I-81 Program Progress Report

DECEMBER 2021

Prepared for:



Prepared by:



Commonwealth Transportation Board

I-81 Program Progress Report

Introduction

In April 2019, the Virginia General Assembly enacted legislation that Governor Ralph Northam signed into law establishing the Interstate 81 (I-81) Corridor Improvement Program and Fund, which advances the projects identified in the I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan (the Plan) for implementation. The Plan was approved by the Commonwealth Transportation Board (the Board) in December 2018 following an evaluation of the corridor. Chapters 837 and 846 of the 2019 Virginia Acts of Assembly specify the roles and responsibilities of the Board and the I-81 Committee (the Committee) to enact the I-81 Corridor Improvement Program (the Program) and Fund (the Fund).

Legislative Requirements

Section 33.2-3602 of the legislation requires the Board, in consultation with the Committee, to report to the General Assembly by December 15 of each year "regarding the status and progress of implementation of the Program." This report is mandated to include:

- The safety and performance of the I-81 corridor including:
 - Crash frequency and severity per mile, expressed in equivalent property damage only (EPDO) crashes
 - Person-hours of delay per mile
 - ✓ Frequency of lane-impacting incidents per mile
 - ✓ Duration of a lane closure
- An assessment on the effectiveness of the operational strategies and capital projects implemented and funded through the Program
- The status of capital projects funded through the Program
- ➡ The current and projected balances of the Fund



House Bill 2718 (Chapter 837) introduced by Delegates Steve Landes and Terry Austin, and Senate Bill 1716 (Chapter 846), introduced by Senators Mark Obenshain and William Carrico, establish the I-81 Corridor Improvement Program, Fund, and Committee. Governor Ralph Northam announced amendments in March 2019, providing dedicated annual funding to the corridor, estimated initially as \$103 million in fiscal year 2020 and growing to an estimated \$163 million in fiscal year 2025. These funds will support the \$2 billion improvement program (estimate as of 2018 Plan). The revenues for the Fund were provided through the creation of a new truck registration fee as well as establishment of an I-81 corridor regional fuels tax and statewide diesel and road taxes.

During the 2020 General Assembly, House Bill 1414 (Chapter 1230) and Senate Bill 890 (Chapter 1275) made the following changes to the Program and Fund:

- Authorized the sale and issuance of bonds with an aggregate principal amount of \$1 billion
- Converted the regional fuels tax to a cents per gallon tax with the opportunity for annual growth based on Consumer Price Index
- Amended the regional fuels tax to only include localities through which I-81 passes or cities wholly encompassed by a county through which I-81 passes

Allocated additional funding for the corridor through the Interstate Operations and Enhancement Program. Previously provided statewide revenue sources are committed to the Commonwealth Transportation Fund beginning in fiscal year 2021.

Timeline of Events

2019 I-81 Corridor Improvement Report Submitted to the General Assembly	JAN 2020 FEB 2020 MAR 2020 APR		2020 I-81 Corridor Improvement Report Submitted to the General Assembly	JAN 2021 FEB 2021 MAR 2021 APR	
	2020 MAY 2020 JUNE 2020 JULY 2020 AUG 2020	General Assembly and Governor Northam enacted changes to the I-81 Program and Fund		2021 MAY 2021 JUNE 2021 JULY 2021 AUG 2021	Towing and Recovery Incentive Program (TRIP) operations begin
Initial eight acceleration or deceleration lane extension projects completed	SEPT 2020 0CT 2020 NOV 2020 DEC 2020	I-81 Committee meeting Commonwealth Transportation Board briefing Commonwealth Transportation Board approved the 2020 I-81 Corridor Improvement Program Report and sent it to the General Assembly	Additional four acceleration or deceleration lane extension projects and CCTV camera installation completed	SEPT 2021 2021 NOV 2021 DEC 2021	Changeable Message Signs installation complete Commonwealth Transportation Board to approve the 2021 I-81 Corridor Improvement Program Report and send to the General Assembly

Current and Projected Balances of the Fund

As of October 28, 2021, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) documented the current and projected allocations of the Program. Of the original 64 projects, 16 have been completed and 46 of the remaining 48 projects are included in the Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP). This information is summarized in **Table 1**. The amounts shown in the table reflect the allocation of funding adopted by the Board on June 24, 2021, for the 46 projects amended to the Fiscal Year 2022-2027 SYIP. Estimated schedule information for the 46 capital improvement projects amended to the SYIP and the two capital improvement projects yet to be adopted into the SYIP is available in **Appendix A**. The full program schedule is in draft form since the remaining two projects have not been adopted by the Board into the SYIP.

