



COMMONWEALTH *of* VIRGINIA
Office of the
SECRETARY *of* TRANSPORTATION

SMART SCALE FY 2026 (Round 6) Results

Brooke Jackson, P.E. – SMART SCALE Program Manager
Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment
January 14, 2025



SMART SCALE FY 2026 Results Agenda

- **Process Overview**
- **FY 2026 Funding Distribution**
- **FY 2026 Staff Recommended Scenario by District**
- **Next Steps**

History and Purpose

- **SMART SCALE** was created to improve the transparency and accountability of project selection and stabilize the Six-Year Improvement Program
- **Effective July 1, 2014 (Virginia House Bill 2, defined in § 33.2-214.1), required developing a prioritization process that the CTB was to use for project selection by July 2016.**
 - Needed to remove the political element and select projects that bring the best value
- **It reformed Virginia's transportation programming process by requiring the use of a data-driven, outcome-based prioritization process**
 - SMART SCALE has improved the transparency and accountability of project selection
 - The process scores projects based on an objective and fair analysis that is applied statewide
- **SMART SCALE is a tool to help CTB select projects that provide the greatest benefits for tax dollars spent**

Virginia Code § 33.2-214.1

- **Benefit-Cost Relationship**
- **Six Factor Areas Required (SCALE)** – safety, congestion mitigation, accessibility, land use*, economic development, and environmental quality
- **Multi-Modal Project Evaluation** – must consider highway, transit, rail, roadway, technology operational improvements, and transportation demand management strategies
- **Meet a VTrans Need**
- **Projects must be fully funded when added to the SYIP**

**Note: Land Use is required in populations over 200,000 defined in the 6th enactment clause*

Virginia Code § 33.2-214.1, Cont'd

- **No later than 150 days prior to a vote to include projects or strategies evaluated in the Six-Year Improvement Program, the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment shall make public, in an accessible format,**
 - (i) a recommended list of projects and strategies for inclusion in the Six-Year Improvement Program based on the results of such evaluation;
 - (ii) the results of the screening of candidate projects and strategies, including whether such projects are located on a primary evacuation route;
 - (iii) whether a project has been designed to be or the project sponsor has committed that the design will be resilient; and
 - (iv) the results of the evaluation of candidate projects and strategies, including the weighting of factors and the criteria used to determine the value of each factor.

Implemented Improvements from 2023 SMART SCALE Review

- **Administrative Improvements**

- Applications pass readiness gates before submission to improve quality and reduce staff resources
- Considering applicant delivery performance in final Board consensus funding decisions

