

# NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION COALITION

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May 24, 2020

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority  
3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200  
Fairfax, VA 22031

RE: The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's Six Year Program Update

Dear Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's Six-Year Program Update. The Northern Virginia Transportation Coalition is a partnership of business, civic, and nonprofit organizations that represent the vast majority of employers in our region.

Over the years, the Coalition has been a strong voice for new regional and state transportation funding and has supported regionally significant multimodal investments that do the most to relieve congestion, reduce travel time and improve mobility to promote regional prosperity and quality of life.

First and foremost, we applaud the sound fiscal management that enables the Authority to maintain funding for the inaugural Six-Year Program despite the impact of the ongoing pandemic. We also commend the Virginia General Assembly for acknowledging the importance of Northern Virginia transportation and partially restoring the funding that was diverted from the Authority in 2018.

We recognize that working through a generational crisis makes this a difficult time for policymakers. However, we believe that these challenging times and ensuring the strongest recovery possible make the focus on projects of greatest regional significance more important than ever.

To that end, we urge you to prioritize projects that improve regional North-South connectivity. Those include \$37.4 million to widen the Fairfax County Parkway, \$50 million for the Route 28 bypass, \$59.9 million for the widening of Evergreen Mills Road, Belmont Ridge Road, and Braddock Road, and \$36.7 million for the extension of Crosstrail Blvd. These projects will relieve congestion and improve connectivity between Northern Virginia's three most populated localities.

In addition, we strongly encourage you to improve travel capacity in the I-95 corridor – one of the most congested on the entire East Coast. Fully funding Route 1 Widening in the Town of Dumfries, Summit School Road Extension, and Route 1 widening in Fairfax County will relieve congestion in this high traffic corridor and help move more people through our region.

Finally, given the current fiscal climate, we urge you to prioritize funding projects that will be ready to move forward in Fiscal Year 2024 and 2025 including continuation projects that are already partially funded by the Authority. Projects that do not anticipate construction or capital acquisition until 2026 or 2027 should apply for that funding in the next round of the Authority's Six Year Program Update.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to better regional transportation in Northern Virginia.

Sincerely,



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



Pat Dean, President  
Associated Builders and Contractors – VA



Jack Vega, President  
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Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce



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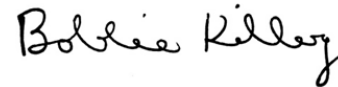
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