

# Transit and TransAction 2030



*The Authority*  
for Transportation in Northern Virginia

## What is Needed to Achieve Success

Tom Biesiadny, Chairman  
Jurisdiction and Agency Coordinating Committee  
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority  
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# Summary of Presentation



- Transit Projects included in TransAction 2030
- Staff Proposals for TransAction 2040
- What is Needed to Implement the Transit Plans included in the TransAction Documents



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# NVTA's TransAction 2030 Plan



# Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's TransAction 2030



- Updated Northern Virginia 2020 Transportation Plan adopted by the Transportation Coordinating Council in December 1999.
- Did not significantly change project list from No. Va. 2020 Transportation Plan.
- Prioritized Projects; Evaluated Transit Level of Service.
- Projects included in region's Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) were top priority.
- Endorsed by all nine members local governments
- Adopted September 2006 (FY 2007).
- Next update scheduled for adoption in FY 2012. This update will reevaluate the project list.

# Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's TransAction 2030



- TransAction 2030 included a number of significant transit projects, some of which were in the CLRP (*noted*)
- They include:

## Priority Bus Corridors

- Fairfax County Parkway (Corridor-wide)
- Route 1 (Corridor-wide)
- Route 50 (Loudoun to Arlington) (*CLRP & TA 2030*)
- Route 236 (Alexandria to Fairfax City)
- Prince William Parkway (Manassas to Woodbridge)



# Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's TransAction 2030



## Express Bus Corridors

- I-66
- I-95 (CLRP)
- I-495 (Beltway) (CLRP & TA 2030)



## Metrorail Expansions

- Station Improvements (West Falls Church, Rosslyn, Courthouse, Huntington, King St., Eisenhower Ave.) (CLRP)
- New Station (Potomac Yards) (CLRP)
- I-66 (Vienna to Centreville)
- I-95 (Franconia-Springfield to Potomac Mills)
- I-495 (Dunn Loring to Bethesda)

# Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's TransAction 2030



## Light Rail

- Route 7 (Tysons Corner to Bailey's Crossroads)
- Route 28 (Manassas to Dulles Airport)
- Columbia Pike (Pentagon to Bailey's Crossroads)

## Unspecified Transitway

- Crystal City to Potomac Yards

# Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's TransAction 2030



## VRE Extensions

- Manassas to Fauquier County
- Manassas to Haymarket

## Parking

- Franconia-Springfield Pkwy Corridor (*CLRP*)
- Reston (*CLRP*)
- VRE Manassas Line
- VRE Fredericksburg Line





# NVTA Staff Proposals for TransAction 2040

# NVTA Staff Proposals for TransAction 2040



- NVTA's statutory authority requires the Authority to update its long range transportation plan every five years.
- In the past, the process has taken approximately two years.
- The next update will need to be completed during FY 2012.
- The Jurisdiction and Agency Coordination Committee has started to discuss the scope of work for the study.
- The JACC will have an initial discussion with NVTA on November 12, 2009.

# NVTA Staff Proposals for TransAction 2040



- Updating TransAction 2030
  - The projects included in TransAction 2030 will be reviewed and revised to reflect planning study work and construction that has been done since 2006.
  - Completed projects will be deleted.
  - Cost estimates for all projects will be recalculated from scratch (rather than inflating old estimates).
  - Highway and transit levels of service will be revised.
  - Inconsistencies between the projects in TransAction 2030 and current construction projects and other planning documents will be addressed.

# NVTA Staff Proposals for TransAction 2040



- New Analysis proposed for TransAction 2040:
  - Planning horizon extended from 2030 to 2040 to match TPB modeling.
  - Project list to be opened to new projects.
  - Cost-benefit calculations will be considered as part of the prioritization process, possibly using a methodology developed for USDOT's TIGER discretionary grant program.
  - Individual highway & transit projects will be tested to determine their impact on vehicle miles traveled & delay across the entire Northern Virginia network. Information will also be used in prioritization.

# NVTA Staff Proposals for TransAction 2040



- Other Proposed Changes for TransAction 2040
  - Use of new TPB travel demand model, based to major 2007 data collection effort.
  - Participation from NVTA's Planning Coordination Advisory Committee (elected officials not members of NVTA) and Technical Advisory Committee (individuals with transportation expertise.
  - Analyze recommended network(s) using TPB land use scenarios.
  - Incorporate HOT lanes projects on the Beltway and I-95/395.
  - Consider possibility of additional HOT lanes projects.

# NVTA Staff Proposals for TransAction 2040



- Proposed Schedule for TransAction 2040 (Subject to Change)
  - November 2009: Briefing to NVTA
  - January 2010: NVTA Adopts Scope of Work
  - February 2010: RFP Issued
  - Late Spring 2010: Consultant Contract Awarded
  - Fall 2011: Recommendations presented to NVTA and Local Governments
  - December 2011: Transmission of interim study information to General Assembly
  - Winter 2012: Local Government Consideration & Endorsement
  - Spring 2012: NVTA Adoption



# What is Needed to Implement the Transit Plans included in the TransAction Documents

# What is Needed to Implement the Transit Plans (Short Term)



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- “BRT Light” projects, such as the Richmond Highway Express (REX) & Pike Ride can be implemented for modest amounts of (yet to be identified) funding.
- WMATA is working on BRT Light types of improvements in its Priority Corridor Network study.
- Funding is being identified to make BRT Light improvements on Leesburg Pike corridor from Alexandria to Tysons Corner. The regional USDOT TIGER application included this project.
- Other incremental transit projects, such as the I-66 Access Ramp to the Vienna Metrorail Station and park-and-ride expansions, can be generally be implemented as funding becomes available. Several incremental transit projects are proceeding throughout No. Va.



# What is Needed to Implement the Transit Plans (Longer Term)



- Final List of Transit Projects and Priorities  
Developed by TransAction 2040 and approved by Local Governments and NVRTA.
- Conceptual study of each transit project, either in priority order or as part of a regional effort to look at all of the transit corridors.
- Assuming Federal funds will be used to implement the projects, formal alternatives analysis & environmental work will likely be required for each project to verify the recommended transit mode.
- Federal Transit Administration Record of Decision regarding preferred alternative for each project.

# What is Needed to Implement the Transit Plans (Longer Term)



- FUNDING! Currently, there is not enough funding to implement the transit and highway projects that have been designed to this point.
- Assuming capital and operating funding can be identified for one or more transit projects, design work for stations, priority treatments or guideways, etc., would need to be undertaken
- If implementation is more elaborate than simply increasing speeds on existing bus service, buses or rail cars would likely need to be procured.
- Construction of capital features of the project would have to be completed.
- Marketing aspects of the service would need to be developed (branding, amenities, etc.)

# Summary



- NVTA's TransAction 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan includes a significant number transit projects
- NVTA is beginning the process for developing TransAction 2040 which will update these transit projects and possibility include additional transit projects.
- Planning work for specific transit projects could be undertaken, if funds can be identified.
- Upon the completion of the planning and environmental processes, funding will be needed to implement significant transit projects.



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# Questions?

