



Slide	Text
1	<p>Hello and welcome to the recorded version of the Spring 2019 VTrans Open House. This presentation is meant to complement the nine in-person Open Houses scheduled around the Commonwealth between April 11th and May 13th, 2019. This presentation will go over where we are in the VTrans update process.</p>
2	<p>We will give an overview of VTrans, including, “What is VTrans? What does this mean for me? What are the VTrans Vision and Goals? What is the VTrans planning process? How are transportation needs identified? and How can I participate?”</p>
3	<p>VTrans is Virginia’s multimodal transportation plan, developed by the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) every four years. VTrans lays out the overarching Vision and Goals for transportation in the Commonwealth, identifies transportation investment priorities, and provides direction to the CTB and to state transportation agencies such as the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), as well as regional Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and localities like Counties and Cities.</p>
4	<p>The VTrans planning process has a series of phases.</p> <p>We first establish a baseline - what are the existing conditions of our system today?</p> <p>Then we think through our Vision, Goals and Objectives - where do we want to head in the future?</p> <p>Based on those two factors - where we are and where we want to go - we are able to assess, “what are our Needs?” --- and this is a very critical, if not the most critical step of our process.</p>

	<p>We look at both the immediate Needs -- where can we invest in the next 8-10 years based on known Needs-- But also longer-term, where can we invest 10 or more years out to stay ahead of the trends we are seeing in our demographics, how the Commonwealth is growing and changing, and new technologies such as automated and connected vehicles.</p> <p>Finally we establish a set of recommendations or Strategic Actions that will address our needs upon implementation.</p> <p>For 2019, we are focused on the first three tasks.</p>
5	<p>So, what is the current Vision for Transportation in Virginia? The current Vision was approved in 2015 and is as follows: Virginia's multimodal transportation system will be Good for Business, Good for Communities, and Good to Go. Virginians will benefit from a sustainable, reliable transportation system that advances Virginia businesses, attracts a 21st century workforce, and promotes healthy communities where Virginians of all ages and abilities can thrive.</p> <p>We would like to hear what you think about the Vision. Is it just right, could it use a few tweaks, or would you change the whole thing? Let us know via email or by filling out the comment form at www.VTrans.org.</p>
6	<p>Along with the Vision, five Goals were developed. These Goals are meant to organize and provide more specific direction on how to achieve the future transportation Vision. The Goals are currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal A: Economic Competitiveness and Prosperity Goal B: Accessible and Connected Places Goal C: Safety for All Users Goal D: Proactive System Management Goal E: Healthy Communities and Sustainable Transportation Communities
7	<p>A major task for VTrans in 2019 is to identify updated Mid-term Transportation Needs. By Mid-term needs, we mean issues or areas in need of improvement in the next 8-10 years, based on standards or expected conditions (informed by the Vision and Goals).</p> <p>So how do we go about identifying and assessing transportation needs?</p> <p>The first step is to define our geographies, or WHERE and at WHAT SCALE we will evaluate Needs. For this we evaluate three distinct travel markets:</p> <p>Corridors of Statewide Significance are important to inter-city, inter-region, and inter-state travel for both passengers and freight. They are multimodal corridors, meaning they represent more than just one particular roadway. They do include highways,</p>

