenue Fund Program.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Transportation Commission hold a town hall, and provide feedback on the proposed NVTA FY 2017 Regional Revenue Fund Program.

**BACKGROUND:** The FY 2017 Regional Revenue Fund Program contains regional projects that are funded by the NVTA's 70% regional funds. At its meeting on September 24, 2015, the NVTA issued a call for projects to be evaluated under the HB599 process as part of its FY 2017 Regional Revenue Fund Program. The HB599 process assigned a numerical rating to each candidate project submitted by the NVTA, which provided an indication of the relative level of congestion relief attributable to each submitted project. To be eligible for funding using the NVTA's Regional Revenue Funds, all candidate projects must have a HB599 rating. The HB599 evaluation was conducted independently by a consultant team managed by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). A total of 24 candidate projects, submitted by localities and agencies, were evaluated under the HB599 process, including:

- 13 roadway improvement/widening projects;
- 6 transit projects
- 2 interchange construction projects
- 1 Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) traveler information project, and;
- 1 combined bike, pedestrian, and transit project.

After projects were evaluated under HB599, NVTA staff developed quantitative scores by incorporating the HB599 rating for each project, 45% of the total project score; and eight other criteria based on criteria from NVTA's TransAction 2040 long range transportation plan (Project Readiness, Reduce VMT, Safety, Connectivity, Improved Bike/Pedestrian, Management, and Cost Sharing), 55% of the total project score. In addition to the HB599 and NVTA ratings, each project was evaluated by a formula that measured Congestion Reduction Relative to Cost (CRRC) ratios, which measured the hours of delay savings from HB599 data divided by the total project cost.

Qualitative considerations were also included in the evaluation of each, project. Qualitative considerations included: continuity of project funding cost sharing, geographic and modal balance, and projects which were also seeking funding under HB2 and the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission’s (NVTC) Transform 66 Multimodal program.

**DISCUSSION:** The final HB 599 rating for the out-year of 2040, the scores from the eight criteria for each project, and a ratio of congestion reduction relative to cost, and qualitative considerations were used by NVTA staff to help determine NVTA staff’s recommended project list.

In September 2015, the Transportation Commission approved the following project list for NVTA’s consideration as part of the FY 2017 Regional Revenue Fund Program:

- Potomac Yard Metrorail Station (\$66M requested for the FY 2017 Regional Revenue Fund Program)
- West End Transitway (\$7M requested for the FY 2017 Regional Revenue Fund Program)

Based on the approach used by NVTA staff, the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station received a combined HB599 and NVTA quantitative score of 66.20, which was the third highest scored project out of 24 evaluated for the FY 2017 Regional Revenue Fund Program, and a CRRC score of 0.08 which ranked seventeenth out of the 24 evaluated projects. The West End Transitway received a score of 49.00 which was the tenth highest scored project out of 24evaluated, and a CRRC score of 0.05 which ranked eighteenth out of the 24 evaluated projects. The project which received the highest combined HB599 and NVTA quantitative score out of the 24 evaluated was the I-66/Route 28 Interchange Improvements Project, which received a score of 73.57; however, the project which received the highest CRRC score was the Lee Highway Corridor ITS Enhancements project which received a 1.56 Based on the combined HB599 and NVTA quantitative score and the ratio of congestion reduction relative to cost, NVTA staff has recommended the following projects to be included for the NVTA’s FY 2017 Regional Revenue Fund Program(this list will be revised based on several factors including: a recommendation by the NVTA Finance Committee to issue bonds; decisions made during the allocation of funding for projects which are also seeking funds from HB2 and NVTC’s Transform 66 Multimodal program, public comments, and any new data which would result in a revised evaluation): :

Project	Locality/Agency	Phases Funded	Funding Request
I-66/Route 28 Interchange Improvements	Fairfax County	Des, Eng, Env, ROW, Con	\$370,000,000
Potomac Yard Metrorail Station	City of Alexandria	Design, Construction (Des-Build)	\$66,000,000
Metrorail Blue Line Traction Power Upgrades	WMATA	Eng, Con	\$17,549,000
Route 7 Widening Phase I (Colvin Forest Drive to Jarrett Valley Drive)	Fairfax County	ROW	\$10,000,000
Widen Route 28 to Six Lanes (234 to Linton Hall Road)	Prince William County	Construction	\$10,000,000

Route 286 Fairfax County Parkway Widening (Route 123 to Route 29)	Fairfax County	ROW	\$10,000,000
Route 28 Widening (Prince William County Line to Route 29)	Fairfax County	Des, Eng, Env, ROW, Con	\$5,000,000
Lee Highway ITS Enhancements	Arlington	Des, Eng, ROW, Con	\$3,000,000
VRE Manassas Park Station Parking Expansion	VRE	Des, Eng, Env	\$2,000,000

All 24 projects that were evaluated and scored will be included as part of the NVTA’s request for public comments and will also be included as part of NVTA’s public hearing materials (Attachment 1). The NVTA will hold its public hearing on the proposed FY 2017 Regional Revenue Fund Program on Thursday, June 9, 2016 at the NVTA office, open house between 6:00 – 7:00 pm, public hearing starting at 7:00 pm.

Materials on the proposed FY 2017 Regional Revenue Fund Program as well as information on the methodology used to develop project scores are posted on the NVTA site:

<http://www.thenovaauthority.org/>. The NVTA is also accepting comments online via a public comment period which runs from May 13 – June 17, 2016. Following the public hearing and closure of the public comment period, all public input will be summarized by NVTA staff and reviewed by the NVTA Projects and Programming Committee at their July 1, 2016 meeting. The NVTA is expected to vote on the approval of the FY 2017 program at its July 14, 2016 meeting. As the Transportation Commission has endorsed the two projects the City submitted for consideration for the NVTA FY 2017 Regional Revenue Program, it is important for the Transportation Commission, City elected officials, and public to provide public comments, at this meeting, online, and/or at the June 9, 2016 public hearing.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1- NVTA Candidate Projects for Draft FY2017 Program

Attachment 2- NVTA Staff Recommendations