



**VTrans Update and Other Issues**  
**Virginia Association of Planning District**  
**Commissions**  
**July 30,2009**  
**Dr. Mary Lynn Tischer**



## Overview

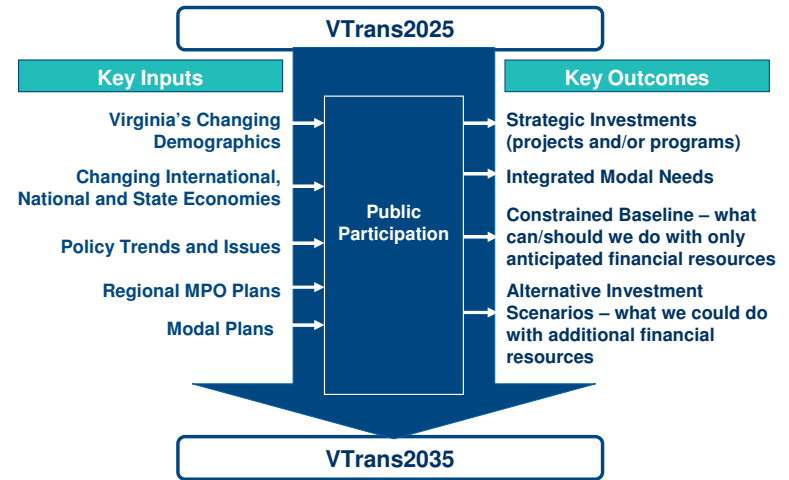
- **VTrans2035 Organization**
- **Policy Papers**
- **Public Outreach**
- **Schedule**
- **Other activities**

**Oversight Committee:**

- Secretary and agency heads

**Technical Committee:**

- Intermodal Office: Ralph Davis, Mary Lynn Tischer
- VAPDC: Jeff Walker (RRRC)
- NVTA: Tom Biesiadny
- HRPDC: Andy Pickard
- RRPDC: Dan Lysy
- UVA: Jim Lambert
- FHWA: Ed Sundra
- VDOT: Ben Mannell, Katherine Graham
- DRPT: Amy Inman
- DOAV: Rusty Harrington
- VPA: Jeff Florin/Heather Mantz
- DMV: Ken Jennings



- **Identify new issues**
  - Climate change
  - Cost of safety
  - Operational improvements
- **Focus on 10-12 initiatives**
  - Priority investments, policy and legislation
  - Derived from papers, the public, the Oversight and Technical Committees
  - Determined by the CTB
- **Investment scenarios rather than total needs**
- **Result in a Surface Transportation Program**
- **Joint public meetings among the modal agencies**

### Policy Papers

- Environment
  - Congestion
  - Mobility, Accessibility and Connectivity
  - European Lessons
  - System Preservation
  - Safety
  - Freight
  - Security
  - **Regional and Local Decision-Making for Transportation**
  - Land Use
  - Economic Development
- Complete
- In review
- Pending

- **Socio-Economic Trends**
- **Viability of the Fuel Tax**
- **Investment Adequacy**
- **Economic Impact of Transportation Investment**
- **Transportation in Virginia**
- **Directions in Regional Planning**

- **Advocate for federal actions that will reduce GHG emissions (eg. CAFE Standards)**
- **Increase efficiency of transportation fleet & use of alternative fuels**
- **Traffic signalization improvements statewide**
- **Explore low-carbon refueling and recharging stations on state land**
- **Consider allowing right-of-way use for renewable projects (e.g., wind, solar)**
- **Expand commuter choice; frequency and scope of transit and rail services**
- **Make coordination of transportation and land use key policy goal**

## Climate Change – Strategies cont.

- Promote compact, walkable, transit-oriented development areas
- Consider pricing transportation especially during peak congestion periods
- Make new or upgraded roads more pedestrian and bike friendly
- Target available funds towards existing communities and designated urban development areas
- Pricing

## Congestion - Strategies

- **Pricing:** Construct and operate HOT lanes
- Use Advanced Traveler Information Systems
- Extend “Smart Highways” Program (Technology)
- Address Jobs-Housing Balance
- Encourage Transit Oriented Development (TOD)
- Reduce need for travel or shift location or time of day
- Increase Travel Demand Management (TDM) Programs
- Expand Travel Options/Alternate Modes & encourage use of transit, biking, walking, ridesharing
- Increase capacity

- Fill Gaps in Service to Expand Mobility Options
- Expand Department of Transportation/Health and Human Services Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- Improve Connectivity and Accessibility
- Addressing Infrastructure Needs and Other Issues that Impact Mobility
- Increase rural transportation options
- Promote Aging in Place
- Coordinated Human Service Mobility Planning
- Utilize Managed Lanes
- Support Car Sharing

- Bring bridges, pavements and transit to a state of good repair
- Integrate consideration of risk with asset management
- Transition from a needs-based to a performance-based asset management approach
- Continue implementation of Program Guidance and Grant Evaluation System for supporting transit asset management
- Analyze the current costs of various asset management activities to set benchmarks against which to measure future efficiency measures

- Integrate the SHSP goals and objectives into the individual agency action plans
- Promote more focus on safety at the regional and local levels
- Strengthen the link between asset management and safety
- Link socio-economic, crash, highway inventory, and traffic information to better understand the causes of non-motorized crashes
- Develop practices and techniques to better integrate land use and transportation planning

### March 23 – Stakeholder Listening Session

Met with special interest stakeholders to inform them of the VTrans process and receive input on issues and potential key initiatives.

