

Addition of Certain Streets in Richmond to Primary State Highway System

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Background

- The Department of General Services (DGS) is currently engaged in a series of major construction and renovation projects in Capitol Square.
- One of the projects involves reconstruction and renovation of the General Assembly Building at 9th and Broad streets.
- During the renovation, the General Assembly has relocated to the Pocahontas Building which is situated at the corner of 9th and Main streets.



Background (cont'd)

- Bank Street is situated between the Pocahontas Building and Capitol Square and is heavily traversed by pedestrians, when the General Assembly is in session and at other times during the year.
- As part of the plan for Capitol Square, DGS plans to repurpose a significant portion of Bank Street and connecting streets to facilitate pedestrian traffic and access to Capitol Square.



CTB Action Required

- During the 2019 Session, the Virginia General Assembly enacted § 4-5.12 of the Appropriations Act to facilitate pedestrian/traffic safety in the "Seat of Government."
- § 4-5.12 requires the CTB to add the following portions of street rights of way in Richmond to the primary state highway system:
 - Bank Street from 9th Street to 14th Street,
 - 10th Street from Main Street to Bank Street,
 - 12th Street from Main Street to Bank Street,
 - Governor Street from Main Street to Bank Street



Maintenance and Other Responsibilities After CTB Action

- DGS and Division of Capitol Police are charged with controlling these rights-of-way and pedestrian and vehicular traffic thereon pursuant to their typical responsibilities.
- Pursuant to § 33.2-310 of the Code of Virginia, VDOT will maintain/operate the rights of way and may do so by contracting with private entities or the city of Richmond.



Next Steps

- CTB is required to add the specified rights of way to the Primary State Highway System by January 1, 2020.
- In December, VDOT will present to the CTB an action item requesting that the CTB add the specified portions of Bank, 10th, 12th, and Governor streets to the Primary State Highway System as set forth in the 2019 Appropriations Act.