APPENDIX C

Performance Measures Methodology

February 2022

The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) is a regional body that is focused on delivering transportation solutions and value for Northern Virginia's transportation dollars by bringing NoVA jurisdictions and agencies together to plan and program regional multimodal transportation projects focused on relieving congestion. As shown in Figure 1, NVTA has two main functions in the planning and programming of the multimodal transportation network in Northern Virginia. TransAction is Northern Virginia's long range multimodal transportation



Figure 1: NVTA's Planning and Programming Process

plan, which is a financially and geographically unconstrained plan, that is updated every five years. As part of TransAction, NVTA analyzes the regional impacts of a slate of multimodal transportation projects using a set of performance measures designed to capture the range of potential benefits of all types of improvements.

NVTA also is responsible for allocating regional transportation funds to specific projects as part of the programming process. Every two years, NVTA updates their Six Year Program to include projects selected to receive funding. These programming decisions are also based, in part, on an evaluation of candidate projects based on the same set of performance measures used in TransAction.

TransAction is currently being updated, which includes revisions to the TransAction Vision, Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures. These new performance measures will be used to analyze the impacts of transportation projects as part of TransAction, and for at least the next three Six Year Program evaluations beginning with the FY2022-2027 Six Year Program. This memo outlines the methodology that is being used to calculate each of the ten performance measures based on results of the modeling process and/or other inputs, and how they will be combined in order to develop a combined TransAction rating.

Performance Measures

On November 18, 2021, NVTA approved the goals, objectives, and ten performance measures as shown in Table 1.





Table 1: Approved Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures

Goal	Objective	Performance Measure
Mobility : Enhance quality of	A. Reduce congestion and delay*	A1. Total Person-Hours of Delay in autos
life of Northern Virginians by	,	A2. Total Person-Hours of Delay on Transit
improving performance of the multimodal		B1. Duration of Severe Congestion
transportation system	B. Improve travel time reliability*	B2. Transit person-miles in dedicated/priority ROW
Accessibility: Strengthen		C1. Access to jobs by car, transit, and bike
the region's economy by increasing access to jobs, employees, markets, and destinations for all communities	C. Improve access to jobs*	C2. Access to jobs by car, transit, and bike for EEA populations
	D. Reduce dependence on driving alone by improving conditions for people accessing transit and using other modes	D1. Quality of access to transit and the walk/bike network
Resiliency : Improve the transportation system's	E. Improve safety and security of the multimodal transportation system	E1. Potential for safety and security improvements
ability to anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to changing conditions and withstand, respond to, and recover rapidly from disruptions.	F. Reduce transportation related emissions	F1. Vehicle Emissions
	G. Maintain operations of the regional transportation system during extreme conditions*	G1. Transportation System Redundancy

*Objectives align with HB599 requirements

Transit may include High Occupancy Vehicles (HOV)

Proposed Calculation Methodology

Each measure will need to be calculated on its own scale based on the methodology set out in the following sections. Regardless of the methodology used, the results of each measure will be normalized and reported on a scale of 1 to 100. The normalization process will assign the highest performance in each measure a score of 100; all other projects will be assigned a score based on how close they are to this highest performance. For example, if Project A reduces delay by the most of any project, it will be assigned 100 points as shown in Table 2 below. The other projects will be assigned a score relative to Project A. While projects will receive scores across all ten performance measures, the same project may not be the highest scoring project across each of the performance measures.

Project	Person-Hours of Delay in Autos Reduced	% Relative to Highest Performing Project	Performance Measure A1 Score
Project A	10,000	100%	100
Project B	1,018	10.18%	10.18
Project C	8,101	81.01%	81.01

Table 2: Sample of Score Normalization

A1. Total Person-Hours of Delay in Autos

Calculated for each link, as the difference between the number of person-hours spent traveling and the hypothetical person-hours that would be spent traveling if all roads were able to operate at free-flow speed. This is summed over the whole day.

$$\sum_{j=1}^{J} (TravelTime_{j} - TravelTime_{FreeFlow}) * AutoVolume * AutoOccupancy$$

Where *j*=number of time periods in the day.