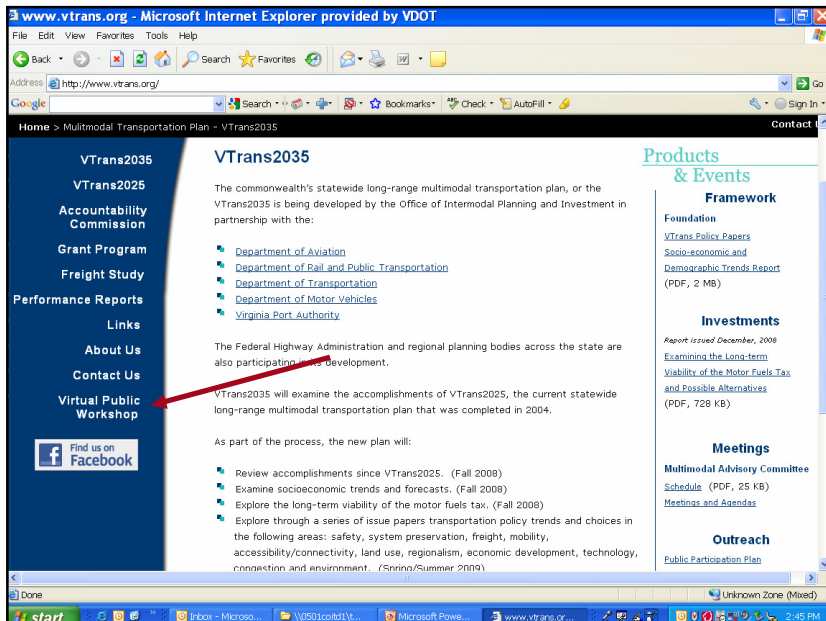
### April 27 – Regional Planning Forum


The purpose of the meeting was to involve planning representatives in the identification of issues and needs related to Corridors of Statewide Significance.

### June and July – Four Public Meetings

Northern VA, Richmond, Hampton Roads and Roanoke

Virtual Meeting – on the web





## Public Meetings

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### Overview – Recurring Themes

- **Fixing roadway pavements and maintaining all modes in a state of good repair**
- **Economic development as supported by transportation investments**
- **Development of high speed rail in Virginia**
- **Addressing mobility needs of the elderly and disabled**
- **Providing greater mode choice through transit, bicycle and pedestrian improvements**
- **Maximizing the use of existing facilities and technology to reduce congestion**
- **Improving freight mobility**

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VAPDC Conference

## Illustrative Comments

- **Expand rail** (specifically light rail projects, VRE system, and intercity high speed rail)
- **Address congestion with technology**
- **Plan for higher connectivity between local roads to relieve congestion on highways**
- **Create a more comprehensive transit network**
  - bring to state of good repair
  - increase services to the outer suburbs
  - better accommodate transit - dependent populations
  - provide more demand responsive rural transit
  - Adopting green technology (electric buses and solar panels for park and ride lots)
- **Increase bike paths/lanes & link bike/ped projects**
- **Fund safety/education campaigns for both bicyclists and motorists**

## Potential Initiative Areas

- **Preservation of existing facilities**
- **Safe operation of facilities**
- **Land use & transportation**
- **Demand Management**
- **Congestion**
- **Rural connectivity, economic development & increased travel choices**
- **Freight**
- **Environmental stewardship**
- **Expand Ports & Dulles**
- **Increase capacity**

- **Legislation calls for CTB, with assistance by Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment, to conduct a review of strategic needs for corridors of statewide significance, regional networks and improvements to promote urban development areas (UDAs)**
- **Analysis of the CoSS is being performed**
  - developing inventories of the corridors
  - identifying functions
  - defining role (in Rt. 29 meetings: can we establish standards, eg. access control, for the corridors? Is that where we focus investments?)
- **Regional networks are defined by the MPOs and PDCs and the intent of the legislation is to determine needs for regional access and methods to evaluate improvements to UDAs that could result in state investments**

- **Business as Usual (baseline scenario)**
- **Sustain 2007 Performance levels (funds needed to maintain performance)**
- **Change in Mix (shift funding from highways to transit)**
- **Increased Funding across the board (allocate an addition \$1 B)**

## Summary of European Lessons

- European cities developed much earlier than U.S. cities, many before 1830 – land use is very different
- Geography is smaller
- European fuel taxes and other fees have been much higher than U.S. fuel taxes & fees, leading to less travel and more fuel efficient personal vehicles
  - Vehicle miles per capita in Europe are 40 to 67 percent of U.S. vehicle miles per capita
  - Transportation energy use per capita in Europe is 35 to 52 percent of U.S. transportation energy use per capita
- Major public transportation is buses

## Future Public Outreach

### Comments on Draft Report

- November
- Draft on web
- OIPI to make presentations at various association meetings
- Need assistance from VAPDC
  - Give out pamphlets announcing report availability
  - Allow reading of report at your site
  - Draft sent out electronically to VAPDC, VACO, VML, mailing lists

### Schedule

Plan Element	Completion Date
Policy Papers	August
Corridors of Statewide Significance Report	September
Investment Adequacy	September
Initiatives	October
Draft Report	September
Final Report	December

### Other Activities

- **Paper on Jobs/housing balance** - January 31, 2010
- **Updated Performance Report** (to include regional measures where available) - October, 2009
- **Surface Transportation Plan** – Spring 2010