

Legislative Update

DRPT

Thelma Drake, Director

March 20, 2013

HB1828

- ❑ Codifies the Supreme Court decision that a state's rail system does provide a highway benefit
- ❑ Authorizes the Department of Rail and Public Transportation to acquire and hold title to land for constructing rail infrastructure
- ❑ Currently DRPT may lease, construct and improve rail infrastructure, but is not expressly authorized to own rail infrastructure.
- ❑ This legislation adds the authority for DRPT to hold title to abandoned rail way and to preserve it for future rail development.

HB2152

- ❑ Requires that the Chairman of the Commonwealth Transportation Board or his designee to be counted for a quorum on Transportation District Commissions
- ❑ Ensures that both the Chairman and the legislative members have a vote on those commissions.
- ❑ Also gives the Chairman of the Commonwealth Transportation Board or his designee equal voting weight on the Virginia Railway Express.
- ❑ In any year that the Commonwealth contributes as much or more as the largest local contributor, Virginia will receive the same voting weight as that jurisdiction.
- ❑ Effective on July 1, 2014.

SB1140

- ❑ SB1140 is the result of a legislative study (SJR297) passed in 2011
- ❑ This legislation keeps current allocation formula in place for the first \$160 million
- ❑ All funds thereafter will have a new allocation formula applied
 - New allocation formula to be established by a Transit Service Delivery Advisory Committee along with DRPT Director
 - Committee is being formed now
- ❑ The CTB will re-evaluate the metrics, with public input and General Assembly oversight, every three years, followed by a one year notice prior to implementation of any changes
- ❑ Local governments and local transit operators will continue to make their own decisions with respect to their operations
- ❑ Establish a reserve fund to stabilize match ratios for capital expenses and allow capital funds to be flexed into operating assistance to stabilize year to year fluctuations
- ❑ Require a local match and maintenance of effort

Transportation Funding Bill

- ❑ Impact to DRPT
 - \$300 million for the Dulles Metrorail Corridor Extension
 - Designated revenue source for Intercity Passenger Rail Operating and Capital Fund (IPROC) – Approx. \$44.3M in the first year
 - Operating funds for continued and expanded Intercity Passenger Rail Service
 - Extension of passenger train service to Roanoke
 - Addition of trains 2 & 3 for Norfolk-Washington route
 - Capital funds for Intercity Passenger Rail Projects
 - Track Performance Improvements
 - » Newport News-Richmond
 - » Richmond-Washington
 - Increase of transit funding
 - Approximately \$66.5M in the first year
 - Funding - 3% statewide sales tax increase and increased MTTF dollars from the TTF



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