Only people in autos (drivers and passengers) are included in this calculation. Projects of all modes are considered for their impact on congestion, including pedestrian and bike projects. Transit and highway projects can be easily represented within the confines of the mode choice model and the dynamic traffic assignment¹. However, bike and pedestrian projects will also have some impact on congestion levels, by encouraging more people to switch to non-motorized modes.

To account for these impacts, after the mode choice model has created modal trip tables, some additional trips will be shifted from motorized to non-motorized modes. Since most non-motorized trips are short (pedestrian trips tend to be less than a mile and bicycle trips tend to be less than two miles long²) shorter trips will be more likely to be shifted than longer trips. These non-motorized trips (along with the other non-motorized trip productions developed by the model as part of the Trip Generation step) will not be assigned to the network. The number of trips that will be shifted into non-motorized modes will vary by the type/scale of project, and the location of the proposed improvements. There is limited data available on how many trips are shifted to non-motorized modes when improvements to the bike/walk infrastructure are made, but the most complete example comes from California. As shown in Table 3, the number of trips shifted is dependent on the length of the proposed enhancement and the amount of travel occurring on the adjacent/ parallel facilities.

¹ See the Modeling Strategy Memo for a more complete description of how the dynamic traffic assignment will be connected to other modeling steps.

² National Survey of Bicyclist and Pedestrian Behavior and Attitudes, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 2008. https://rosap.ntl.bts.gov/view/dot/1845.

Table 3: Ad	ctive Trans	portation Ad	iustment Fa	actors
		portation Au	justinent i t	

Average Daily Traffic (ADT)	Project Length (one- direction)	Adjustment Factors
ADT ≤12,000	≤1 mile	.0019
vehicles per day	>1 mile & ≤2 miles	.0029
	>2 miles	.0038
12,000 <adt< th=""><th>≤1 mile</th><th>.0014</th></adt<>	≤1 mile	.0014
≤24,000 vehicles per day	>1 mile & ≤2 miles	.0020
	>2 miles	.0027
24,000 <adt< th=""><th>≤1 mile</th><th>.0010</th></adt<>	≤1 mile	.0010
vehicles per day	>1 mile & ≤2 miles	.0014
	>2 miles	.0019

Source: California Air Resources Board (2020) Quantification Methodology for the CARB STEP Pilot.

The CARB methodology also includes bonus adjustments for improvements located near "key destinations" – although no definition is provided. In a similar spirit, the adjustment factors will be scaled up by 0.003 if the improvement is located within a Regional Activity Center or a Transit Access Focus Area as defined by TPB. The total number of trips shifted from motorized to non-motorized travel will therefore be calculated as:

*Trips Shifted = ADT * (AdjFactor + RACFactor)*

A2. Total Person-Hours of Delay on Transit

This measure calculates congestion's impact on delaying transit passengers. It is not meant to account for delay caused by incidents on the transit system, nor as a measure of on-time performance for transit. Because this measure is tied to congestion, it only needs to be calculated on roadway links where bus transit operates in mixed traffic, or for HOVs in dedicated HOV/HOT facilities. Similar to the formulation of A1, it is calculated as the difference in travel times traveling at free-flow speed as compared to actual conditions.

$$\sum_{j=1}^{j} (TravelTime_{j} - TravelTime_{FreeFlow}) * TransitPassengerVolume$$

Where *j*=number of time periods in the day.

Delay for HOVs traveling in dedicated HOV lanes will be included in this measure. Delay incurred by SOVs using HOT facilities will not be included as transit delay, and will instead be included in the auto delay (Performance Measure A1). Travel on rail transit, including Metrorail, are not included in the measure. Projects of all modes are considered for their impact on congestion, including pedestrian and bike projects. The same process outlined for Performance Measure A1 will be conducted to account for the impacts of increased use of non-motorized modes on congestion.

B1. Duration of Severe Congestion

Duration of severe congestion is being used as a proxy for locations on the highway system with major reliability issues. As such, the measure calculates the portion of the day (number of hours) that each link experiences severe congestion – defined as a travel time ratio of 2.0 or higher.

$$Congestion \ Duration = \sum Hours_{sc} * Facility Miles$$

Where *Hours*_{sc}=number of hours with a travel time ratio ≥ 2.0 .

