

Federation Budget Input from the Transportation Committee

Whereas the Federation Appreciates the FY21 Commonwealth Budget Proposing the Restoration of Transportation Funds Allocated to Dedicated Funding for Metro which

- restores \$50 million a year of the \$102 million diverted in 2018 from the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority to pay for dedicated funding for Metro.
- increases the tax on real estate transactions in Northern Virginia to 20 cents from 15 cents per \$100 of sales price to help pay for the restoration
- will help pay for roads and transit, enabling the region to move ahead more quickly on such projects as
 - widening Richmond Highway (Route 1) in Fairfax including the addition of bus rapid transit there, and
 - widening and improving Route 28 in Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William

Whereas the Proposed FY21 Commonwealth budget proposes to increase and index the State Gas Tax rate which

- raises the state gas tax by 5 cents a gallon in each of the next two years, and then index it to inflation.
 - The gas tax would increase to 21.2 cents per gallon 1 July 2020 and to 26.2 cents per gallon a year later.
 - In subsequent years, the rate would be adjusted annually to keep pace with inflation.
 - Revenue from the tax will be used to:
 - help pay for the Governor's \$3.7 billion plan to double passenger rail service over the next decade, and
 - ensuring the state's transportation fund remains solvent to support critical transit, including Metro, and infrastructure projects.
- extends the regional gas tax (currently applicable to motorists in Northern Virginia, Hampton Roads and the Route 81 corridor which goes to fund projects in those regions) of about 2.1 percent more, or an average of 21.9 cents per gallon to all counties and cities in the commonwealth to boost funds for local projects
- reduces vehicle registration fees,
- establishes a highway use fee for alternative-fuel and fuel-efficient vehicles,
- keeps the state's annual vehicle safety inspections,
- generates about \$30 million in additional funds for Northern Virginia projects by
 - raising the transportation tax that applies to hotel rooms to 3 percent from 2 percent and
 - increasing a real estate transfer tax that applies to home sales,
- The Federation believes this is a step toward a modern, sustainable transportation system in Virginia, boosting our economy, reducing congestion, and dramatically transforming rail and transit throughout the Commonwealth.

Now It Therefore Be Resolved That

The Board of Supervisors, in light of any additional funding it receives based on the proposed FY21 Commonwealth Transportation budget, should

- reevaluate the list of priority transportation projects it last established before the funding was reduced
- Involve in the reprioritization effort local citizen groups, such as
 - District Councils
 - the Fairfax County Transportation Advisory Commission=, and
 - the Trails, Sidewalks And Bikeways Committee