

Northern Virginia Business Transportation Coalition

2016 Policy Statement: A Strong Economy, Regional Security and High Quality of Life Require a Robust and Well-Connected Regional Transportation Framework

We, the undersigned Northern Virginia organizations representing the vast majority of businesses and employees of Northern Virginia's private sector and non-profit workforce, believe that a strong, efficient regional transportation network is essential to our region's future economic competitiveness, security, and quality of life. We believe that unlocking Northern Virginia's transportation grid requires a strategic regional approach.

We believe that achieving the best solutions to our transportation challenges requires a big picture perspective – regionally as well as statewide. Efforts to constrain, either by law or regulation, the Commonwealth Transportation Board's ability to determine the best investments for the state, are counter to the goals set forth in House Bill 2, 2014 legislation designed to address the commonwealth's congestion reduction and economic development needs.

The focus of the Commonwealth Transportation Board and 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 for highway, transit improvements, and intelligent transportation systems that will:

- Move the greatest number of people throughout the region;
- Reduce congestion and travel time between major regional 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 law requiring the long-term benefits of Northern Virginia's regional funds be distributed proportionally among jurisdictions impedes the ability of the regional body to address the region's most critical transportation needs.

We believe that regional transportation funds should be primarily focused and leveraged, where appropriate, with federal, state, and private funds on projects of large-scale regional significance. These include:

- I-66 -- construct new lanes and enhance transit from US Route 15/Haymarket to Theodore Roosevelt Bridge.
- New Potomac River Crossing -- constructed west of American Legion Bridge.
- American Legion Bridge -- add new express/managed lanes in each direction.
- Metro -- improve maintenance, operations, safety and rail fleet.
- Bi-County Parkway -- construct between I-66/Route 234 Bypass in Prince William County and Route 50 in Loudoun County.
- Route 28 -- upgrade to 8 lanes.
- Fairfax County Parkway -- convert to limited access facility.
- I-395 -- convert HOV lanes to express/managed lanes between the Capital Beltway and the 14th Street Bridge.
- Regional Express Bus network -- implement in the I-66, I-95, I-395, I-495, Dulles and other major regional corridors.

We support performance-based statewide and regional transportation plans that focus on new and existing corridors of regional and statewide significance, the evaluation of highway and public transit projects utilizing the same criteria, and the prioritization of investments first and foremost on the ability to reduce congestion and improve travel time.

(Signatures on reverse)

Brian M. Gordon, MPA, VP of Government Affairs
Apartment and Office Building Association

Pat Dean, President
Associated Builders and Contractors – VA

Leo J. Titus, Jr. PE, President
Committee for Dulles

James N. Larsen, Executive Director & CEO
Dulles Area Transportation Association

Patricia Nicoson, President
Dulles Corridor Rail Association

Eileen D. Curtis, President & CEO
Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce

Mark S. Ingrao, President & CEO
Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce

Nancy-jo Manney, Executive Director
Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce

James C. Dinegar, President & CEO
Greater Washington Board of Trade

Ken Garrison, Executive Director
Heavy Construction Contractors Association

Anthony Howard, President & CEO
Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce

Martha D. Marks, President
NAIOP - Northern Virginia: The Commercial Real Estate Development Assoc.

Virgil Frizzell, Chairman of the Board
Northern Virginia Association of Realtors®

Jon Lindgren, Executive Director
Northern Virginia Building Industry Association

Jim Corcoran, President & CEO
Northern Virginia Chamber of Chamber Commerce

Bobbie Kilberg, President & CEO
Northern Virginia Technology Council

Mark C. Looney, Chairman of the Board
Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance

Deborah Jones, President & CEO
Prince William Chamber of Commerce

Lori Y. Lopez, Chairman of the Board
Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce

Keith Merlin, President
Washington Airports Task Force