NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION COALITION

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2015 Policy Statement:

A Strong Economy and Better Quality of Life Require a Stronger Regional Transportation Framework

We, the undersigned Northern Virginia organizations representing the vast majority of businesses and employees of Northern Virginia's private sector workforce, believe that a strong, efficient regional transportation network is essential to our region's future economic competiveness and quality of life.

We believe that unlocking Northern Virginia's transportation grid requires a strategic regional approach. The focus of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, our region's designated transportation planning body, should be on the investment of regional, state, federal and private sector transportation dollars on highway projects, transit improvements and intelligent transportation systems that will:

- Move the greatest number of people;
- Reduce congestion and travel time between major employment centers and communities;
- Increase reliability of the network region-wide while producing the best long-term return on investment;
- · Promote regional economic development and growth; and
- · Enhance regional security.

We are concerned that the current policy requiring that benefits over time be proportional to local contributions impedes the region's ability to address its most important regional transportation needs.

Regional transportation funds should be focused and leveraged, where appropriate, with federal, state, and public-private partnership funds on projects of large-scale regional significance. These include:

- I-66 major upgrade from US-15 to Roosevelt Bridge
- New Northern Potomac River Crossing and upgraded American Legion Bridge
- 8-car Metro Train capacity upgrade
- Bi-County Parkway
- Route 28 upgrade to 8 lanes
- Fairfax County Parkway conversion to limited access facility
- Conversion of I-395 HOV lanes to managed lanes
- Regional Express Bus network

We support the development of a performance-based statewide transportation plan that focuses on new and existing corridors of regional and statewide significance and evaluates highway and public transit projects on the same criteria.

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