



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACCESS (EDA) PROGRAM

Amherst County – Dillard Industrial Sites

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Economic Development Access (EDA) Program

- **Provides funding to design and construct roads that serve new or expanding economic development sites**
 - Localities submit applications for EDA Funding to VDOT, and the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) considers and approves project allocations
- **Projects can be either design-only projects or construction projects**
 - **Design-only projects:** Funds are used solely for the design of a new road or improvements to an existing road
 - **Construction projects:** Funds are used for both the design and construction of a new road or improvements to an existing road
 - Traditional: where an existing qualifying establishment is expanding or a new named qualifying establishment is under firm contract to build
 - Bonded: where no establishment is under firm contract to build or when the identity of the qualifying establishment is held confidential

Fund Source	Design-Only Projects		Construction (Bonded or Unbonded)	
	MEI	Non-MEI	MEI	Non-MEI
State	\$500,000	\$150,000	\$1,000,000	\$700,000
State/Local Match	\$150,000/\$150,000	\$50,000/\$50,000	\$1,000,000/\$1,000,000	\$150,000/\$150,000

Major Employment and Investment (MEI) Summary

- **Economic development sites which have received an MEI designation by the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) are eligible for a higher amount of EDA funding**
 - The Dillard Industrial Sites application is eligible for the higher amount of funding
- **An MEI project is defined in the Code of Virginia as being a high-impact regional economic development project in which a private entity is expected to make a capital investment in real and tangible personal property exceeding \$250 million and create more than 400 new full-time jobs**
- **The EDA Program provides allocations for design-only projects**
 - **Non-MEI projects: Maximum allocation of \$200,000**
 - (\$150,000 unmatched, \$50,000 matched)
 - **MEI projects: Maximum allocation of \$650,000**
 - (\$500,000 unmatched, \$150,000 matched)

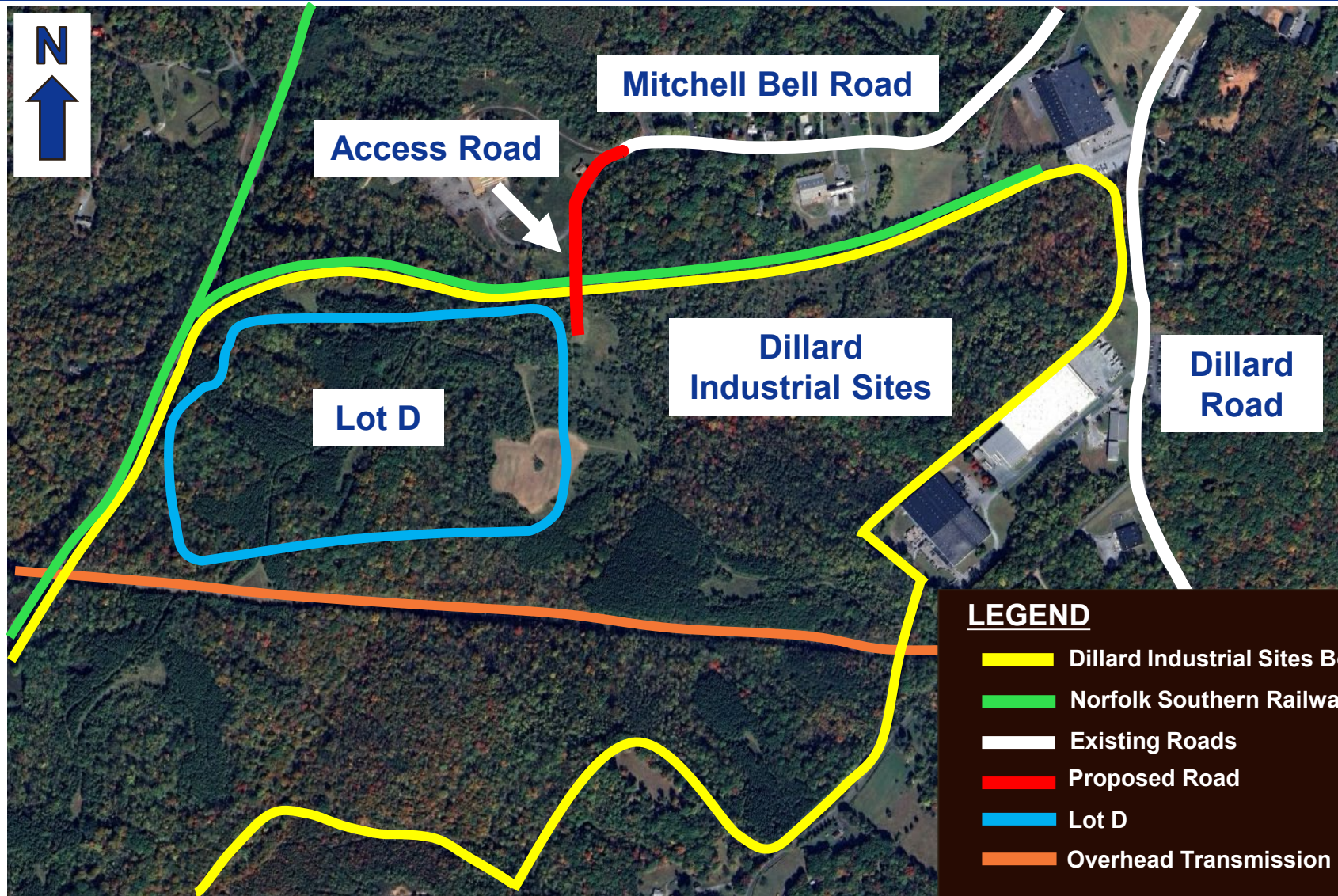
MEI Design Only Project – Amherst County



MEI Design Only Project – Amherst County

- The proposed project will design an extension of Mitchell Bell Road to provide direct access to a 157-acre parcel known as Lot D.
- On November 17, 2025, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) designated the Dillard property in Amherst County as an MEI site
- Project design details:
 - Design a 0.21 mile long, 24-foot-wide extension of Mitchell Bell Road
 - Proposed Project Allocation: \$649,000 (\$798,000 total design cost)
 - State Funds: \$500,000 unmatched and \$149,000 matched

MEI Design Only Project – Amherst County



LEGEND

- Dillard Industrial Sites Boundary
- Norfolk Southern Railway and Spur
- Existing Roads
- Proposed Road
- Lot D
- Overhead Transmission Lines

Next Steps

- **January 2026 meeting, the CTB will be presented with a Resolution proposing to establish a new EDA project**
- **If approved by the CTB, VDOT and Amherst County will enter into Standard State-Aid Agreement**
- **VDOT will administer this project**