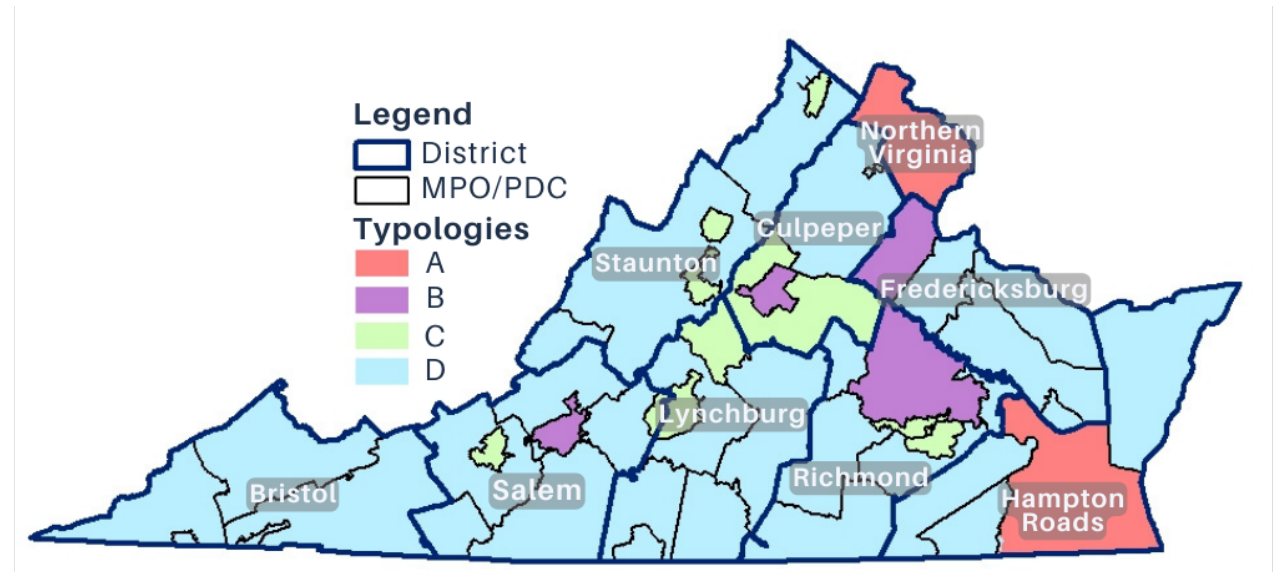
- **Policy Improvements**

- Clarified High-Priority Projects Program (HPP) definition to ensure projects are of statewide or regional significance by
 - refining the definition to include “what” type of projects are eligible
 - distributing all HPP program funds based on statewide rankings of SMART SCALE scores, rather than districtwide rankings
- Reduced the influence of the one-factor majority of the Land Use factor by making it multiplier of all other factor areas and modifying the other factor weightings
- Applied a forward-looking congestion benefit for 7 years in the future, to better align with project design requirements that are based on future growth volumes and consider future economic growth
- Incorporate key economic priorities of the Commonwealth to reflect best-in-class economic impact assessments used by VEDP

Implemented Improvements from 2023 SMART SCALE Review

Evaluation Factors and Weighting

Safety	Reduce the number and rate of fatalities and severe injuries
Congestion	Reduce person-hours of delay and increase person throughput
Accessibility	Increase access to jobs and travel options
Land Use	Support transportation-efficient land development patterns
Economic Development	Support economic development and improve goods movement
Environment	Improve air quality and avoid impacts to the environment



Factor	Safety		Congestion		Accessibility		Land Use		Economic Development	Environment	
Round	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	No Change	No Change	
Type A	15%	5%	45%	45%	25%	15%	Up to 100% Added	20%	5%	Up to -5 Points	10%
Type B	20%	20%	25%	15%	25%	20%		15%	20%		10%
Type C	30%	25%	20%	15%	15%	15%		10%	25%		10%
Type D	40%	30%	10%	10%	10%	10%		10%	30%		10%

SMART SCALE FY 2026 (Round 6)

Summary and Comparison to Prior Rounds

PROJECT APPLICATIONS	FY 2017 ROUND 1	FY 2018 ROUND 2	FY 2020 ROUND 3	FY 2022 ROUND 4	FY 2024 ROUND 5	FY 2026 ROUND 6
Pre-Application Submitted	N/A	N/A	557	484	490	325
Full Application Submitted	321	436	468	406	413	277
Scored	287	404	433	397	394	270
Funded	163	147	134	167	164	Staff Rec 53
Total Funding Requested*	\$7.4 B	\$8.6 B	\$7.4 B	\$6.3 B	\$8.3 B	\$8.2 B
Total Funding Allocated	\$1.7 B	\$1.1 B	\$0.9 B	\$1.4 B	\$1.6 B	\$1.0 B
Value of Projects Supported	\$3.3 B	\$2.4 B	\$5.1 B	\$1.9 B	\$2.4 B	Staff Rec \$1.1 B

*Total of scored applications funding requested

Funding Distribution for FY 2026 (Round 6) – \$ in millions

- **Draft allocations for HPP and DGP represent the best-case scenario**
 - Full financial impact of emergency response (Helene and snow) for FY 2025 is uncertain based on activity to date for VDOT
 - Spending in the coming months will determine if a revision to the current year budget is necessary (By May 2025)

District	DGP Available	Previous DGP Cost Increases	HPP Available
Bristol	\$37.0		
Culpeper	\$68.0	-\$6.6	
Fredericksburg	\$76.2		
Hampton Roads	\$121.6		
Lynchburg	\$85.9		
Northern Virginia	\$97.4		
Richmond	\$104.9		
Salem	\$64.3		
Staunton	\$39.4	-\$6.0	
Statewide HPP			\$384.7
Total	\$694.6		\$384.7

Project Selection Process

- **Step 1 – Fund top-scoring projects within each district eligible for Highway Construction District Grant Program (DGP) funds using DGP funds until the remaining funds are insufficient to fund the next highest-scoring project.**
 - DGP eligibility pertains only to localities addressing a VTrans need
- **Step 2 – Fund remaining top-scoring projects statewide that are eligible for Highway High-Priority Projects Program (HPP) funds using HPP funds until the remaining funds are insufficient to fund the next highest-scoring project.**
 - HPP eligibility pertains to localities, transit agencies, and regional entities addressing a VTrans need on either a Corridor of Statewide Significance (CoSS) or a Regional Network (RN), and refined policy definitions

Staff Recommended Funding Scenario Summary - \$ in millions

District	Number of Applications	DGP Available	Previous DGP Cost Increases	HPP Available	Step 1		Step 2		Funded in Staff Scenario	Total Allocated
					DGP Allocated	DGP Remaining	HPP Allocated	HPP Remaining		
Bristol	20	\$37.0			\$27.2	\$9.8	\$0.0		3	\$27.2
Culpeper	24	\$68.0	-\$6.6		\$57.0	\$4.3	\$36.4		4	\$93.5
Fredericksburg	34	\$76.2			\$73.5	\$2.7	\$16.8		4	\$90.3
Hampton Roads	31	\$121.6			\$111.9	\$9.7	\$27.3		11	\$139.2
Lynchburg	12	\$85.9			\$82.4	\$3.5	\$0.0		4	\$82.4
Northern Virginia	23	\$97.4			\$88.7	\$8.8	\$0.0		4	\$88.7
Richmond	65	\$104.9			\$82.6	\$22.2	\$255.8		14	\$338.5
Salem	34	\$64.3			\$53.9	\$10.3	\$0.0		3	\$53.9
Staunton	27	\$39.4	-\$6.0		\$25.3	\$8.1	\$44.7		6	\$69.9
Statewide HPP				\$384.7						
Total	270	\$694.6		\$384.7	\$602.5	\$79.5	\$381.0	\$3.6	53	\$983.6

Starting Total	\$1,079.3
Remaining Total	\$83.1

Summary of Principal Improvement Type - \$ in millions

Principal Improvement Type	Applications Scored	Request	Percent of Request	Funded in Staff Scenario	Funding Allocated	Percent of Funded
Highway	219	\$7,216.5	88.3%	43	\$855.2	87.0%
Bike/Pedestrian	47	\$805.8	9.9%	8	\$94.3	9.6%
Bus Transit	3	\$133.5	1.6%	2	\$34.0	3.5%
TDM	1	\$13.7	0.2%	0	\$0.0	0.0%
Rail Transit	0	\$0.0	0.0%	0	\$0.0	0.0%
Rail Freight	0	\$0.0	0.0%	0	\$0.0	0.0%
Grand Total	270	\$8,169.6		53	\$983.6	

Staff Recommended Scenario - Bristol

Application ID	Project	Organization	Total Cost	SMART SCALE Request	SMART SCALE Score	Step Funded
11745	US 23 at Wise-Norton Road (Route 757) Turn Lane Improvement	Wise County	\$5,315,212	\$5,315,212	12.08	DGP
11589	Route 75 at Green Springs Church Road Turn Lane Improvements	Washington County	\$11,456,597	\$11,456,597	7.54	DGP
11735	Cummings St at US 11 and Remsburg Dr Improvements	Abingdon Town	\$10,411,602	\$10,411,602	4.21	DGP
	Total Staff Recommended - 3	Total	\$27,183,411	\$27,183,411		

Staff Recommended Scenario - Culpeper

Application ID	Project	Organization	Total Cost	SMART SCALE Request	SMART SCALE Score	Step Funded
11573	Rt. 229, Rt.694 Double Lane Roundabout	Culpeper County	\$22,963,251	\$22,963,251	7.47	DGP
11794	Ira Hoffman Roundabout	Culpeper Town	\$20,941,406	\$20,941,406	6.70	DGP
11487	US250/Peter Jeff. Pkway and Rolkin Road Pipeline Bundle	Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO	\$36,406,798	\$36,406,798	6.70	HPP
11732	Lee Highway and Branch Avenue Intersection Improvement	Warrenton Town	\$13,140,255	\$13,140,255	5.60	DGP
	Total Staff Recommended - 4	Total	\$93,451,710	\$93,451,710		

Staff Recommended Scenario – Fredericksburg

Application ID	Project	Organization	Total Cost	SMART SCALE Request	SMART SCALE Score	Step Funded
11663	Paige and Marye Route 1 Intersection	Caroline County	\$7,085,483	\$7,085,483	27.71	DGP
11661	Turn Lanes at Lake Caroline	Caroline County	\$9,043,110	\$9,043,110	10.23	DGP
11640	Rt 3 Pipeline Old Plank Road to Salem Church Rd	George Washington RC	\$16,803,447	\$16,803,447	6.43	HPP
11624	US Rte.1 Southpoint Pkwy Intersection Improvements	Spotsylvania County	\$68,659,081	\$57,371,621	5.65	DGP
	Total Staff Recommended - 4	Total	\$101,591,121	\$90,303,661		

Staff Recommended Scenario – Hampton Roads

Application ID	Project	Organization	Total Cost	SMART SCALE Request	SMART SCALE Score	Step Funded
11807	US Rt 17 Widening Phase 1 Lane Extension @ State Rt 669	Isle of Wight County	\$15,913,234	\$13,910,234	23.35	DGP
11560	STARS - Jefferson Corridor Improvements	Newport News City	\$10,882,866	\$10,882,866	16.50	DGP
11561	Warwick Blvd & Colony Dr Intersection Improvements	Newport News City	\$4,762,574	\$4,762,574	14.73	DGP
11743	Project Pipeline HR-23-06: Monticello Ave Spot Improvements	Norfolk City	\$7,567,531	\$7,567,531	14.31	DGP
11699	Crosswalks on Merrimac Trail at 2nd St. and Penniman Rd.	York County	\$1,825,592	\$1,825,592	9.20	DGP
11559	Jefferson & J. Clyde Morris Blvd Intersection Improvements	Newport News City	\$21,403,026	\$21,403,026	8.43	DGP
11791	Project Pipeline HR04 Military Highway	Norfolk City	\$4,506,963	\$4,506,963	8.15	DGP
11683	Little Creek Road Bicycle Improvements	Norfolk City	\$5,419,436	\$5,419,436	6.16	DGP
11812	Northampton Segment: Eastern Shore of Virginia Rail Trail	Northampton County	\$17,814,640	\$17,814,640	5.88	DGP
11671	Virginia Beach Trail Phase IV	Virginia Beach City	\$23,792,343	\$23,792,343	4.45	DGP
11811	Rt 17 Widening Phase 2	Isle of Wight County	\$27,334,264	\$27,334,264	3.96	HPP
	Total Staff Recommended - 11	Total	\$141,222,469	\$139,219,469		

Staff Recommended Scenario – Lynchburg

Application ID	Project	Organization	Total Cost	SMART SCALE Request	SMART SCALE Score	Step Funded
11691	Orphanage Road and Franklin Turnpike Traffic Signal	Pittsylvania County	\$5,973,029	\$5,973,029	18.91	DGP
11471	Route 151 at Tanbark Drive Roundabout	Nelson County	\$12,693,049	\$12,693,049	2.52	DGP
11493	Timberlake Road Improvements (Greenview Dr. to Laxton Rd.)	Campbell County	\$33,364,620	\$33,364,620	1.71	DGP
11492	Route 29 Safety Improvements - Southern Section	Campbell County	\$30,407,170	\$30,407,170	1.51	DGP
	Total Staff Recommended - 4	Total	\$82,437,868	\$82,437,868		

Staff Recommended Scenario – Northern Virginia

Application ID	Project	Organization	Total Request	SMART SCALE Request	SMART SCALE Score	Step Funded
11496	Duke St and Route 1 Intersection Improvements	Alexandria City	\$6,577,065	\$6,577,065	18.90	DGP
11577	US 50 at VA 27 Interchange Access Improvements	Arlington County	\$32,348,376	\$32,348,376	7.56	DGP
11475	US 29 (Lee Highway) Corridor Improvements	Prince William County	\$40,463,612	\$40,463,612	4.60	DGP
11469	Cascades Pkwy Bike &Ped (Church Rd. to Victoria Station Dr)	Loudoun County	\$13,932,841	\$9,296,841	3.94	DGP
	Total Staff Recommended - 4	Total	\$93,321,894	\$88,685,894		

