

### **COVID-19 CATAPULTS AGENCY TO VDOT OF TOMORROW**

From Proactive Planning to Prospering

Chief Deputy Commissioner Robert Cary, P.E. L.S.



## **VDOT + COVID-19**



















## **COVID-19: VDOT's Response**



# COVID-19 HITS THE U.S. ON FEB. 28

- VDOT starts strategizing potential impacts and response in January 2020
- Safety is always the top priority
- Focus: Protect workforce and the public

# AGENCY'S PROACTIVE PLANNING



- Monitor developments closely
- Review Continuity of Operations
   Plan which includes pandemic response





## VDOT + COVID-19: Our People

### **NIMBLE AGENCY RESPONSE**

Transitioned nearly 4,000 people to teleworking within two weeks

Adapted to latest guidance from CDC and VDH

Policy flexibility and updates Developed +
implemented
lessons
learned in
real-time













## **VDOT + COVID-19: Our People**



## FIELD CREWS OFFICE STAFF

- Social distancing in all facilities, vehicle and work sites
- Enhanced cleaning protocols
- Split shifts

- Virtual meetings,
   online collaboration
- Travel restrictions







## **VDOT + COVID-19: Our Work**

## CONSTRUCTION

Ability to relax maintenance of traffic (MOT) requirements due to light traffic volumes

Flexibility in lane closures may result in project schedule improvements

Some impacts due to supplier shutdowns as a result of COVID-19













## **VDOT + COVID-19: Our Work**

## **Public-facing facilities**

## Toll Facilities

Electronic payment recommendation
Temporary cash-manned toll removal
Facility coordination



#### Safety Rest Areas

Additional supplies Increased cleaning Remained open



#### Ferry Service

Some services reduced
Some services suspended
Passenger remain vehicles
U.S. Coast Guard



#### Safety Service Patrol

CDC guidance related to social distancing Enhanced levels and frequencies of vehicle cleaning







## **VDOT + COVID-19: Transition + Transformation**

The VDOT of Tomorrow program launched in July 2019 focused on:



**Modernize Our Methods** 

**Empower Innovation** 



Further efficiencies and modernizations have been implemented since COVID-19 including:

Online collaboration tools

Paperless processes

**Information security enhancements** 

**Crowd-sourcing platforms** 

Workforce productivity

Virtual public involvement





## **VDOT's Transition + Transformation**



#### PREPARE OUR PEOPLE

Developing our workforce to ensure needed skills are gained

 Offering updated courses and learning opportunities to support the mission, while addressing the new normal



#### **MODERNIZE OUR METHODS**

Updating processes and procedures to increase productivity + employee experience

- New ways of working:
  - Virtual collaboration tools
  - Modernized tech options
  - Paperless processes
  - Virtual Public Engagement



#### **EMPOWER INNOVATION**

Creating a culture that challenges the norm and finds ways to work safer, faster and better

 Encouraging new ideas through crowdsourcing and feedback while demonstrating transparency

**TODAY** 

**TODAY** 

**TODAY** 





## **VDOT + COVID-19: Reconstitution + New Reality**

## STAGE OF REOPENING

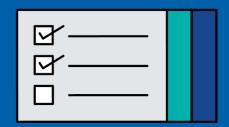
Currently in VDOT
Stage 2 of the agency reopening



### LESSONS LEARNED

Accelerate modernizations

- Improve digital collaboration
- Streamline business processes like paperless solutions and telework



# CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT

Preparing the agency for the future with development and technology updates



# THE NEW NORMAL

Office staff will continue teleworking — goal = not more than 50%-60% of office staff working inside each office facility







## ADDENDUM

DATA

## **COVID-19 Impacts Virginia**

Date	Governor Action
3/12	Declares state of emergency
3/13	Closes schools for two weeks, beginning 3/16
3/17	Advises to avoid non-essential gatherings of more than 10
3/20	State agencies begin process of implementing telework where possible/applicable
3/23	Close - Schools for rest of school virtual, Non-essential business, Restaurants; No gathering more than 10
3/25	Directs hospitals to stop elective surgeries
3/30	Issues statewide stay-at-home order until June 10
5/09	Phase One will begin no sooner than Friday, 05/15
5/12	Delays Phase 1 for Northern Virginia Localities until 05/28
5/14	Delays Phase 1 for Accomack County and the City of Richmond until 05/28
5/15	Phase One Begins (NOVA, Richmond and Accomack in Phase Zero)
5/29	Phase One Begins for NOVA, Richmond and Accomack
6/05	Phase Two Begins (NOVA and Richmond in Phase One)
7/01	Phase Three begins for Virginia

# **Volume Trends** STATEWIDE DAILY VOLUME CHANGE 134(6)7 **8**9(10(11) 10%-Percent Change from Last Year Vehicle Type All Vehicles

#	Date	Governor Action	#	Date	Governor Action
1	3/12	Declares state of emergency	9	5/12	Delays Phase 1 for Northern Virginia Localities till 05/28
2	3/13	Closes schools for two weeks, beginning 3/16	10	5/14	Delays Phase 1 for Accomack County and the City of Richmond till 05/28
3	3/17	Advises to avoid non-essential gatherings of more than 10	11	5/15	Phase One Begins (NOVA, Richmond and Accomack in Ph Zero)
4	3/20	State agencies begin process of implementing telework where possible/applicable	12	5/29	Phase One Begins for NOVA, Richmond and Accomack (rest in ph two)
5	3/23	Close - Schools for rest of school yr, Non-essential business, Restaurants; No gathering more than 10	13	6/05	Phase Two Begins, (NOVA and Richmond in Ph One)
6	3/25	Directs hospitals to stop elective surgeries	14	7/01	Phase Three Begins for entire Virginia
7	3/30	Issues statewide stay-at-home order until June 10	15	8/03	Additional Restrictions on the Eastern Region
8	5/09	Phase One will begin no sooner than Friday, 05/15			



