NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION COALITION PO Box 6149 · McLean, Virginia 22106 · 703/883-1830 · fax 703/883-1850

February 19, 2020

Virginia General Assembly Pocahontas Building 900 East Main Street Richmond, VA 23219

RE: Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Funding Restoration

Dear Members of the Virginia General Assembly:

As representatives of the vast majority of Northern Virginia's private sector and nonprofit employers, we are writing to express our <u>strong support for the additional \$70 million in new</u> <u>funding for the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) included in Delegate Watt's</u> <u>House Bill 729.</u>

This new funding will fully <u>restore the money diverted</u> from NVTA in 2018 to provide dedicated capital funding <u>for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority</u> (WMATA). The redirection of that funding resulted in the delay or partial funding of over \$400 million in regional transportation projects across Northern Virginia.

Failure to restore funding will further delay and increase the cost of many more projects and compromise NVTA's ability to build the comprehensive, congestion-reducing, multi-modal network that was planned with the original regional funding authorization in 2013.

<u>Transportation projects funded by NVTA produce tremendous economic benefits for our region</u> and the Commonwealth. For Northern Virginia alone this translates into 26,000 jobs, \$1.5 billion in workforce income, \$4.4 billion in economic activity, and \$2.2 billion in gross regional product. However, these benefits also extend to the rest of the Commonwealth even though all of the funding for these projects is raised in Northern Virginia.

We strongly urge the General Assembly to approve House Bill 729 with the additional \$70 million for NVTA so Northern Virginia can continue to invest in the transportation infrastructure needed to keep our economy and Virginia's moving forward.

Sincerely,

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Joe Haggarty, President & CEO Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

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

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Kate Bates, President & CEO Arlington Chamber of Commerce

Jack Vega, President Committee for Dulles

Doug Pickford, President & CEO Dulles Area Transportation Association

Charles A. Kapur, President & CEO Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce

Jack McDougle, President & CEO Greater Washington Board of Trade

Anthony Howard, President & CEO Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce

Holly Hicks Dougherty, Executive Director Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce

Nicholas Lagos, President Northern Virginia Association of Realtors®

Pat Dean, President Associated Builders and Contractors – VA

Barry Taylor, President Dulles Area Association of Realtors®

John Boylan, President & CEO Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce

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Kim Clarke, President & CEO Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce

Ken Garrison, Executive Director Heavy Construction Contractors Association

Martha D. Marts.

Martha D. Marks, President NAIOP Northern Virginia, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association

Mark Ingrao, Chief Executive Officer Northern Virginia Building Industry Association

Debonan J. Jones

Deborah Jones, President & CEO Prince William Chamber of Commerce

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Julie Coons, President & CEO Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce

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Maggie Parker, Chairman of the Board Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance

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Keith Merlin, President Washington Airports Task Force

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Bobbie Kilberg, President & CEO Northern Virginia Technology Council

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Tucker R. Gladhill, Chairman Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce