



2021 Transportation Initiative Interim Report

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2021 Transportation Initiative

Item 447.10 of Chapter 552 of the 2021 Special Session I Acts of the Assembly (Appropriation Act) directed allocation of \$323.4 million in one-time federal funds, one-time general funds, and previous year economic development transportation funds

Amount based on the following:

- \$233.4 million in funds made available for Highway Infrastructure Programs by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA);
- \$20.0 million out of uncommitted balances in the Transportation Partnership Opportunity Fund (TPOF);
- \$15.0 million in uncommitted balances previously allocated for Financial Assistance for Planning, Access Road, and Special Projects (Access Programs); and
- \$55.0 million in General Funds

2021 Transportation Initiative - Uses

Project/Initiative	Amount millions)
Intercity Passenger Rail from Roanoke to Blacksburg/Christiansburg	\$83.5
Improve commuter rail service on the VRE Manassas Line	83.5
Improvements to the I-64 Corridor - (1) HRELN, (2) improvements between exit 205 to 234	93.1
WMATA Capital for FY 2022	32.4
Regional trails	10.0
Pilot programs for fare-free transit with urban and rural providers	10.9
Redevelopment demonstration program - Falls Church	10.0
Total	\$323.4

Item 447.10 requires the Board to provide an interim report on the use of the funds to the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2021

Intercity Passenger Rail from Roanoke to Blacksburg/Christiansburg

- To extend passenger rail service from Roanoke to New River Valley and increase the frequency of service along the I-81/US 29 Corridor
- FY 2022-2027 CTF Six-Year Financial Plan (SYFP) provides \$83.5 million across FY 2022 and FY 2023 to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
- DRPT and Norfolk Southern executed a binding term sheet on April 2, 2021
- DRPT and the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority are in active negotiations with Norfolk Southern to complete definitive agreements by December 2021

Commuter rail service – VRE Manassas Line

- To improve commuter rail service on the VRE Line
- FY 2022-2027 CTF SYFP provides \$83.5 million across FY 2022 and FY 2023 to DRPT for this purpose
- DRPT, VPRA, and VRE are working to finalize negotiations with Norfolk Southern on agreement for expanded VRE service on the Manassas line
- Term sheet negotiations underway

I-64 Corridor Improvements

- Provides funds first to cover any funds needed for the Hampton Roads Express Lanes Network (HRELN)
- Any remaining funds to improve I-64 between Bottoms Bridge (Exit 205) and Lightfoot (Exit 234)
 - In coordination with the Central Virginia Transportation Authority
- FY 2022-2027 CTF SYFP provides \$93.1 million for this purpose
- The Board may not distribute any funds for HREL until an updated traffic and revenue modeling considering summer weekend traffic volumes is completed. Estimated revenue results will be provided in mid-January 2022 with the full report completed in late February 2022

WMATA Capital

- Funds to be used first to ensure Virginia meets its commitments to the \$500 million in dedicated regional funding in FY 2022
- Any remaining funds to be transferred to the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) to reduce local contribution necessary to support WMATA helping to address reduced regional gas tax revenues
- FY 2022-2027 CTF SYFP provides \$32.4 million in FY 2022 to DRPT
- The Board subsequently allocated \$22,397,000 of the \$32.4 million in the FY 2022-2027 SYIP to fully fund the \$154.5 million of WMATA Dedicated Funding for FY 2022
- The remaining \$10,003,000 will be allocated between WMATA and NVTC in the fourth quarter of FY 2022 based on actual revenue collections for the WMATA Dedicated Funding sources

Regional trails

- To support planning, development, and construction of multi-use trails with priority given to developing new regional trails, to projects to improve connectivity of existing trail networks, and to geographic diversity in the use of such funds
- FY 2022-2027 CTF SYFP provides \$10.0 million in FY 2022 for this purpose
- Per the Appropriation Act, the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) has convened a working group to identify trails, master planning process, and complete funding needs assessment

Fare Free Transit Pilot

- To establish pilot programs for fare free transit with urban and rural transit providers
- Appropriation Act provides that not more than \$900,000 may be used to study transit equity and modernization (as required by HJ 542)
- FY 2022-2027 CTF SYFP provides \$10.9 million to DRPT for this purpose
- VDOT has transferred the FY 2022 funds to DRPT
- DRPT received mid-cycle grant applications for the Transit Ridership Incentive Program's fare free transit program on September 17, 2021 and is presenting funding recommendations to the Board in this month's workshop
- Transit Equity and Modernization study underway with interim report due December 1, 2021; total study budget is \$1.8 million

Connected Infrastructure Demonstration Program

- **FY 2022-2027 CTF SYFP provides \$10 million for connected infrastructure redevelopment demonstration program within and adjacent to the Virginia Tech campus in the City of Falls Church**
- **The Act provides the Board may not distribute funds for this purpose unless the implementing entity has entered into an agreement with VDOT to facilitate information sharing and knowledge exchange**
- **Planning for this program begins mid-October 2021**
 - VDOT and VTRC staff have been involved in pre-planning efforts and are members of both technical and executive steering committees related to this program
 - Coordination for development of required agreement underway

Next Steps

- **Action item to approve interim report**
- **Submittal of interim report to General Assembly by November 1, 2021**
- **Final report due to General Assembly no later than June 30, 2022**
 - Board to be briefed on final report ahead of that submittal
- **Additional briefings and recommendations to be brought before the Board as required**