Projects of all modes should be considered for their impact on congestion, including pedestrian and bike projects. The same process outlined for Measure A1 will be conducted to account for the impacts of increased use of non-motorized modes on congestion.

B2. Transit Person-Miles in Dedicated/Prioritized ROW

To measure improvements in transit reliability, this measure quantifies the person-miles of travel occurring on transit in dedicated and prioritized right of way. This will essentially sum the person-miles dedicated/prioritized transitway across the network, including HOVs traveling in dedicated HOV lanes. Links on the network will need to be identified in advance using an attribute that categorizes their level of prioritization. Transit person-miles will then be calculated and summed as shown in Table 4. As shown in the table, travel on fully dedicated running-way is counted as 100 percent of the passenger miles traveled in the calculation. Other treatments, in which prioritization is provided for transit vehicles use a factor to discount the person-miles calculation to account for the fact that prioritized transit must still interact with congestion and other vehicles between intersections (in the case of TSP and queue jumps) or at intersections (in the case of BAT lanes). The factors in Table 4 have been developed based on a literature review of the relative travel time benefits of different types of bus priority treatments.

Type of Treatment	Person-Miles Calculation
Separate Right-of-Way (e.g. Metrorail, VRE)	Passengers * distance traveled
Dedicated Bus Lanes	Passengers * distance traveled
Dedicated HOV/HOT Lanes	HOV Passengers * distance traveled
Business Access and Transit (BAT) Lanes ³	Passengers * distance traveled *0.8
Transit Signal Priority	Passengers * distance traveled * 0.5
Queue Jump Lanes	Passengers * distance traveled *0.25

Table 4: Calculating Person-Miles on Dedicated/Prioritized ROW

³ BAT Lanes are curb-side lanes used exclusively by buses and right-turning vehicles, primarily to access businesses and driveways along a corridor.

C1. Access to jobs by car, transit, and bike

For each Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ⁴) in Northern Virginia, this measure will calculate the number of jobs accessible by:

- Auto in 45 minutes
- Transit (including bus, rail, and on-demand transit) in 60 minutes
- Bike in 30 minutes

These numbers will be summed together for each TAZ to calculate the accessibility to jobs for each TAZ.

$$Accessibility_{TAZ} = Jobs_A + Jobs_T + Jobs_B$$

Where:

Jobs_A=number of jobs accessible within 45 minutes by auto

Jobs₇=number of jobs accessible within 60 minutes by transit

Jobs_B=number of jobs accessible within 30 minutes by bike

Jobs accessible by Auto and Transit will be calculated directly in the model. Jobs accessible by bike will be calculated using ArcGIS Network Analyzer, and will only include jobs accessible on facilities categorized as having a "Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress" of 2 or better. The bicycle network used for analysis includes both on-road and off-road facilities.

A regional value for this measure will be calculated by taking the average of all TAZ values weighted by their total population:

 $\frac{\sum_{TAZ=1}^{3722} Accessibility_{TAZ} * Pop_{TAZ}}{Regional Population}$

It should be noted that this measure will double and triple count access to jobs that are accessible by multiple modes. This is intentional, and helps account for the benefits of having multiple modal options to complete the same trip.

Figure 2: Equity Emphasis Area Definitions

⁴ For modeling purposes, the region is divided into a series of Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) that represent a specific geographic area.

C2. Access to jobs by car, transit, and bike by EEA Populations

This measure will be calculated in exactly the same way as Measure C1, except it will only be calculated for TAZs identified as being part of an Equity Emphasis Areas (EEA). As such, the regional measure will be calculated as the population-weighted average of the TAZ accessibility values only for EEA TAZs.

 $\frac{\sum Accessibility_{TAZ} * Population_{TAZ}}{Regional EEA Population}$

EEAs will be defined as any TAZ that is defined as either an MWCOG regional EEA⁵ or as a Northern Virginia Equity Area, as highlighted in Figure 2. Both were defined using similar methodologies with two significant differences:

 The MWCOG EEAs were defined using average low-income and minority concentrations for the whole metropolitan region, while the Northern Virginia EEAs were identified using Northern Virginiaspecific averages.