	<p>but they also include rail lines and services, public transit services, port and airport facilities, park and ride lots, and other transportation infrastructure. Examples include the Crescent Corridor, with I-81 as its primary facility, and the Heartland Corridor, with US 460 as its backbone. There are currently twelve Corridors of Statewide Significance in the Commonwealth.</p> <p>We also assess Regional Networks, which are the transportation networks that support economic activity, local and regional commuter traffic, and day-to-day travel in the urban and suburban areas of the state. There are currently fifteen regional networks.</p> <p>Urban Development Areas are locally designated growth areas, where a City, Town, or County has identified an activity center for growth and development and where more walkable, bikeable, and transit-oriented investments may be needed. There are currently over 100 UDA's throughout the Commonwealth.</p> <p>In addition, Safety Needs will be identified for the entire state, not just within the travel markets.</p> <p>The map shown here gives you a rough idea of where these travel markets are, but you can access a larger version of the map as part of the Open House Materials on the Vtrans.org website.</p>
8	<p>So now that we know WHERE to identify Mid-Term needs, HOW will we actually go about doing it?</p> <p>First, we will start with the Needs that were identified in 2015 for VTrans2040, the previous plan update, as our starting point.</p> <p>Second, we will look at updated data sources and measures to assess our needs.. Are there new Needs? Have any been resolved since 2015?</p> <p>Most importantly, throughout this process we will be tying measures back to the plan's Vision and Goals: Are we measuring what matters to advance us toward the future we want to see?</p> <p>And throughout the process. we will be coordinating with on-the-ground experts and regional and local stakeholders as we confirm and reassess the mid-term needs.</p>
9	<p>To dive deeper into how we will measure Needs. We will be asking questions and using data to assess six key categories in alignment with our Goals. We are proposing to use six different Needs categories that allow for us to measure the current performance of the system and be compared within the Travel markets. The categories roughly match with the Goals, but you may notice that Goal A, Economic Competitiveness and Prosperity, has been divided into two Needs Categories (Congestion and Reliability).</p> <p>Most everyone is familiar with Congestion, or how long do you sit in traffic each day, month or year? For the VTrans Needs, we will use more specific measures - for</p>

	<p>example highway congestion can be measured as annual hours of excessive peak period (or rush hour) delay per person. For other modes, we can look at passenger rail on-time performance, or truck travel hours of delay. By assessing hotspots for delay, we can identify where the system has an issue.</p> <p>Reliability in travel is similar to congestion in that we look at travel delay. However, reliability focuses in on unexpected delays. With Reliability, we are looking for roads or corridors that are not consistent or dependable in travel times, as measured from day to day or across different times of day. Travelers want to know that a trip will take a half-hour today, a half-hour tomorrow, and so on.</p> <p>Accessibility is a broad category - it measures the ability to reach desired goods, services, activities and destinations. Are there different options and choices for getting to work or school? Is it possible to access destinations in my area by transit? Can trucks access ports in order to exchange shipments of goods? Are some areas less accessible than others? We can measure accessibility by calculating how many places someone can get to within a certain amount of time via different travel modes.</p> <p>Remember that VTrans is a multimodal plan, which attempts to assess needs without <i>defining</i> the solution. For any particular Need, there may be one or more potential solutions. For example, based on the travel market or local context, Congestion might be an indicator that more travel <i>options</i> are needed, like transit, biking, and walking options.</p>
10	<p>Continuing on, Safety is fairly straightforward. We want to know where travel-related injuries and fatalities are happening, so that solutions and projects can be proposed to prevent them in the future.</p> <p>Preservation is measuring whether or not the transportation system that exists today is in good condition. Are there locations where projects are needed to keep the system in a state of good repair?</p> <p>For Healthy Communities we assess measures for air quality and access to active travel options like biking and walking.</p> <p>Remember, as of today, the measures discussed are still under consideration and have not been formally adopted for the VTrans Mid-Term Needs update. Continue to follow our progress by visiting www.VTrans.org.</p>
11	<p>This Online Public Meeting complements a series of VTrans Open House meetings held around the Commonwealth in the Spring of 2019. As of Late Spring 2019, the measures and methods for there application are under development. The Commonwealth Transportation Board will finalize and approve the measures used for Needs Assessment, which is anticipated in Late Summer 2019. Once approved, the analysis will be performed and engagement with stakeholders and the public will occur in the Fall of 2019.</p>
12	<p>So what does it all mean to you? Planning through VTrans sets the stage for future activities that eventually turn into projects that are funded and constructed.</p>

	<p>For example, SMART SCALE is a competitive funding program where Virginia localities apply for funding for transportation projects. All SMART SCALE project applications must show how the project would address a Transportation Need identified in VTrans in order to be eligible. This connection between planning and project selection ensures that funding will go to only those projects that are furthering the statewide transportation Vision and Goals.</p>
13	<p>There are several ways to stay up to date with VTrans. You can follow us on social media via facebook or instagram, email us, attend meetings, and check our website at www.vtrans.org.</p>
14	<p>Thank you for your interest in VTrans!</p>