

## **Board Document**

| OVERVIEW                                 |  |     |              |            |  |
|--|--|-----|--------------|------------|--|
| PRESENTATION NAME                        | Approval to Apply for<br>NVTC Commuter Cho<br>Grant  | ice | DOCUMENT NO. | 300004     |  |
| ACTION OR INFORMATION                    | Action   |     |              |            |  |
| STRATEGIC<br>TRANSFORMATION PLAN<br>GOAL | Service excellence; Regional opportunity and partnership; Sustainability;  |     |              |            |  |
| RESOLUTION                               | Yes  |     |              |            |  |
| EXECUTIVE OWNER                          |  |     |              |            |  |
| EXECUTIVE TEAM OWNER                     | Olumide, Yetunde;  |     |              |            |  |
| ORGANIZATION                             | Finance  |     |              |            |  |
| DOCUMENT INITIATOR                       | Gantt,Bonnie B Gantt   |     |              |            |  |
| OTHER INFORMATION                        |  |     |              |            |  |
| COMMITTEE                                | Board Meeting  | СОМ | MITTEE DATE  | 12/12/2024 |  |
| PURPOSE/KEY<br>HIGHLIGHTS                | Seek Board approval to apply for a Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) Commuter Choice grant  |     |              |            |  |
| DISCUSSION                               | Staff seek approval to apply for a Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) Commuter Choice grant. Board approval to apply for the grant is an NVTC requirement.  The Commuter Choice program invests toll revenues from the I-66 and I-395/95 Express Lanes in Northern Virginia into transit and multimodal projects that benefit users of each respective corridor. Projects must meet at least one of the following goals set forth by the program: maximize person throughput, improve mobility along the corridor, support new, diverse travel choices, enhance transportation safety and travel reliability. Only projects within the |     |              |            |  |



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|                              | corridor that meet one or more of the goals is eligible to apply. NVTC issued its FY2026-2027 call for projects that provide options for the I-395/95 corridor on October 4, 2024 with an application deadline of December 16, 2024. NVTC anticipates that \$25-30 million will be available for new operating and capital projects. Operating funds are available for two years. If routes are successful, applications can be submitted in future funding cycles to continue service. NVTC alternates the corridors every year, such that in 2025, we anticipate a call for applications for investments in the I-66 corridor.  Metro proposes to apply for \$2.45 million in operating funding for new service on the A29, a weekday peak-hour, peak-direction route from Van Dorn Street station in Alexandria to Metro Center station in Washington D.C. The route would offer a new express option for travelers in west Alexandria and south Arlington to access Washington D.C. without transferring at the Pentagon. The peak-only service would run every 24 minutes from 6:00AM to 8:45AM, and again from 3:30PM to 7:00PM. The grant request will provide operations for two years. The new A29 service will be submitted as the priority project for funding consideration. If funded, service could be implemented in the September-December 2025 timeframe and would advance a service identified as part of the Better Bus Network visionary plan.  Metro also plans to apply for \$791,000 in operating funding to increase service frequency on the A25, which is peak-only express service from Landmark Transit Center to Seminary Valley, North Van Dorn Street, Menokin Drive, and South Fairlington, connecting to the Pentagon. The A25 application would increase planned service under the approved Better Bus Network from 30 minutes to every 15 minutes beginning at 6:00AM to 9:00AM, and again from 4:00PM to 8:00PM, providing residents in that area a quick and reliable transit option to the Pentagon. The grant request will fund the incremental increase in service over the two-year peri |  |
|------------------------------|---|--|
|                              | reliable transit option to the Pentagon. The grant request will fund  |  |
| INTERESTED PARTIES           | No interested parties   |  |
| RECOMMENDATION/NEXT<br>STEPS | Recommend the Board authorize the General Manager & Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to apply for the grant by the December 16 deadline, to accept funding, and execute an agreement with NVTC if the funds are awarded.   |  |



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| FUNDING IMPACT | The anticipated grant request for two years is \$2.45 million for the A29 service and \$791,000 for the A25 service. |
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SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF APPLICATION FOR NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION

COMMISSION COMMUTER CHOICE GRANT

2024-38

RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission ("NVTC") manages the Commuter Choice competitive grant program (the "Grant Program") that invests toll revenues from the I-66 and I-395/95 expressway corridors in Northern Virginia into transit and multimodal projects that benefit their respective users; and

WHEREAS, The Grant Program requires that the applicant's governing body approve any grant submissions, here, WMATA's Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, NVTC opened a call for projects for NVTC Fiscal Year 26-27 (July 1-June 30) funding within the I-395/95 corridor on October 4, 2024, with an application deadline of December 16, 2024; and

WHEREAS, NVTC anticipates that there will be between \$25-\$30 million in operating and capital funding available for new projects in the two-year cycle; and

WHEREAS, Staff recommends submitting two applications for operating funding for new service on the A29, a weekday peak-hour, peak-direction route from Van Dorn Street station in Alexandria to Metro Center station in Washington DC and for increased service on the A25, which is peak-only express service to Seminary Valley, North Van Dorn Street, Menokin Drive, and South Fairlington connecting to the Pentagon; and

WHEREAS, Staff anticipates submitting one grant request up to \$2.45 million for the A29 and a second grant request for up to \$791,000 for the A25 to provide two years of operating assistance; now, therefore be it

*RESOLVED,* That the Board of Directors approves Metro's application to the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission for a Commuter Choice grant for Fiscal Year 26-27 funding for new service on the A29, a weekday peak-hour, peak-direction route from Van Dorn Street station in Alexandria to Metro Center station in Washington DC which shall be the priority request for funding; and be it further

*RESOLVED,* That the Board of Directors approves Metro's application to the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission for a Commuter Choice grant for Fiscal Year 26-27 funding for expanded increased service on the A25, which is peak-only express service to Seminary Valley, North Van Dorn Street, Menokin Drive, and South Fairlington connecting to the Pentagon; and be it further

*RESOLVED,* That the Board of Directors delegates to the General Manager and CEO and the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer authority to apply for, accept funding, and execute an agreement or agreements with the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission if the WMATA is awarded one or more Commuter Choice grants; and be it finally

*RESOLVED,* That in order to meet the December 16, 2024, application deadline, this Resolution shall be effective immediately.

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,

Patricia Y. Lee

Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, and

General Counsel

WMATA File Structure No.: 4.4.2 Grant Applications