



# VDOT FY2026 Emergency Response Budget

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# VDOT FY2026 Emergency Response Budget

- VDOT budgeted \$225 million in FY2026 for emergency response, which includes winter weather operations
- The Commonwealth experienced multiple statewide events in December through February
- VDOT continues to collect invoices from the statewide storms, but current expenditures exceed the budget
- Current estimated cost is \$385\* million, resulting in an anticipated deficit of \$160\* million

*\*Subject to change.*

# Summary of Anticipated Costs

<i>(in millions)</i>	Expenditures through March 5, 2025	Estimated Costs Remaining*	Total	Current Budget	Estimated Deficit*
Emergency Response	\$340.0	\$45.0	\$385.0	\$225.0	(\$160.0)
General Assembly Action – Employee Bonus in June 2026**	0	12.0	12.0	0	(12.0)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$340.0</b>	<b>\$57.0</b>	<b>\$397.0</b>	<b>\$225.0</b>	<b>(\$172.0)</b>

*\*Subject to change.*

*\*\*Employee Bonus approved in February 2025 was not included in the FY2026 budget.*

# Savings Strategies Implemented

- **In late February, VDOT implemented the following administrative actions to save money**
  - Paused recruitment for certain positions
  - Limited travel, shifting to virtual where possible
  - Deferred planned purchases
  - Consolidated planned recognition and training events
  - Limited discretionary spending
  - Reviewed balances across all programs, excluding Highway Construction Programs
- **These efforts identified an estimated \$35 million in administrative and other savings**

# Savings Strategies Implemented

- **Districts identified potential savings in the Maintenance and Operations Program**
  - Deferred planned activities
  - Identified program reserves
  - Swept surpluses from prior commitments and completed projects
  - Delayed implementation of planned work
- **These efforts identified and estimated \$35 million in savings from the Maintenance and Operations Program**

# Summary of Anticipated Deficit and Strategies to Address

<i>(in millions)</i>	Estimated Deficit*
Emergency Response	(\$160.0)
General Assembly Action – Employee Bonus in June 2026	(12.0)
<b>TOTAL DEFICIT*</b>	<b>(\$172.0)</b>
<u>Estimated</u> Savings from Administrative and Other Programs*	35.0
<u>Estimated</u> Savings from Maintenance and Operations Program*	35.0
<u>Estimated</u> Increase in Crossover*	102.0
<b>TOTAL SAVINGS AND INCREASED CROSSOVER</b>	<b>\$172.0</b>

*\*Subject to change.*

**The increase in  
crossover directly  
reduces the funds  
available for  
construction**

# Preliminary Recommended Budget Adjustments

- **Continue implementation of savings strategies**
- **Revise the FY2026 Budget**
  - Apply identified savings from other program areas
  - Apply identified savings from the Maintenance and Operations Budget
  - Increase Crossover from the Construction Program
    - Anticipate being able to offset FY2026 decreases with uplift in FY2027 without impacting projects
  - Preliminary amounts are subject to change due to final receipts and other factors
  - Seek Board action on the Revised FY2026 Budget in May



Virginia Department of Transportation