



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Nicholas Donohue
Chairperson

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Agenda item # 13

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

April 22, 2026

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Lawson, **Seconded By:** Mr. Laird

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Adoption of SMART SCALE Policy and Approval of Innovative Intersections as an Eligible High-Priority Projects Program

WHEREAS, Section 33.2-214.1 of the *Code of Virginia* provides that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (Board) shall develop a statewide prioritization process for certain projects funded by the Board, including those projects allocated funds pursuant to sections 33.2-358, 33.2-370 and 33.2-371 of the *Code of Virginia*; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIP), in coordination with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), to implement the statewide prioritization process developed by the Board pursuant to Section 2.2-229; and

WHEREAS, the Board adopted the SMART SCALE Prioritization Policy on December 4, 2023, and subsequently on January 16, 2024, updated the policy by adopting the Transportation Efficient Land Use factor; and

WHEREAS, Section 33.2-370 of the *Code of Virginia* defines “High-Priority Projects” as those projects of regional or statewide significance, such as projects that reduce congestion or increase safety, accessibility, environmental quality, or economic development and High Priority Projects must use funds allocated to the program that address a transportation need identified on a corridor of statewide significance or a regional network; and

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WHEREAS, the Board refined the High-Priority Projects Program by limiting it to projects that meet specific features, and improvements recommended as a preferred alternative in a STARS, Pipeline Study, Arterial Management Plan or MPO/Transit/Local study with equivalent study components; and

WHEREAS, the SMART SCALE Prioritization Policy excludes innovative intersections as an eligible High-Priority Projects Program feature type, and a modification has been recommended to the Board further strengthening the policy; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to Section 33.2-214.1 of the *Code of Virginia*, the Commonwealth Transportation Board hereby updates the SMART SCALE Prioritization Policy to include innovative intersections, as a High-Priority Projects Program eligible feature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, there are no further SMART SCALE Prioritization Policy changes, and the SMART SCALE policy adopted December 4, 2023, updated January 16, 2024, titled Adoption of Policy and Approval of Guides for Implementation of the SMART SCALE Project Prioritization Process, shall, in all other respects, remain unchanged.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board hereby directs OIPI to implement this policy change, including updating the SMART SCALE Technical Guide (available at smartscale.virginia.gov) and other technical and policy documents consistent with the SMART SCALE Prioritization Policy.

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Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) Decision Brief

Title: Adoption of SMART SCALE Policy and Approval of Innovative Intersections as an Eligible High Priority Projects Program

Issue: On December 4, 2023, the Board approved and adopted an updated prioritization policy in accordance with § 33.2-214.1 of the *Code of Virginia* by incorporating improvements to both the policy and the evaluation process. This proposed policy seeks to make an additional change to SMART SCALE, the Board's statewide prioritization process, by adding innovative intersections as an eligible High Priority Projects program feature type.

Facts: Section 33.2-214.1 of the *Code of Virginia* requires the Board to develop a prioritization process for certain projects funded by the Board. It is the responsibility of the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) to implement and administer the policy and process, in coordination with VDOT and DRPT.

The proposed policy resolution seeks to modify the adopted SMART SCALE Prioritization Policy by adding innovative intersections as a High Priority Projects (HPP) program eligible feature.

The Board was briefed on this proposed modification at the February 17, 2026 Board Workshop.

The current SMART SCALE policy limits eligible HPP projects to those that meet specific features and improvements that are recommended as a preferred alternative from a STARS, Project Pipeline, Arterial Management Plan or MPO/Transit/Local study with equivalent components, and innovative intersections are not currently included in the list of HPP program eligible features. This change does not modify how projects are evaluated for SMART SCALE prioritization.

Recommendations: OIPI recommends adding innovative intersections as a High Priority Projects program eligible feature to the SMART SCALE Prioritization Policy, to be implemented immediately, in the current round of SMART SCALE that began March 1, 2026.

Action Required by CTB: A vote of the CTB is required to add innovative intersections as a High Priority Projects program eligible feature and implement that as part of the statewide prioritization process pursuant to Virginia Code § 33.2-214.1.

Result, if Approved: OIPI will implement the SMART SCALE statewide prioritization process in accord with the updated policy and revise the SMART SCALE Technical Guide to include innovative intersections as a HPP program eligible feature.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer

Public Comments/ Reaction: