



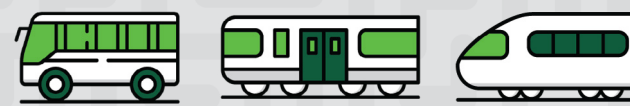
Advancing transit in Northern Virginia since 1964



# July 2025

## Executive Director Newsletter

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## A Message From **Kate Mattice**

Each summer, we look forward to the adoption of our latest Commuter Choice Program of Projects. Since 2017, this groundbreaking program has invested toll revenues to fund high-quality projects designed to move more people more efficiently through Northern Virginia's two most traffic-congested highway corridors: I-395/95 and I-66.

We thank the Commonwealth Transportation Board for its recent approval of the I-395/95 Program of Projects, consisting of 15 projects worth \$39.5 million, as well as our partners at the Virginia Department of Transportation, Department of Rail and Public Transportation and the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission. We alternate corridors each year and this fall we will turn our attention to soliciting proposals for the I-66 corridor, with an eye toward adoption of its next two-year program in 2026.

As we advance new projects, it is worth pausing to reflect on eight years of progress made by the Commuter Choice program. Since 2017, we have provided \$212 million for 112 projects in both corridors that move thousands of people each and every day.

That means Northern Virginians have more local and commuter bus services, new local bus routes, rail station improvements, access to transit upgrades, new park-and-ride facilities and transportation demand management (TDM) projects that have resulted in millions of faster, more reliable and less expensive transit trips along both corridors.

You can read more about the successes of the Commuter Choice program on our [website](#), by following [@novatransit](#), or even better, visiting the transit systems that are benefiting from these investments. They are all linked on our trip-planning site at [novarides.org](#).

NVTC is honored to manage the Commuter Choice program, and we are proud of the measurable successes of the funded projects, which continue to improve commutes for everyone.

*Kate A. Mattice*  
Executive Director



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**July 15-16**  
Commonwealth Transportation Board

**July 17 (Special Date)**  
Commission Meeting - All Virtual

**July 18**  
VRE Operations Board

**August 26**  
Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

**September 4**  
Commission Meeting

**September 16-17**  
Commonwealth Transportation Board

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## Commonwealth Transportation Board approves I-395/95 Commuter Choice projects

The Commonwealth Transportation Board approved the I-395/95 FY 2026-2027 Commuter Choice [Program of Projects](#) on June 24, following earlier adoption by NVTC and the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission.

This Program of Projects includes 12 bus service enhancements for ART, DASH, Fairfax Connector, Metrobus and OmniRide; one new Metrobus route; the improvement of Virginia Railway Express' Leeland Road Station; and future implementation of bus rapid transit on Route 1 in Fairfax County.

Together, these projects are anticipated to move an estimated 3,800 people daily and result in over 53,000 hours of travel time savings.

### See the I-395/95 Commuter Choice Approved Projects:

-  ART: 87
-  DASH: 35, 36
-  Fairfax Connector: 396, 321/322, 371
-  Fairfax County: Rt. 1 BRT
-  Metrobus: A25, A29
-  OmniRide: 5 routes
-  VRE: Leeland Station



Get the details at [novatransit.org/commuterchoice](https://novatransit.org/commuterchoice)



## Commission makes Metro Board appointments

The Commission [appointed](#) a new principal and alternate director to the Metro Board of Directors at the June meeting. The moves are in keeping with longstanding policy to ensure that NVTC's appointments rotate among Northern Virginia's member jurisdictions.

Walter Alcorn of Fairfax County joins Paul Smedberg as a principal director. Mr. Alcorn has served as an alternate since 2020. Matt de Ferranti of Arlington County joins the Board as an alternate, joining Canek Aguirre of Alexandria, who has served as an alternate since 2020.



Walter Alcorn, Matt de Ferranti, Canek Aguirre, Matt Letourneau, Paul Smedberg

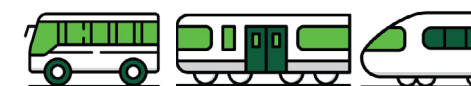
Later the same month, the Metro Board of Directors reelected Mr. Smedberg as vice-chair and honored outgoing Principal Director Matthew F. Letourneau of Loudoun County.



Matt Letourneau (third from left) and Don Drummer (fourth from left) with Metro Board members and General Manager/CEO Randy Clarke.

Mr. Letourneau joined the Board as an alternate in 2019 and represented NVTC jurisdictions as a principal director starting in 2020. He also chaired the Finance and Capital Committee. He remains NVTC's Secretary-Treasurer and a member of NVTC's WMATA and Legislative and Policy Committees.

"Matt has served this board with dedication, insight and an unwavering commitment to the region's transit system," said Principal Director Sarah Kline during the meeting.



## Virginia General Assembly joint subcommittee hears update on DMVMoves, evaluation of revenue sources

The SJ 28 Northern Virginia Growing Needs of Public Transit Joint Subcommittee, which is working to establish dedicated funding for NoVa transit, met [June 23](#) at NVTC's offices.

NVTC Commissioner and Metro Board Vice-Chair Paul Smedberg and Nick Donahue of Capitol Transportation Consulting provided an [update on DMVMoves](#), a regional task force that is developing a unified regional vision for transit and focusing on refining Metro's funding

needs. NVTC Director of Programs and Policy Andrew D'huyvetter, who serves as the chair of the SJ 28 Technical Working Group, and Nathan Macek of HDR presented an [evaluation of revenue sources](#) that the General Assembly subcommittee directed to review.



