



January 13, 2020

Northern Virginia Transportation Commission
2300 Wilson Boulevard
Suite 230
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Chair Letournau,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce supports the proposed Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) Work Plan for 2020-2021 and encourages its adoption. A strong infrastructure, including a robust transportation network, is essential for businesses to grow. The NVTC's work to achieve its strategic goals of increasing the capacity, accessibility, connectivity, and safety of our regional transit network helps to deliver this vital infrastructure. The Chamber encourages NVTC to continue these key efforts.

The work plan includes a commitment to maximize transit revenues and support from a broad base of sources. By identifying and coordinating efforts to secure funding, NVTC can help Northern Virginia speak with a strong, unified voice. Similarly, the NVTC's legislative and policy efforts complement other efforts, including ours, and help ensure that we maintain focus on long-range planning.

The NVTC also plays a key role, through its communication and engagement work, in maintaining a transit system that is as effective as possible for the commuters and employers it serves. We appreciated NVTC's outreach efforts in the lead-up to, and during, last summer's Blue/Yellow Line shutdown, and we anticipate similar outreach during this year's platform repairs on the Orange Line. We appreciate the inclusion of engagement with the Chamber in this work plan and look forward to continuing to collaborate when appropriate.

Building and maintaining a robust, integrated transportation system in Northern Virginia is essential to ensuring a strong community and connected regional economy and labor market. The Chamber commends NVTC for its efforts in this regard, and supports their continuation.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Bates". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kate Bates

President & CEO

CC: Arlington County Board; Arlington County Manager; Arlington County Department of Environmental Services, Transportation Division