



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA  
*Office of the*  
SECRETARY of TRANSPORTATION

# Transportation Funding and Programs

Shannon Valentine  
Secretary of Transportation  
August 13 2020



Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation



---

# COVID-19 Impacts on Transportation

# Major CTB Funding Programs

---

- *SMART SCALE*
- *State of Good Repair*
- **MERIT (Transit Capital and Operating)**
- **Interstate Operations and Enhancement Program**
- **Highway Safety Improvement Program**
- **Revenue Sharing**
- **Transportation Alternatives**

# SMART SCALE



- **Largest construction ‘program’ - ~\$1.2B every 2 years**
- **Result of legislation adopted during 2014 General Assembly Session**
- **Main program for projects that improve the surface transportation network**
- **Funds are divided equally between two programs**
  - **High Priority Projects – statewide basis**
  - **District Grant Program – district-based**

# Applications and Evaluation



- Applications are submitted by local governments, regional entities and transit agencies
- Projects must meet a need in the CTB adopted long-range plan – VTrans
- Projects are evaluated based benefits relative to the amount of requested funding
  - Congestion, safety, economic development, accessibility, environment, and land use

# Decision-Making Process



- Scores are released in January
- Staff recommended funding scenario is developed by applying funds to highest scoring projects
- Board reviews scenario and holds public meetings
- Board may modify recommended funding scenario through majority vote and adopts a consensus scenario
- Board conducts detailed review of process after each round is completed

# Scorecard



**Superstreet - Route 60 at Woolridge Road/Old Buckingham Road** Project Id: 4972

Construct Superstreet intersection at RT 60 at Woolridge Road/Old Buckingham Road to improve safety and operations.

- Submitting Entity: Chesterfield County
- Preliminary Engineering: Not Started
- Right of Way: Not Started
- Construction: Not Started
- Eligible Fund Program: District Grant
- VTRANS Need: Urban Development Area [\(click here for details\)](#)



<h1 style="font-size: 2em;">7.6</h1> <p>SMART SCALE SCORE</p>	<h2 style="font-size: 1.5em;">#55</h2> <p>OF 433 STATEWIDE</p>	SMART SCALE Requested Funds..... <b>\$13,239,000</b>
	<h2 style="font-size: 1.5em;">#13</h2> <p>OF 79 DISTRICTWIDE</p>	Total Project Cost..... <b>\$13,239,000</b> Project Benefit..... <b>10.0</b> Project Benefit / Total Cost..... <b>7.6</b>