Staff Recommended Scenario – Richmond

Application ID	Project	Organization	Total Cost	SMART SCALE Request	SMART SCALE Score	Step Funded
11598	Fairground Rd/Maidens Rd Roundabout	Goochland County	\$8,465,347	\$5,175,347	22.24	DGP
11596	Rte 288 - New SB Auxiliary Lane South of U.S. 250	Goochland County	\$21,937,569	\$14,437,569	17.82	DGP
11656	W Broad St & Glenside Dr Intersection Improvements	Henrico County	\$12,199,788	\$10,199,788	16.70	DGP
11689	Operational and Bike/Ped Improvements on US Route Corridor	Hanover County	\$14,460,668	\$11,960,668	13.50	DGP
11456	I-95/Route 10 Interchange Improvement, Phase II	Richmond Regional TPO	\$49,199,490	\$30,535,523	11.07	HPP
11508	Mechanicsville Tpke (Rte 360) SUP - Laburnum Ave to City	Henrico County	\$27,607,338	\$25,107,338	10.64	DGP
11441	B Belt Boulevard (SR161) Transit Streetscape	Richmond Regional TPO	\$33,373,813	\$31,373,813	10.03	HPP
11740	I-95@Rives Rd Exit Roundabouts	Petersburg City	\$20,995,240	\$15,743,044	9.39	DGP
11595	Route 250 at Route 288 Interchange Improvements	Goochland County	\$29,961,918	\$22,461,918	6.24	HPP
11590	Busy Street Extended	PlanRVA Richmond Regional PDC	\$22,293,031	\$14,762,577	5.93	HPP
11608	Winston Churchill Drive Corridor Improvements	Tri-Cities Area MPO	\$42,654,365	\$42,654,365	5.16	HPP
11605	I-85/95 Interchange Improvements	Tri-Cities Area MPO	\$45,990,644	\$45,990,644	5.06	HPP
11792	I-95 and Route 54 Interchange	Ashland Town	\$45,756,123	\$41,091,948	4.98	HPP
11509	Route 360/I-64 Interchange Improvements	PlanRVA Richmond Regional PDC	\$26,971,616	\$26,971,616	4.06	HPP
	Total Staff Recommended - 14	Total	\$401,866,950	\$338,466,158		

Staff Recommended Scenario – Salem

Application ID	Project	Organization	Total Cost	SMART SCALE Request	SMART SCALE Score	Step Funded
11538	Carrollton Pike (Rt 58) at Coulson Church Rd (Rt 620) RCUT	Carroll County	\$10,531,849	\$10,531,849	4.39	DGP
11728	Roundabout at Dillons Fork Rd (609) and The Great Rd (683)	Henry County	\$17,978,683	\$17,978,683	3.04	DGP
11539	Intersection Improvements at Route 100 and Route 221	Carroll County	\$25,397,984	\$25,397,984	1.88	DGP
	Total Staff Recommended - 3	Total	\$53,908,516	\$53,908,516		

Staff Recommended Scenario – Staunton

Application ID	Project	Organization	Total Cost	SMART SCALE Request	SMART SCALE Score	Step Funded
11746	Route 50/17/522 Partial Median U-turn	Win-Fred MPO	\$18,452,893	\$14,762,314	17.68	HPP
11736	Mt. Clinton Pike Corridor Safety	Harrisonburg City	\$12,347,319	\$12,347,319	9.96	DGP
11819	Gateway Drive Ext. and Intersection with Valley Mill Road	Frederick County	\$12,861,272	\$10,289,018	7.70	DGP
11614	Port Republic Road at I-81 Exit 245	Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO	\$10,507,440	\$10,507,440	5.65	HPP
11604	Waynesboro Transit Access Project	Waynesboro City	\$2,635,351	\$2,635,351	5.37	DGP
11566	Route 256/I-81 Interchange: Three Lane Bridge	Augusta County	\$19,384,059	\$19,384,059	4.24	DGP
	Total Staff Recommended - 6	Total	\$76,188,334	\$69,925,501		

Next Steps

- **February to April** – Board to consider potential revisions to staff recommended funding scenario
- **April to May** – Public hearings (Spring SYIP Meetings) on staff recommended scenario and any potential revisions
- **May CTB meeting** – Consensus funding scenario developed
- **June CTB meeting** – Adoption of Six-Year Improvement Program



COMMONWEALTH *of* VIRGINIA
Office of the
SECRETARY *of* TRANSPORTATION

Thank you.



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF RAIL
AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