PV FY23 **FY24** FY25 FY26 **FY27** Total \$125.7 \$374.0 \$509.7 Total Available \$542.8 \$131.1 \$131.4 \$1,814.7 \$542.8 \$125.7 \$374.0 \$131.1 \$131.4 \$490.0 \$1,795.0 **Total Programmed Total Remaining*** \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$19.7 \$19.7

Table 1. Current Versus Projected Funds Available Based on the FY 2022-2027 SYIP (in millions of dollars)

*Total Remaining value reflects fund availability after debt service has been removed. Note: FY = Fiscal Year, PV = Previous Value | Source: Virginia Department of Transportation, 2021.

The Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Fund had a fund balance of \$198.8 million on June 30, 2021 and \$215.4 million on September 30, 2021.

In 2020, the General Assembly passed legislation that limited the imposition of regional fuels taxes to only those localities that I-81 passes through. This adjustment to the original fuel tax mechanism is not anticipated to impact the financial health of the Fund. Furthermore, as per the 2020 Interstate Operations and Enhancement Program (IOEP) omnibus legislation, I-81 receives an allocation of funds from the IOEP equal to the ratio of vehicle miles travelled (VMT) on I-81 by vehicle Class 6 or higher to total VMT on all interstate highways. Beginning in FY 2021, the truck registration fees and road tax revenue from the Program were dedicated to the Commonwealth Transportation Fund. Adoption of the FY 2022-2027 SYIP included a plan for financing the Program and estimated proceeds from I-81 bonds and Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) financing.

Status of Projects Funded Through the Program

The FY 2022-2027 SYIP was adopted by the Board on June 24, 2021, and included operational improvements and 46 of the 48 capital improvement projects identified in the Plan. The safety service patrol improvements identified in the Plan were implemented in July 2019. Before the end of 2020, the initial eight acceleration and deceleration lane extension projects, the eight curve improvement projects, and most of the new camera installations were completed. In 2021, the remaining camera installations were completed along with the installation of changeable message signs. Additionally, construction of three ramp extension projects in the Staunton District was completed. **Figure 1** outlines the status of the projects as of November 11, 2021, based on project type. A table and map summarizing the status of individual capital improvement projects can be found in **Appendix B**.

Performance of the I-81 Corridor

Figure 2 through **Figure 5** show how the four performance measures have changed since 2017. These figures also show the capital improvement projects that have been completed and the ones that are still underway or planned. The performance measures documented in the Plan and adopted by the Board in late 2018 were through 2017. Crash data were compared between the three 5-year periods: 2014-2018, 2015-2019, 2016-2020. A supplementary histogram displaying crash frequency and severity per mile for truck-related crashes is included in **Appendix C**. Delay and incident data were compared for the three 2-year periods: 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020.

	Project Type	Status						Estimated Completion
	Widening	8	2				10	2038
اه	Acceleration/Deceleration Extension		12		24		36	2028
Capital	Auxiliary Lane	4					4	2028
U U	Truck Climbing Lane	5					5	2025
	Shoulder Widening	1					1	2030
	Safety Service Patrol Expansion	1					1	Completed
ons	Towing and Recovery Incentive Program	1					1	Completed
Operations	Curve Improvement	8	;				8	Completed
Ope	Camera Installation				42		42	Completed
	Changeable Message Sign Installation			30			30	Completed
	Legend:	Com	plete	Programmed	Not in Six-Year Ir	nprovement Program		

Figure 1. Status of Capital Projects Funded Through the Program

Note: SYIP = Six-year improvement program. | Source: Virginia Department of Transportation, 2021.

Not Completed



Note: SL = State line | Source: VDOT Roadway Network System, 2021.

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Note: SL = State line | Source: INRIX, Virginia Traffic Monitoring System, Virginia Traffic Information, 2021.

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Not Completed



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To show the effectiveness of a program of projects, the study team will rely on a minimum of one year of data following the implementation of the program or project. Although several roadway capital projects have been completed, construction was completed in late 2019 or 2020. Given the completion timeline of these projects, compounded with the impacts of COVID-19 on travel patterns in 2020 and 2021, it is not yet possible to make discernible observations about the impact of completed construction projects on the performance measures using data through 2020.

