WMATA Annual Reporting Requirements

December 9, 2020 Commonwealth Transportation Board

Jennifer DeBruhl, Chief of Public Transportation



WMATA Reporting Requirements

- WMATA must annually certify compliance with applicable law and CTB policy for the following items:
 - » Board Governance
 - » Operating Assistance
 - » Strategic Plan
 - » Capital Improvement Plan



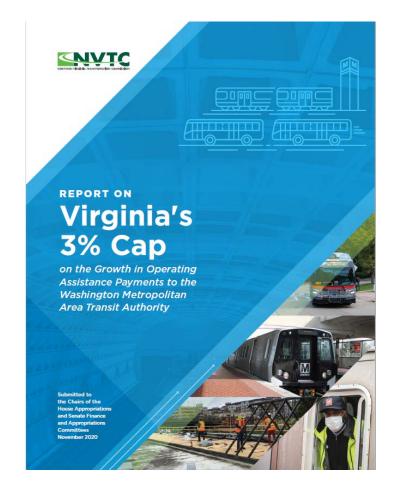
Biennial Review of CTB Policy

- Policy Resolution adopted in September 2018 states that the CTB will consider revisions or updates to the policy every two years
- There are three actions from the 2020 General Assembly that require a review of the policy:
 - » HB 1586 Provides that increases in service approved by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Board shall not be included in the calculation of the annual three percent cap on Virginia's annual operating subsidy.
 - » HB 30 (Budget Amendment) Northern Virginia Transportation Commission shall convene a workgroup to review the impact of the three percent cap on operating assistance in the approved WMATA budget and report on the usefulness of the cap and whether additional items should be excluded.
 - » SB 848 Changes the due date of the NVTC Report on the Condition and Performance of WMATA from November 1 to December 15.



NVTC 3% Working Group

- The 2020 General Assembly directed the Chair of NVTC to convene a working group to discuss the effectiveness of the 3% cap on WMATA operating expenses and determine if additional exceptions were warranted.
- The working group consisted of the Director of DRPT, local transportation directors, and representatives of the private sector.
- NVTC submitted their report on November 10th





NVTC 3% Working Group Recommendations

- No changes should be made to the existing 3% cap legislation and no additional items should be excluded at this time
- No legislative changes should be considered before the cap has been in place for five WMATA budget development cycles
- The group recommended minor updates to the CTB policy to clarify exclusions related to legal expenses
- NVTC will continue to evaluate the impact of Virginia's 3% cap legislation



Recommended Policy Updates

- Process has been only been in place for two years, with no major issues or non-compliance.
- Modifications required by legislative changes:
 - » Insert language to establish that service increases approved by the WMATA Board are excluded from calculation of the 3% cap
 - » Modify the due date for the NVTC Annual Review on the Condition and Performance of WMATA from November 1st to December 15th

• Modifications recommended for clarification:

- » Addition of language to clarify exclusion for legal expenses does not include day-to-day operational costs of WMATA's legal department
- » Clarification that the policy will be reviewed <u>at least</u> every two years



Next Steps

- December NVTC to submit Annual Report by December 15th
- January Present modified CTB policy for approval



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