

TRANSIT SERVICE DELIVERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

12th Floor North Conference Room
600 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219
Friday, October 11, 2013
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

1. Call to order – Chair (10:04 a.m.)
2. Public comment period
 - a. Keisha L. Branch (HRT) – Thanked the committee for their work. She stated that the new schedules posted online were easier to understand and the information was clear. She hoped that a decision regarding the capital allocation would be made. She mentioned that the operating allocation was good work and hopes that HRT will be represented on the transit working group that will be created to work with DRPT and its consultant on the planned research.
<http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/activities/files%5CHRT%20ltr%20Capital%20Budget%20Analysis%20Assumptions.PDF>
 - b. Kelly Coyner (NVTC) – Stated that the capital proposal was posted only 2 days prior to the meeting, expressed support for the tiering, and expressed concerns about the proposed alteration of participation rates from percentages of non-federal cost to percentages of total cost, noting that an alteration of that sort nullifies the intended effects of tiering. She recommended that only the tiering be changed initially, deferring other possible alterations so there's more time to assess their effects. She also summarized the other points made in NVTC's letter.
<http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/activities/files%5CNVTC%20Staff%20Observations%20on%20change%20from%20New%20Cost%20to%20Gross%20Cost.PDF>
 - c. Kevan Danker (WATA) – Acknowledged the progress already made and expressed the hope that the capital allocation decisions would be made promptly. He also expressed the view that retention of a local match requirement is important because the public interest would not be served if the new state money simply lessens local support, but went on to say that local funding is in short supply so the local match requirement should not be more than 4%.
 - d. Jennifer Fioriti (Arlington County) – States that she has been following the TSDAC work closely and thanked them for their hard work and dedication. She said that any decision made with capital tiering will have consequences. She supports the capital tiers but shares the concerns expressed by NVTC concerning net cost vs. gross costs, observing that changing the state participation rate to a percentage of gross would have the effect of increasing NOVA's need for local

funding when NOVA is already contributing substantial sums of local funding for its transit services.

- e. Larry Hagin (GRTC) – Supports the capital tiers and the current proposal. He echoed HRT in asking that GRTC be named as a member of the transit working group.

For the full comments please visit the website

<http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/activities/Meetingsandagendas.aspx>

- 3. Minutes from August 22nd and September 9th – both sets were adopted
- 4. Report on General Assembly, CTB meetings, Public Hearing – Chairman, John McGlennon discussed the various committees that he and DRPT Director Thelma Drake addressed, and touched on the feedback from those meetings. He also referenced the public hearing that was held on September 18th, observing that it was lightly attended, and noted that the CTB will vote to adopt the “operating allocation” proposal on October 17th. The CTB’s December 4th meeting is the targeted date for adoption of the “capital allocation” proposal.

Documents for CTB approval regarding Operating Allocation:

http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/activities/files%5CResolution_Agenda_Item_14.pdf

http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/activities/files%5CAttachment_Agenda_Item_14.pdf

- 5. Return to discussion of Capital Allocation Plan – Committee went through the Capital Report and discussed questions and concerns.
<http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/activities/files%5CCapital%20Budget%20Analysis%20Memo%202010-7-13.pdf>

The principal concern continues to be whether the state’s participation should be a percentage of total costs or non-federal cost. Mr. Pittard said that DRPT favors a “percentage of gross costs” approach -- seeing this as the approach that is in the state’s overall best interest -- while NVTC favors the retention of a “percentage of non-federal costs” approach because that approach yields more funding to Northern Virginia. Mr. Pittard went on to say that the difference between the two approaches in terms of Northern Virginia’s expected yield is small, and went on to say that the yield to Northern Virginia is significantly greater than at present in either event. The ensuing dialogue prompted a request for a finer grained breakdown of comparative yields by individual Northern Virginia jurisdiction because the current analysis aggregates yields by VDOT District which makes it difficult for individual jurisdictions to assess the implications locally. VDRPT staff pledged to furnish the finer grained breakdown.

Mindful of the December 4th target date for the CTB to act on the capital recommendations and the need for a public comment period beforehand, the Committee next discussed when to start the public comment period and whether the document posted for public review and comment should leave the issue of “gross” and “non-

federal” open for public review and comment. DRPT favored the idea of TSDAC declaring its preference by a vote at this meeting but, in the end, it was agreed that the Capital Report would be posted with both options retained. DRPT agreed to make minor refinements to the paper prior to posting to account for the meeting discussion. <http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/activities/files%5CTSDAC%20Capital%20Memo%20revised%2010-15-13%20Final%20%282%29.pdf>

6. Status of Working Group – Small changes were made to the operation allocation methodology report to include public comment.

Working groups were discussed, public was asked to nominate 10-15 people and provide their information to TSDAC Chair, John McGlennon within a week.

7. Public Comment – None at the time
8. Next Steps/Other Business – additional meeting to further discuss net costs vs. gross costs will be held on Tuesday, October 29th at 1 p.m. at 600 East Main Street, 12th Floor North Conference Room, Richmond VA 23219
9. Adjourn (1:00 p.m.)