Table 2 through **Table 5** contain corridor-wide summaries for each two- or five-year period for the four performance measures. The performance measure data has fluctuated on a segment-by-segment and corridor-wide basis in the years since the Plan was developed; the number of lane-impacting incidents and hours of lane closures have increased, while the person hours of delay and number of EPDO crashes have decreased.

In future years, it will be challenging to evaluate the impact of completed construction projects on the performance measures for multiple reasons:

- The data has fluctuated in the years since the Plan was developed
- Active work zones
- Performance measure data for 2020, 2021, and potentially future years will not be reflective of a typical year due to COVID-19

Table 2. Equivalent Property Damage Only Crashes

Years	Northbound	Southbound	Total	Total Percent Change from Previous Period
2014-2018	51,639	49,109	100,748	-
2015-2019	49,095	50,012	99,107	-2%
2016-2020	49,360	47,270	96,360	-2%

Table 3. Person-Hours of Delay

Years	Northbound	Southbound	Total	Total Percent Change from Previous Period
2017-2018	2,325	1,919	4,244	-
2018-2019	2,116	1,471	3,587	-15%
2019-2020	1,625	1,029	2,654	-26%

Table 4. Lane-Impacting Incidents

Years	Northbound	Southbound	Total	Total Percent Change from Previous Period
2017-2018	1,694	1,622	3,316	-
2018-2019	1,894	1,691	3,585	8%
2019-2020	1,754	1,573	3,327	-7%

Table 5. Hours of Lane Closures

Years	Northbound	Southbound	Total	Total Percent Change from Previous Period
2017-2018	2,139	1,794	3,932	-
2018-2019	2,329	1,812	4,141	5%
2019-2020	2,131	1,617	3,748	-9%

Source: VDOT Roadway Network System, INRIX, Virginia Traffic Monitoring System, Virginia Traffic Information, 2021.

Commonwealth Transportation Board Activities

In 2021, the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, in cooperation with VDOT, delivered three I-81 briefings to the Board. According to the legislation, the Board must submit an annual progress report to the General Assembly by December 15.

April 2021 Commonwealth Transportation Board Briefing

The Board met using electronic communications on April 20, 2021. The I-81 Program Delivery Director presented the status of the operational, arterial, and capital improvement projects throughout the corridor. The I-81 Program Delivery Director highlighted the following conclusions:

- Sixteen (16) capital projects are currently in the planning phase
- Twenty-eight (28) capital projects are currently in the design phase
- Four (4) capital projects are under construction
- Eight (8) capital projects are complete
- Upcoming program improvements include:
 - > Exit 137 to Exit 141 design-build (two projects bundled)
 - > Mile marker (MM) 48 single phase design-build
 - > Continue design of capital improvement projects
 - > Complete projects under construction
 - > Begin arterial improvements
 - > Execute Towing and Recovery Incentive Program (TRIP) program

The April 2021 presentation delivered to the Board can be found in **Appendix D**.

October 2021 Commonwealth Transportation Board Briefing

The Board met in-person on October 19, 2021. The I-81 Program Delivery Director presented the status of the operational, arterial, and capital improvement projects throughout the corridor. The I-81 Program Delivery Director highlighted the following conclusions:

- All 18 SYIP projects in Bristol District are completed or under design and two out-year projects have been advanced
- All 6 SYIP projects in Salem District are under design or construction
- All 16 SYIP projects in Staunton District are completed or under design
- Operations improvements, including curve improvements, traffic cameras, and safety service patrol are complete or ahead of schedule
 - > Changeable message sign installations set to be complete by October 28, 2021
- Some arterial improvements along VDOT-maintained arterials are complete, with the remaining improvements under design and scheduled for construction in spring 2022

The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) Chief of Public Transportation and Virginia Passenger Rail Authority Executive Director presented the status of multimodal projects along the I-81 corridor, including the following takeaways:

The Virginia Breeze Intercity Bus service from Bristol to Washington, D.C., the Highlands Rhythm, will begin service on November 15, 2021, and is projected to nearly double intercity bus ridership in the I-81 corridor

 DRPT and Norfolk Southern signed a term sheet for a second State-supported Amtrak train to Roanoke and an extension of both trains to the New River Valley, which is anticipated to add 80,000 net new rides

The October 2021 presentation delivered to the Board can be found in **Appendix E**.

