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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 76

Offered January 12, 2022

Prefiled January 12, 2022

Requesting the Department of Rail and Public Transportation to study Northern Virginia regional transit and develop a regional transit plan that includes an extension of Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority service to Prince William County. Report.

Patron—Torian

Committee Referral Pending

WHEREAS, transit is critical for economic development in Northern Virginia and Prince William County; and

WHEREAS, for at least two decades, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) has been focused on securing reliable transit for customers in the core of the system, known as core capacity; and

WHEREAS, the resolution of various core capacity issues creates opportunities for the expansion of WMATA services in the Northern Virginia region of the Commonwealth, including Prince William County; and

WHEREAS, any expansion of WMATA services will need to take a regional approach with support from all Northern Virginia localities; and

WHEREAS, many future transportation initiatives will cost billions of dollars to implement and will require significant planning and regional consensus; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Department of Rail and Public Transportation be requested to study Northern Virginia regional transit and develop a regional transit plan that includes an extension of Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority service to Prince William County.

In conducting its study, the Department of Rail and Public Transportation shall coordinate with all relevant stakeholders to reach a regional consensus and develop a long-term regional plan for future extensions of service provided by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. Such long-term regional plan shall evaluate current service options and identify necessary improvements and include an extension of Metro service to Prince William County. The stakeholders for this study shall include representatives from all localities in Planning District 8, the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, and the Virginia Railway Express.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Department for this study, upon request.

The Department of Rail and Public Transportation shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2022, and shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an executive summary and a report of its findings and recommendations for publication as a House or Senate document. The executive summary and report shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports no later than the first day of the 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

INTRODUCED

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