







#### COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA Office of the \_\_\_\_\_\_ SECRETARY of TRANSPORTATION

# 2019 General Assembly Update

Nick Donohue Deputy Secretary of Transportation January 15, 2019







VIRGINIA SPACE

- Governor Northam along with a bipartisan group of legislators announced last Tuesday legislation to fund and implement the Board's adopted I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan
- Legislation will be introduced today
  - Delegates Landes and Austin
  - Senators Obenshain and Carrico

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- Establishes a special, non-reverting fund for 81
  Corridor supported by tolls
- Authorizes Board to impose tolls subject to caps and requirement to offer annual pass
- Revenues may only be used for identified improvements in Board adopted Plan
- Tolls expire when any bonds supported by tolls are retired

- Establishes Interstate 81 Committee of the Board with 13 voting members and 2 ex-officio
  - 5 PDC chairs
  - 5 General Assembly members
  - 3 CTB members
  - VDOT Commissioner and DPRT Director
- Board is required to
  - Annually adopt 81 Corridor Improvement Program
  - Annually report on safety, congestion, and incidents on I-81 as well as status of projects and balance of the 81 Corridor Improvement Fund

- Allows toll rates to be increased after a period of 8 years if—
  - Board updates the 81 Corridor Improvement Plan to identify new needs and prioritize potential solutions
  - Increase may not be greater than the increase in CPI since the tolls were imposed
  - The Interstate 81 Committee approves the increase
- Tolls may also be increased if necessary to support existing debt service commitments for a previously adopted Plan
  - Increases are limited to the amount necessary to ensure appropriate debt service coverage

- Prohibits the imposition of regional taxes for the purposes of improving I-81 while tolls are being collected
- Establishes a program for users that can demonstrate a disproportionate burden
- Establishes that a user of I-81 that exits I-81 just prior to a toll collection point and re-enters past that point is a toll violator if Board policy determines they were trying to avoid the toll

### **Funding Legislation**

- HB2085 (Watts) Restores ~\$30M to NVTA based on Governor's amendments last session
- SB1014 (Stanley) Establishes an I-73 Corridor Development Fund and Program
- SB1322 (Hanger) Imposes a 2.1% regional fuels tax for improvements to I-81
- SB1470 (Edwards) Increases statewide fuels tax by 5% and dedicates \$300M/year to I-81

### **Online Sales Tax Legislation**

- Governor Northam's budget amendments would authorize collection of online sales tax
  - Distributes revenues through existing sales tax formula
  - Repeals HB2313 (2013) and HB1887 (2015) provisions that would reduce gas tax and lower transit funding
- SB1120 (Petersen) Repeals HB2313 (2013) enactment clause that calls for reduction of fuels tax
- SB1390 (Wagner) Repeals HB2313 (2013) and HB1887 (2015) provisions that would reduce gas tax and lower transit funding

## **Tolling Legislation**

- HB2511 (Hugo) Restricts operating hours of I-66 express lanes inside the Beltway
- HB2527 (Hugo) Prohibits tolling of primary or secondary routes without approval by the General Assembly
- HB2643 (Delaney) Caps tolls on I-66 express lanes inside and outside the Beltway
- HB2667 (Bell/Reid) Revises process for approval of toll rate increases on Dulles Greenway
- SB1654 (Stanley) Revises process for approval of toll rate increases on Dulles Greenway

#### **Other Legislation**

- HB1983 (Stolle) Allows federal funds to serve as a match to Rail Enhancement Fund grants
- HB2269 (Poindexter) Prohibits participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Emission Initiative without approval by the General Assembly
- SB1073 (Marsden) Incident management during 66 HOT Lane construction
- HJ581 (Cole) / SJ276 (Reeves) Requires Board to develop and adopt 95 Corridor Improvement Program

### **Other Legislation**

- HB2265 (Poindexter) Requires VDOT to conduct a review of its Arterial Preservation Program
- HB2326 (Brewer) Adds a new SMART SCALE factor maintenance of primary evacuation routes
- HB2553 (Thomas) Requires Board to allocate \$5M to hold transit operators harmless from implementation of transit operating prioritization
- HB2633 (Delaney) Constrains CTB discretion in project selection through SMART SCALE related to congestion

#### **2019 Genera Assembly**

- Bills can still be introduced through Friday
- Budget amendments have not been released
- Scheduled to adjourn on February 23, 2019

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