2. The MWCOG EEAs were defined at the TAZ level, while the Northern Virginia EEAs were defined at the census tract level.

As shown in Figure 2, the results show that some locations were identified as an EEA in both definitions, while some areas were included only one or the other. To be inclusive of both definitions, while maintaining a focus on those areas with the most acute equity needs, TransAction will define EEAs as any TAZ that was defined as an MWCOG EEA or any TAZ for which 50 percent or more of the constituent census tracts were defined as a Northern Virginia EEA. The resulting areas that will be considered as part of this measure are shaded in Figure 3. This EEA definition covers approximately 32% of Northern Virginia's total current population, but more than 41 percent of the region's non-white population and more than 55 percent of the region's population living in poverty, as shown in Table 5Table 5: Percent of Regional Populations Covered by NVTA Equity Emphasis Areas.

⁵ Equity Emphasis Areas (EEAs) are defined by MWCOG. https://www.mwcog.org/maps/map-listing/equity-emphasis-areaseeas/



Figure 3: NVTA Equity Emphasis Areas for TransAction

Table 5: Percent of Regional Populations Covered by NVTA Equity Emphasis Areas

Northern Virginia Regional Statistics	NVTA Equity Emphasis Areas
Total Population (2020)	31.7%
Total Population (2045)	32.6%
Non-White Population	41.9%
Population in Poverty	55.9%

D1. Quality of Access to Transit and the Walk/Bike Network

This measure will be qualitative, based on a definition of idealized conditions. Points (ranging from 0 to 4) will be allocated based on what percentage of these idealized amenities would be added as compared to the existing conditions. The idealized conditions envisioned by a score of four include:

Dense grid of arterial streets with wide sidewalks, crosswalks, pedestrian signals; bike lanes on most major arterials and bike sharing stations at frequent intervals; pick-up/drop-off locations for ridesharing/taxis; availability of shared micromobility (e.g. electric scooters); and transit circulator or shuttle bus routes connecting most activity locations and regional transit services, including park-and-ride lots; easy access to major transit stations.

The score will be awarded points ranging from 0 to 4, based on the approximate percentage of the listed features that are being added. For example, the installation of bike lanes, sidewalks and a circulator bus or microtransit service might be awarded a score of two points. The additional inclusion of grade-separated bike lanes and dedicated pick-up/drop-off locations could increase the score to three points. The points will then be weighted by the activity density (population and employment) within a half mile of the proposed improvements to calculate the score for this performance measure.

E1. Potential for Safety and Security Improvements

This measure will be based on the SmartScale safety analysis, which considers the potential for crash reduction in association with the number of current crashes to quantify the number of crashes that will be avoided. Because we do not have the data on the number of crashes at every location, this measure will look only at the potential for crash reduction through the lens of Crash Modification Factors (CMF). For this measure, each type of safety and security improvement will be assigned to a category based on the CMF identified by VDOT. A sample of the CMF factors is shown in Table 6 the full CMF list is incorporated as an appendix. Some additional project types have been added to the list below to incorporate the broader definition of safety being used in TransAction.

High (3 points) CMF ≤ 0.33	Medium (2 points) 0.33 < CMF < 0.67	Low (1 point) CMF ≥ 0.67
Add new sidewalk	Add median	Addition of turn lanes
Convert stop/yield control to roundabout	Implement ramp metering	ITS for incident management, variable speed limits, ATM
Install pedestrian countdown timer	Adaptive signal control	Roadway widening
	Add bicycle lane	High Visibility Crosswalks
	Major transit projects that will significantly decrease VMT	Intersection lighting
		Transit projects that will have
		a smaller impact on VMT
		Improved lighting at transit stops

Table 6: Sample Categorization of Safety/Security Project Scores

Where projects include multiple types of safety improvement, the points will be added together to calculate the project score. (CMFs should not be added, because lower CMFs are better.) For example, projects that add high-visibility crosswalks at three intersections would receive three points. Similarly, a project that added two miles of sidewalk would receive six points. This table can be revised if additional project types need to be included.

