



**The Authority**  
for Transportation in Northern Virginia

## The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

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September 15, 2008

The Honorable Frank Jones, Chairman  
Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission  
14700 Potomac Mills Road  
Woodbridge, Virginia 22192

Dear Chairman Jones:

At its meeting of September 11, 2008, the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) approved the enclosed resolution expressing its appreciation for the outstanding support provided by the many state and regional agencies and the jurisdictions of Northern Virginia over the last several years. The NVTA is particularly grateful for the increased level of support it received as it worked to implement HB 3202 after its approval in 2007.

Especially noteworthy has been the staff support from:

- Betsy Massie, who, among other things, has coordinated the Authority's Six Year Program development;
- Althea Evans, who assisted with the development of NVTA's public outreach materials and activities;
- Anthony Foster, who among other things, has coordinated the Authority's testimony to the Commonwealth Transportation Board;
- Joyce Embrey, who, among other things, assisted with the development of NVTA's initial bond issue and with various efforts to establish NVTA's financial procedures; and
- Al Harf, who, among other things, participated on NVTA's Organizational Working Group.

All while accomplishing their primary support to PRTC.

Please extend NVTA's appreciation to Al Harf, executive director, and the PRTC staff who have been so helpful.

Sincerely,

Christopher Zimmerman  
Chairman

Enclosure: as

# NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

## - RESOLUTION 09-03 -

### APPRECIATION FOR JURISDICTIONAL AND AGENCY SUPPORT

**WHEREAS**, the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (“NVTA”) was created by the General Assembly in 2002, to among other things, prepare a regional transportation plan for Northern Virginia; construct or acquire the transportation facilities included in the transportation plan; set regional transportation policies and priorities for regional transportation projects; provide general oversight of regional mass transit and congestion mitigation programs and regional transportation issues; develop regional transportation priorities and policies to improve air quality; advocate for the transportation needs of Northern Virginia; and collect taxes and fees authorized by law; and,

**WHEREAS**, from 2002 to 2007, there was limited funding authorized to support the activities that NVTA was directed to accomplish and therefore the local jurisdictions and regional transportation planning and operating agencies of Northern Virginia, along with state transportation agencies, agreed to support the activities of the NVTA by contributing staff resources from their jurisdictions and agencies; and,

**WHEREAS**, the significant progress made by NVTA from 2002 to 2007 was underpinned by the extraordinary professional support from jurisdictional and agency staffs that resulted in annual coordination of regional transportation priorities and recommendations to the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the General Assembly; completion of *TransAction 2030* – a long range transportation plan for Northern Virginia; coordination of allocations for discretionary funding; coordination of legislative and advocacy issues; coordination of comments and action on major transportation projects affecting Northern Virginia ;and many other routine NVTA activities and actions; and,

**WHEREAS**, with the authorization of dedicated funding for NVTA by the General Assembly in 2007, the jurisdictional and agency staffs increased their contributed support to plan the plethora of actions necessary to establish an operating organization and immediately implement the authorized regional taxes and fees, coordinate an initial package of projects within a Six Year Plan, and design a major bond initiative;

**WHEREAS**, this increased effort involved staff from many non-transportation related disciplines, including law, finance, accounting, tax administration, debt management, public works, public affairs, legislative, purchasing and human resources; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 29, 2008, the Virginia Supreme Court ruled that the General Assembly did not have the authority under the Virginia Constitution to delegate its taxing powers to the NVTA; and,

**WHEREAS**, this staff continued to provide assistance to NVTA with refund activities and other on-going activities after the Court decision, including efforts to restore NVTA's funding;

**WHEREAS**, the Authority recognizes that, without the extraordinary support from jurisdictional and agency staffs, guided by outstanding staff leadership, it would have been impossible for the Authority to have achieved the progress it has to date;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT** the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority extends its appreciation to the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William, and to the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park, and to the the towns of Dumfries, Herndon, Leesburg, Purcellville, and Vienna as well as to the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, the Virginia Railway Express, the Virginia Department of Transportation, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, Department of Motor Vehicles, Department of Taxation, State Police, Clerks of the Court, the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board, and the staffs of the Secretary of Finance and Transportation, for their extraordinary support to the Authority over the past six years;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** this expression of NVTA's appreciation be sent to the chief administrative officer in each of Northern Virginia's jurisdictions and to the executive directors of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, the Virginia Railway Express, and the Northern Virginia Regional Commission; the Virginia Department of Transportation Commissioner; and the Directors of the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation; the Virginia Tax Commissioner and the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles Commissioner; the Clerks of the Court; Town Managers; State Police; Motor Vehicle Dealer Board; and the Secretaries of Transportation and Finance;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** letters of appreciation signed by the chairman be forwarded to the key staff members who have provided the leadership that ensured the achievement of the Authority's progress to date.

Approved by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 2008.

By:

  
Chairman

Attest:

  
Vice Chairman