

**Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's
May 14, 2026 Public Hearing for the Six-Year Program Update
Statement by Allen Muchnick, City of Manassas Resident**

Good evening. I'm Allen Muchnick, a City of Manassas resident and a board member of several active mobility advocacy groups, including Active Prince William.

I commend the various localities--and Arlington in particular-- for submitting many projects for this cycle that do not expand roadway capacity. It's encouraging that 44% of the submitted projects, accounting for 17% of the requested funds, would primarily improve active mobility.

While it's important to evaluate projects by their cost effectiveness, Congestion Reduction Relative to Cost is misleading by not fully measuring the adverse impacts of induced auto travel and induced auto-dependent development, which generate additional auto trips and their carbon emissions that increase congestion on the overall roadway network and exacerbate our climate crisis.

Furthermore, while the projects labeled as roadway or intersection improvements account for only 43% of the requested funds, Fairfax County's Route 1 BRT project, which accounts for 37% of the requested funds, is also a roadway expansion project, so roadway expansions actually comprise 80% of the requested funds.

Despite NVTA's commendable development of a Bus Rapid Transit action plan, only three bus-priority projects were submitted for this funding cycle.

I strongly support the Manassas VRE Line Rail-with-Trail project, which would effectively link two city downtowns and their VRE stations and provide a much-needed safe active mobility crossing of Bull Run into Fairfax County. As an off-roadway trail, it should have been rated high for safety.

Among Prince William County's applications, the Dale City Transit Priority Project, the Route 234 Trail at Innovation Park, and the Route 15 Railroad Overpass have the greatest potential to decrease auto-dependency and enhance equity, safety, and sustainability.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

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