F1. Vehicle Emissions

Vehicle emissions will be approximated using Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as a proxy. Total VMT by speed class will be calculated directly from the model. In the No-Build scenario, electrification assumptions will mirror the fleet mix on the ground today to a large extent. The following assumptions will be used:

- 4 percent of light-duty vehicles will be ZEV⁶
- 1 percent of buses will be ZEV⁷
- No heavy trucks will be ZEV

In the future Build network analyses, projects will be included that increase these electrification rates significantly.

Table 7 shows the CO_2 emissions rates for 16 different speed classes and two types of vehicles. For the purpose of calculating this metric, the change in CO2 emissions will be multiplying the VMT by the appropriate factor.

Speed (mph)	Light-Duty Vehicles	Buses	Trucks ⁸
< 2.5	1,193.27	7,325.32	8,160.82
2.5 – 5	650.44	4,011.37	4,312.85
5 – 10	380.17	2,590.43	2,586.80
10- 15	297.07	2,142.19	2,163.03
15 – 20	248.23	1,885.14	1,874.54
20 - 25	220.00	1,727.80	1,708.10
25 – 30	203.51	1,681.17	1,660.44
30 – 35	198.06	1,434.48	1,430.85
35 – 40	193.92	1,390.28	1,379.48
40 – 45	190.17	1,354.12	1,336.62
45 - 50	184.58	1,325.92	1,273.75
50 – 55	179.37	1,302.15	1,214.71
55 - 60	175.76	1,286.11	1,195.29
60 – 65	176.88	1,355.77	1,245.24
65 – 70	181.83	1,421.19	1,290.19
> 70	189.88	1,500.28	1,362.54

Table 7: Running CO₂ Emissions Rates (g/mile) by Speed

Source: MWCOG/TPB Emissions Analysis for Fairfax County

⁶ <u>https://cleanairpartners.net/sites/default/files/SemaConnect%20-%20EVs%20in%20the%20DMV%20Region%20Final.pdf</u>. Vehicle electrification rates vary by jurisdiction, but are higher closest to DC.

⁷ Current bus fleet in Northern Virginia is approximately 58% diesel, 17% CNG, 1% Battery Electric, and 25% Diesel Hybrid.

⁸ Assumes a truck fleet that is evenly split between single unit and combination trucks.

The total value of the performance measure will be the weighted sum of the non-ZEV VMT as shown below:

$$Emissions = \sum (VMT * Weight)$$

G1. Transportation System Redundancy

This measure is calculated from the model, by calculating the change in person-hours of travel resulting from a 10 percent increase in PM peak hour trip making. The PM peak hour is defined as the hour with the most trips being made in Northern Virginia, and equate to the 5-6 pm hour. This measure is essentially identifying if there is excess capacity in the transportation system by adding additional travel to the busiest hour on the network. In a network with more excess/redundant capacity, the amount of person-hours of travel will be lower than on a network with less redundancy.

TransAction Score Calculation Methodology

The final performance measures will be combined into a single TransAction Score by combining the scores for each individual measure with its assigned weight as follows:

$$TransAction \ Score = \sum PerformanceMeasure * Weight$$

The weights approved by the Authority in December 2021 are shown in Table 8.

 Table 8: Performance Measures and Final Weights

Performance Measure	Weight
A1. Total Person-Hours of Delay in autos	10%
A2. Total Person-Hours of Delay on Transit	10%
B1. Duration of Severe Congestion	10%
B2. Transit person-miles in dedicated/priority ROW	10%
C1. Access to jobs by car, transit, and bike	10%
C2. Access to jobs by car, transit, and bike for EEA populations	10%
D1. Quality of access to transit and the walk/bike network	15%
E1. Potential for safety and security improvements	10%
F1. Vehicle Emissions	10%
G1. Transportation System Redundancy	5%

Appendix: Crash Mitigation Factors

Based on the following Crash Mitigation Factors used by SMARTSCALE, the following CMF categories will be applied to Measure E1. Should additional project types be proposed that are not explicitly included in this list, appropriate categories will be added that are consistent with the potential safety benefits.