December 2021 Commonwealth Transportation Board Briefing

The Commonwealth Transportation Board approved the 2021 I-81 Program Progress Report at the December 8, 2021 meeting. The resolution is included in **Appendix F.**

I-81 Committee Activities

Following the April 2019 Board meeting, the I-81 Committee was established to advise and make recommendations to the Board regarding the development of the I-81 Corridor Improvement Program. The Committee consists of 15 voting members—seven Virginia lawmakers, three Board members representing the VDOT Bristol, Salem, and Staunton construction districts, and the five chairs of the planning district commissions in the corridor. The two ex-officio and nonvoting members of the Committee are the VDOT Commissioner and the DRPT Director. The legislation required the Committee to hold public meetings at least four times each year and to consult with interested stakeholders. The Appropriations Act updated this requirement to two times per year (Chapter 552, Item 430, R.). Due to constraints posed be COVID-19, the Committee met once in April 2021.

April 2021 Committee Meeting

The Committee met virtually on April 28, 2021. The I-81 Program Delivery Director presented an overview of the I-81 Corridor Improvement Program and the status of operational and capital projects. The DRPT Chief of Public Transit described the Virginia Breeze intercity bus expansion and the western rail initiative. The VDOT Chief Financial Officer presented the financial status of the I-81 Corridor Improvement Program and outlined the projected costs and funding approach of the Program.

The April 2021 presentation delivered to the Committee can be found in **Appendix G**.

Next Steps

Most of the capital improvement projects are currently under construction or in the design phase, either by VDOT staff, an on-call consultant, or a project-specific consultant. The following projects will be advertised in 2022 and will be under design once a Design-Build consultant is procured:

- Bristol District: Bundle Package project development to begin soon
 - > Northbound deceleration lane extension at Exit 72
 - > Southbound auxiliary lane between I-77 Exit 41 and I-81 Exit 72
- Staunton District: Widening project from Exits 221 to 225 in both directions planned advertisement in spring to summer 2022

Additionally, construction of the following projects will make continued progress in 2022:

 Northbound and southbound acceleration lane extensions at Exit 205 – construction started in August 2021

- Bundled widening project in Staunton District heavy highway construction anticipated to begin in early spring of 2022
 - > Widen to three lanes between MM 136 and MM 139
 - > Widen to three lanes between MM 139 and Exit 141
- Northbound acceleration lane extension at Exit 47 construction resumed in fall 2021
- Construction of arterial improvements to begin in spring 2022

APPENDICES

- Appendix A: Preliminary Capital Improvement Project Schedule
- Appendix B: Improvements Summary Map and Table
- Appendix C: Crash Frequency and Severity Per Mile for Truck-Related Crashes
- Appendix D: April 2021 Commonwealth Transportation Board PowerPoint Presentation
- **Appendix E:** October 2021 Commonwealth Transportation Board PowerPoint Presentation
- **Appendix F:** December 2021 Commonwealth Transportation Board PowerPoint Resolution
- Appendix G: April 2021 I-81 Committee PowerPoint Presentation

Appendix A: Preliminary Capital Improvement Project Schedule

Appendix B: Improvements Summary Map and Table

Appendix C: Crash Frequency and Severity Per Mile for Truck-Related Crashes



Annual Equivalent Property Damage Only Crashes per Mile for Truck-Related Crashes

Source: Virginia Roadway Network System, 2021.

Appendix D: April 2021 Commonwealth Transportation Board PowerPoint Presentation

Appendix E: October 2021 Commonwealth Transportation Board PowerPoint Presentation

Appendix F: December 2021 Commonwealth Transportation Board Resolution

Appendix G: April 2021 I-81 Committee PowerPoint Presentation

Appendix A: Preliminary Capital Improvement Project Schedule

Preliminary Capital Improvement Project Schedule Order of Projects is North to South