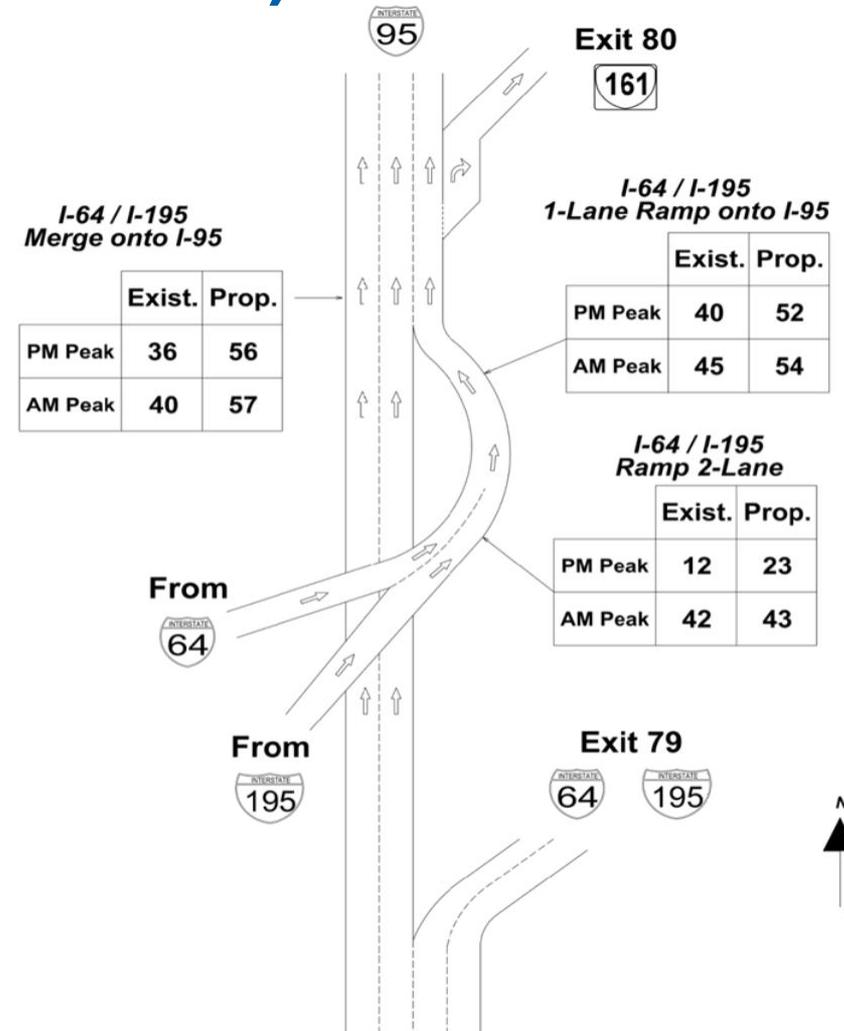
# Benefits of SMART SCALE



- **Board fulfills role as policy board through informed project selection**
- **Improved transparency**
- **Enhanced accountability**
- **Better certainty for project sponsors and business community**
- **Project design focused on achieving most benefits for the least cost**

# Bryan Park Interchange Before and After (Jun-Aug '16 vs '17)

- Travel times from I-64 E and I-195 N to I-95 N were reduced by 15%
- Crashes reduced 31% from 39 to 27
- Reliability was significantly improved
- Projects implemented in two weeks for \$80,000



# State of Good Repair

- **Purpose is to address deficient pavement and structurally deficient bridges**
- **Second largest construction program - ~\$450M/year**
- **Funds are distributed to each district using a formula based on total cost of needs**
  - **No district less than 5.5% or more than 17.5%**
  - **Funds within each district are divided between state and local roads based on total cost of needs**

# State of Good Repair

- **Board selects projects from priority ranking system developed by VDOT**
- **Bridge priority ranking system**
  - **Condition, impact to traffic, cost-effectiveness, risk and structure capacity**
- **Pavement priority ranking system**
  - **Distress and roughness, traffic volumes, truck volumes, strength of pavement layers and subgrade, and maintenance history**

# Transportation Performance Management

- **Board is required to report performance by state and federal law**
- **Assess current performance and set targets for future performance for the following—**
  - **Pavement and bridge condition**
  - **Congestion**
  - **Safety**
  - **Reliability**

# Transportation Performance Management

---

- **Understand how the system is working**
- **Determine whether current investments and strategies are working as expected**
  - Evaluate the short- and long-term effectiveness of various treatments
  - Inform future project development
- **Pro-actively consider trade-offs between investment strategies**
  - SMART SCALE factor weighting

# Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- **VDOT is undertaking a statewide inventory of GHG emissions from the transportation sector**
- **VDOT is working on a pilot program to evaluate GHG emissions through the environmental review process**
  - **Understand best metrics to measure GHG**
  - **Evaluate methods to use information in decision-making process**

# Project Labor Agreements

- **SB182/HB 358 of the 2020 Regular Session authorizes the use of project labor agreements in Public Works projects effective May 1, 2021**
- **Public bodies *may*, in its bid specifications, project agreements, or other controlling documents:**
  - 1. Require bidders, offerors, contractors, or subcontractors to enter into or adhere to project labor agreements with one or more labor organizations, on the same or related public works projects; and**
  - 2. Require bidders, offerors, contractors, subcontractors, or operators to become or remain signatories or otherwise to adhere to project labor agreements with one or more labor organizations, on the same or other related public works projects.**

# Project Labor Agreements

- **Legislation repeals previous prohibition on PLAs providing flexibility**
- **Virginia has utilized PLAs on Dulles Rail Phase I, 95 Express Lanes, 495 Express Lanes and 395 Express Lanes projects**
- **We have started outreach to other states through AASHTO to learn about their experiences:**
  - **Best practices**
  - **Assessing how to value**
  - **Maintain flexibility in procurement process to obtain best value**