Paul Smedberg, Kate Mattice, Tiffany Robinson



Adam Ebbin, Mark Sickles, Adele McClure, Walter Alcorn



## NVTC Commissioners join future of public transit panel

Commissioners Walter Alcorn and Canek Aguirre joined a June 25 "Future of Public Transit in the DC region" panel discussion hosted by the Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance. They discussed Metro, fare-free bus service and current efforts to plan for dedicated funding for transit in our region, including DMVMoves and SJ 28, the General Assembly's Northern Virginia Growing Needs of Public Transit Joint Subcommittee.

Maryland Delegate Marc Korman and Nick Donohue, former Virginia Deputy Secretary of Transportation, rounded out the panel.



Canek Aguirre, Marc Korman, Walter Alcorn, Nick Donohue

## NVTC attends Tysons Community Alliance open house

Executive Director Kate Mattice and NVTC staff attended the Tysons Community Alliance's (TCA) Annual Meeting and Open House on June 25.

During the event, TCA CEO, and former NVTC Commissioner, Katie Cristol shared highlights from the group's annual report, including recent achievements in economic development and mobility enhancement in Tysons. Commissioners Dalia Palchik and Walter Alcorn and Fairfax County Chair Jeff McKay also addressed the group.



Sarah Godfrey, Kate Mattice, Vikram Sinha



## Metro's Better Bus Network debuts

Big changes came to Metrobus on June 29. The agency rolled out its Better Bus Network, the first redesign of the system in 50 years. Every route changed. That means new route names, as well as schedule and stop adjustments.

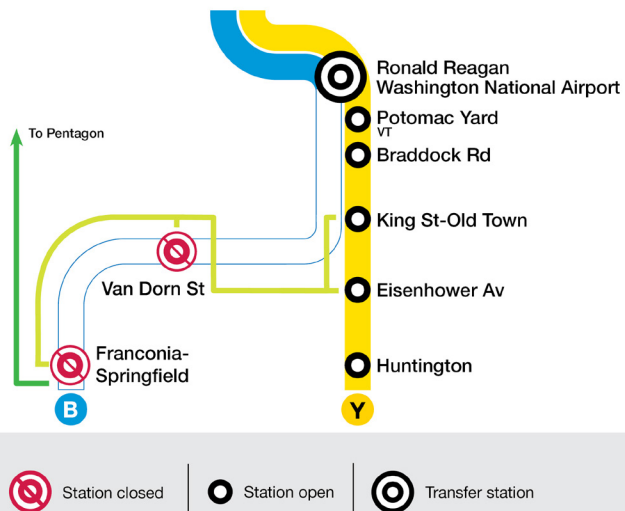
Route names became a bit more intuitive. "A" routes will serve Arlington and Alexandria, while "F" routes will serve Fairfax City and County, as well as Falls Church. Metro's [trip planner](#) can help you find your new route, and a [new map](#) shows all routes in the Commonwealth.

Better Bus launched one week after [new service enhancements](#) on Metrorail took effect.



## Blue Line stations close for July construction

### B Service Advisory Saturday, July 5 - Saturday, July 26



Metro's Van Dorn St. and Franconia-Springfield Stations closed Saturday, July 5, for reconstruction work expected to last through Saturday, July 26. During that same time, the Blue Line terminates at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport Station, while stations on the southern end of the Yellow Line remain open.

Metro is providing local and express [shuttle bus service](#) during the shutdown, as well as free parking at Franconia-Springfield and Van Dorn. Virginia Railway Express' Franconia-Springfield Station will remain open during Metro construction. Signs direct riders to the free shuttle buses, but note that VRE riders will not be able to access Metro fare machines.

## Transit tour features multimodal trip around Northern Virginia

Senior Program Manager Xavier Harmony led staff on his annual tour of public transit in Northern Virginia June 11. Xavier and members of our team rode Metrorail, the Metroway bus rapid transit system, ART and DASH and visited Virginia Railway Express' Crystal City Station.



## Staff attends Eno Transportation training

NVTC's Deputy Director of Programs and Policy, Ann McGrane, recently attended the Eno Center for Transportation's [Transportation Mid-Manager \(TMM\) Program](#) in Cleveland in June.

The Eno TMM program is a training program for mid-level managers working in transit, federal and public and private sectors.

Ann joined attendees from transit agencies and organizations across the country to network with peers and develop and grow leadership and management skills.



## Thank you and good luck, Xavier!

NVTC said goodbye to Dr. Xavier Harmony, our senior program manager for transit data and analysis, at the beginning of July. Since starting at NVTC in March 2022, Xavier has influenced how we communicate data about transit in Northern Virginia. He led the project to create NVTC's [NoVaTransit Data Dashboard](#), an interactive dashboard that provides the public with easy access to information about our transit systems, their ridership and other key statistics.

He also managed a number of studies that demonstrated the importance of transit to Northern Virginia, including the [Climate Benefits of Transit in Northern Virginia](#) report, the [Northern Virginia Regional Bus Transit Analysis](#) report and the [Integrating Transit, Bicycling and Micromobility in Northern Virginia](#) report.

We wish Xavier the very best as he returns home to Australia with his family.

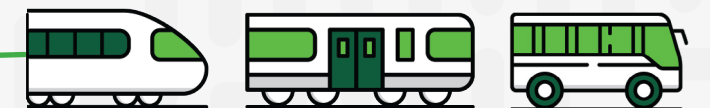


## DASH, Metro spread transit cheer in World Pride Parade

Executive Director Kate Mattice joined DASH's contingent in the World Pride Parade in Washington June 7. The group included Commissioner Canek Aguirre and DASH GM/CEO Josh Baker. Parade viewers also got a look at Metro's Pride-themed bus.



**Take care!**





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