Project Extent	Improvement Type/Features	Crash Mitigation Category
	Convert stop control to yield control (when warranted)	Med
	Convert stop/yield control to signal	Med
	Convert stop/yield control to roundabout	High
	Convert signal to roundabout	Med
	Convert two-way stop control to unsignalized RCUT	Med
	Convert signal control to signalized RCUT	Med
	Convert signal control to continuous green T signal	Low
	Displaced left turn intersection	Low
ч	Median U-turn intersection	Low
ectio	Convert pedestal to mast arm	Med
ters	Enhanced signal conspicuity	Low
Ē	Convert unsignalized intersection warning beacons from static to dynamic	Low
	Install conflict warning system – 4-lane at 2-lane intersection	Low
	Install conflict warning system – 2-lane at 2-lane intersection	Low
	New turn lane (none present)	Low
	Add turn lane (to existing)	Low
	Extend turn lane	Low
	Median acceleration lane	Low
	Add median or close median opening (convert to right-in/right-out)	Med
	Increase intersection radii	Low
	At-grade to new interchange	Med
	Convert stop-control diamond interchange to DDI	High
	Convert signalized diamond interchange to DDI	Med
nge	Convert diamond interchange to SPUI	Med
rcha	Change loop ramp to flyover ramp	Volume-based
Intel	Non-freeway: replace arterial turns with loops or directional ramps	Med
	Add freeway collector-distributor roads	Low
	Add freeway independent loop or directional ramp entrances	Low
	Extend ramp acceleration lane length	Function

	Add entrance ramp lane (1 to 2 lanes)	Low
	Add exit ramp lane (1 to 2 lanes)	Low
	Extend ramp deceleration lane length 250-500 ft up to 700 ft in total length	Low
	Implement ramp metering	Med
Bridge	Widen shoulders	Low
	ITS for incident management	Low
Ħ	ITS for ATM	Low
mer	ITS for variable speed limits	Low
Seg	Add auxiliary lanes between ramps	Low
vay	Directional widening 2 to 3 lanes – Rural	Low
Leev	Directional widening 2 to 3 lanes – Urban	Low
Ē	Directional widening 2 to 4+ lanes – Urban	Low
	Directional widening 3 to 4+ lanes – Urban	Low
	Adaptive signal control – Urban Intersection – 3-leg intersection	Med
	Adaptive signal control – Urban Intersection – 4-leg intersection	Med
	Adaptive signal control – Suburban Intersection	Low
	Signal retiming/optimization	Low
	ITS for Advanced Traffic Management (ATM)	Low
	Close driveway	Low
	Widen shoulder	function
ent	Provide median (right-in/right-out only)	Med
egm	Alignment reconstruction	Low
S S	Convert two-way road to one-way road	Med
ewa	Addition of two-way left turn lane (four to five lane conversion)	Med
-Fre	Addition of two-way left turn lane (two to three lane conversion)	Low
Non	Pavement re-utilization (road diet)	Med
	Widen 2-lane to multilane divided – Rural	Low
	Widen 2-lane to 4-lane divided – Urban	Low
	Widen 2-lane to 6-lane divided – Urban	Low
	Widen 4-lane to 6+-lane divided – Urban	Low
	Widen travel lanes – Rural	Function
	Widen travel lanes – Urban	Function
	Add or widen shoulder	Function
a	Install centerline rumble strips	Med
y y	Install edge rumble strips	Med
Ro	Install truck climbing lane	Med

	Improve Roadside Hazard Rating (RHR)	function
	Add new sidewalk (does not apply to sidewalk upgrades or widening)	High
	Add bicycle lane	Med
e	Add shared-use path of mixed-use trail	High
Pik	Add high-visibility crosswalk (new crosswalk or crosswalk upgrade)	Low
ed 8	Install countdown pedestrian timer	High
ď	Install leading pedestrian interval (LPI)	Med
	Install HAWK	Med
	Install RRFB	Med
bu	Install lighting at intersection	Low
ghtii	Install lighting at interchange	Low
Ĩ	Install lighting on segment	Low
÷	Install lighting at transit stops	Low
ansi	Major transit projects that will significantly decrease VMT	Med
Tr	Smaller transit projects that will have a smaller impact on VMT	Low