

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

**RESOLUTION ON AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) THAT IS EXEMPT FROM THE AIR QUALITY
CONFORMITY REQUIREMENT TO INCLUDE TIP ACTION 23-47.3 WHICH ADDS FUNDING
FOR FAIRFAX CONNECTOR TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE EXPRESS BUS SERVICE
BETWEEN TYSONS, VIRGINIA AND BETHESDA, MARYLAND, AS REQUESTED BY
THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (VDOT)**

WHEREAS, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), as the federally designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington region, has the responsibility under the provisions of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, reauthorized November 15, 2021 when the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) was signed into law, for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the TIP is required by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as a basis and condition for all federal funding assistance to state, local and regional agencies for transportation improvements within the Washington planning area; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2022, the TPB adopted the FY 2023-2026 TIP; and

WHEREAS, VDOT has requested an amendment to the FY 2023-2026 TIP to include TIP Action 23-47.3 which adds \$2 million in state funding to FY 2025 for the establishment and operations of express bus service between Tysons, Virginia, and Bethesda, Maryland, operated by Fairfax Connector as a part of the I-495 NEXT Transit service as described in the attached materials.

WHEREAS, the attached materials include:

ATTACHMENT A) Programming Overview report showing how the amended record will appear in the TIP following approval,

ATTACHMENT B) Letter from VDOT dated September 19, 2024, requesting the amendment, and

WHEREAS, this amendment has been entered into the TPB's Project InfoTrak database under TIP Action 23-47.3, creating the th amended version of the FY 2023-2026 TIP, which supersedes all previous versions of the TIP and can be found online at www.mwcog.org/ProjectInfoTrak; and

WHEREAS, the expansion and operations of express bus service on this route was in the assumptions for transit modeling included in the Air Quality Conformity Analysis of the 2022 Update to Visualize 2045 and the FY 2023-2026 TIP; and

WHEREAS, this resolution and the amendments to the FY 2023-2026 TIP shall not be considered final until the Transportation Planning Board has had the opportunity to review and accept these materials at its next full meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Steering Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board amends the FY 2023-2026 TIP to include TIP Action 23-47.3 which adds \$2 million in state funding to FY 2025 for the establishment and operations of express bus service between Tysons, Virginia, and Bethesda, Maryland, operated by Fairfax Connector as a part of the I-495 NEXT Transit service, as described in the attached materials.



National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

ATTACHMENT A - PROGRAM OVERVIEW REPORT FOR
 TIP ACTION 23-47.3: FORMAL AMENDMENT TO THE
 FY 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
 REQUESTED BY THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

TIP ID T13640
Project Name I-495 Next Transit Operation Services
Project Limits Tysons to Bethesda
Lead Agency Virginia Department of Transportation
County
Municipality

Project Type Bus/BRT - Capital/Expansion
Total Cost \$2,000,000
Completion Date

Agency Project ID 126259

Description Express bus service from Tysons, Virginia to Bethesda, Maryland. This Route 798 is operated by Fairfax Connector.

Phase	AC/ ACCP	Source	Prior	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	Future	4 Year Total	Total
CON		DC/ STATE	-	-	-	\$2,000,000	-	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
		Total CON	-	-	-	\$2,000,000	-	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
		Total Programmed	-	-	-	\$2,000,000	-	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000



Version History

TIP Document	MPO Approval	FHWA Approval	FTA Approval
23-47.3 Amendment 2023-2026	10/16/2024	Pending	Pending

Current Change Reason

SCHEDULE / FUNDING / SCOPE - New project



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Stephen C. Brich, P.E.
Commissioner

1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

September 19, 2024

The Honorable Christina Henderson, Chair
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002-4201

RE: FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments:
I-495 NEXT Transit Operations Services (TIP ID T13640/ UPC 126259)

Dear Chair Henderson:

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) requests the following new project be added to the FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

I-495 NEXT Transit Operations Services (TIP ID T13640/UPC 126259)

This project provides starting year operating funds for express bus service along I-495 from Tysons, Virginia to Bethesda, Maryland as part of the 495 NEXT project Transportation Management Plan (TMP) during the construction period. Operated by Fairfax Connector, the 798-bus route will provide a convenient, efficient, and eco-friendly transportation option for travelers in the region to mitigate construction impacts and provide more travel options in the corridor. This new transit route was included in the AQC analysis for the 2022 Update of Visualize2045 and the FY2023-2026 TIP. The proposed amendment will:

- Add \$2,000,000 (State) FFY25 for CN Phase

VDOT requests approval for this project to be added in the TIP by the Transportation Planning Board's Steering Committee at its meeting on October 4, 2024. A VDOT representative will be available to answer any questions about these amendment requests.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Cuttler".

Bill Cuttler, P.E.
Northern Virginia District Engineer

Cc: Ms. Maria Sinner, P.E., VDOT-NoVA
Ms. Regina Moore, AICP, PTP., VDOT-NoVA