



NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Jeff Caldwell, VDOT 804-786-2715

CO-1020

804-337-7264 (cell)

Jeffrey.Caldwell@VDOT.Virginia.gov

Jennifer Pickett, DRPT 804-786-7432

804-221-1853 (cell)

Jennifer.Pickett@DRPT.Virginia.gov

WORKING DRAFT 2011-2016 SIX-YEAR IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM POSTED FOR REVIEW

Commonwealth Seeks Input on Six-Year Improvement Program

RICHMOND — The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) has posted the Working Draft Fiscal Years 2011-2016 Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP) for public review in advance of four public hearings to solicit public comments about essential rail, transit, transportation demand management, bicycle, pedestrian and highway projects. The SYIP is now available at www.VirginiaDOT.org and www.drpt.virginia.gov for review.

The \$7.7 billion Working Draft SYIP proposes \$5.6 billion for highway construction and \$2.1 billion for rail and public transportation, focusing on four main principles:

- Funding deficits on projects under way
- Maximizing the use of federal funds
- Funding projects already under way and those with new phases starting in fiscal year 2011
- Funding deficient bridges and pavements

The SYIP also programs \$103 million in federal funding held in reserve in the previously adopted program due to uncertainty in transportation funding at the federal level. Releasing this reserve:

- Provides partial funding for three stimulus contingency projects
 - I-66 paving in the Northern Virginia District
 - I-581 improvements at Elm Avenue in the Salem District
 - Route 50 Courthouse Road improvements in the Northern Virginia District
- Partially funds VDOT project development costs on the Midtown Tunnel public-private partnership project in Hampton Roads
- Provides funding for the Route 164 Median Rail project in Hampton Roads administered by the Virginia Port Authority
- Provides special program funding (enhancement program, congestion mitigation and air quality funding and regional surface transportation program projects)

Rail and public transportation funding in the SYIP is similar to levels in the revised Fiscal Years 2010-2015 SYIP. However, these levels represent a 10 percent decrease from the SYIP adopted by the CTB in June 2009. The state match for eligible capital expenses is 56 percent, and 36 percent for operating expenses, the lowest in Virginia history.

Public transportation investments focus on key priorities such as the state of good repair, capacity expansion, and security and technology enhancements. Rail investments focus on priorities outlined in the Rail Resource Allocation Plan and advancement of passenger rail demonstration projects in the Interstate 95, Interstate 81 and Route 460 corridors.

Detailed briefing presentations for highway, rail and public transportation changes in the Working Draft SYIP will be available on www.ctb.virginia.gov following the conclusion of the CTB meeting in Richmond today.

Public Input Sought

The CTB will host four public meetings to solicit input on the proposed plan before it is adopted in June.

Districts	Location	Date
Richmond, Culpeper, Fredericksburg	VDOT Central Office Auditorium 1401 East Broad St. Richmond, VA 23219	May 19, 2010 Elected officials' open house, 5 p.m. Public meeting, 6 p.m.
Northern Virginia	Fairfax City Hall 10455 Armstrong St. Fairfax, VA 22030	May 26, 2010 Elected officials' open house, 6 p.m. Public meeting, 7 p.m.
Hampton Roads	Chesapeake Conference Center 900 Greenbrier Circle Chesapeake, VA 23320	June 2, 2010 Elected officials' open house, 5 p.m. Public meeting, 6 p.m.
Salem, Bristol, Lynchburg, Staunton	New River Community College 5251 College Drive Dublin, VA 24084	June 3, 2010 Elected officials' open house, 5 p.m. Public meeting, 6 p.m.

All projects in the SYIP eligible for federal funding will be included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, which documents how Virginia will obligate its share of federal funds. Copies of the draft SYIP will be available at the public hearings and on VDOT and DRPT's websites at www.VirginiaDOT.org and www.drpt.virginia.gov prior to the hearing.

Written comments may be submitted via mail or e-mail until June 11, 2010 to:

Public Information Office
Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation
600 E. Main St., Suite 2102, Richmond, VA 23219
drptpr@drpt.virginia.gov

Programming Director
Virginia Department of Transportation
1401 E. Broad St., Richmond, VA 23219
six-yearprogram@vdot.virginia.gov

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