Mile M	larker	District	Jurisdiction	Study	Direction	Improvement Description	Proposed Environmental	Proposed	Order of Magnitude		
From	То	District	Junguction	Project ID	Direction	improvement beschption	Document Type	Delivery Method	Estimate Range	2019	2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030 2031 2032 2033 2034 2035 2036 2037 2038 2039
313.8	317.5	Staunton	Frederick County/ Winchester	63*	Both Directions	Widen to three lanes between Exit 313 and Exit 317	CE	D/B	\$204M -\$268M		
295.7	299.2	Staunton	Shenandoah County / Warren County / Frederick	50	SB only	Widen to three lanes between Exit 299 and Exit 296	CE	D/B/B	\$117M - \$171M		
242.2	248.1	Staunton	Rockingham County/ Harrisonburg	62	Both Directions	Widen to three lanes betwen Exit 243 and Exit 248	CE	D/B	\$271M - \$362M		
234.6	236.5	Staunton	Augusta County	55	SB only	Weyers Cave truck climbing lane	CE	D/B/B	\$29M - \$39M		
233.3	237.4	Staunton	Augusta County/ Rockingham County	44	NB only	Weyers Cave truck climbing lane	CE	D/B/B	\$100M - \$148M		
232.7	232.9	Staunton	Augusta County	56	SB only	Mt. Sidney Rest Area deceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$4M - \$5M		
232.4	232.8	Staunton	Augusta County	43	NB only	Mt. Sidney Rest Area acceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$1M - \$8M		
231.9	232.5	Staunton	Augusta County	57	SB only	Mt. Sidney Rest Area acceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$4M - \$9M		
221.8	225.3	Staunton	Augusta County/ Staunton	61	Both Directions	Widen to three lanes between Exit 221 and Exit 225	CE	D/B/B	\$140M - \$212M		
221.2	221.5	Staunton	Augusta County	58	SB only	Add auxiliary lane between Exit 220 and Exit 221	CE	D/B/B	\$14M - \$23M		
205.3	205.7	Staunton	Rockbridge County	42	NB only	Exit 205 acceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$2M - \$3M		
204.7	205.2	Staunton	Rockbridge County	59	SB only	Exit 205 acceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$3M - \$5M		
195.1	204.5	Staunton	Rockbridge County	60	SB only	Rockbridge County shoulder improvements	CE	D/B/B	\$77M - \$111M		
189	189.4	Staunton	Rockbridge County	41	NB only	Exit 188 acceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$2M - \$3M		
162.4	162.9	Salem	Buchanan / Botetourt County	33	NB only	Exit 162 acceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$5M - \$8M	Ш	
158.2	158.4	Salem	Botetourt County	37	SB only	Troutville Safety Rest Area deceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$1M - \$2M		
157.2	158		,			Troutville Safety Rest Area acceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$8M - \$12M	Ш	
144.2	151.3	Salem	Roanoke / Roanoke County	40	Both Directions	Widen to three lanes between Exit 143 and Exit 150	EA	D/B/B	\$322M - \$476M	Ш	
139	141	Salem	Salem / Roanoke County	39B	Both Directions	Widen to three lanes between MM 139 and Exit 141	EA	D/B/B	\$117M - \$274M	Ш	
136	139	Salem	Salem / Roanoke County	39A	Both Directions	Widen to three lanes between MM 136 and MM 139	EA	D/B/B	\$174M - \$238M	Ш	
128.4	136	Salem	Montgomery County / Roanoke County / Salem	32	NB only	Widen to three lanes from Exit 128 to MM 136	CE	D/B/B	\$241M - \$302M	Ш	
116	128.4	Salem	Christiansburg / Montgomery County	31*	NB only	Widen to three lanes from MM116 to Exit 128	CE	D/B	\$215M - \$260M	Ш	
105.5	106	Salem	Radford / Montgomery County	30	NB only	Exit 105 acceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$10M - \$11M	Ш	
93.7	94.2	Salem	Pulaski / Pulaski County	38	SB only	Exit 94 acceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$3M - \$7M		
81.7	81.9	Bristol	Wythe County	13	SB only	Exit 81 deceleration lane extension	CE	D/B/B	\$14M - \$16M	Ш	
41.6 (I-77)	41.8 (I- 77)	Bristol	Wythe County	18	SB only	Add auxiliary lane between Exit 40 on I-77 and Exit 72 on I-81 and extend acceleration lane from I-77 to I-81 SB	CE	D/B/B	\$31M - \$40M		
73.2	73.8	Bristol	Wytheville	14	SB only	Add auxiliary lane between Exit 73 and Exit 72	CE	D/B/B	\$19M - \$29M		
73	42.9 (I- 77)	Bristol	Wytheville	11	NB only	I-77 deceleration lane extension and reconfigure off-ramp	CE	D/B/B	\$22M - \$39M		
72.7	72.9	Bristol	Wytheville	10	NB only	Exit 72 deceleration lane extension	CE	D/B/B	\$34M - \$39M		
67.3	67.4	Bristol	Wytheville	8	NB only	Exit 67 deceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$3M - \$4M		
54.1	54.4	Bristol	Smyth County	15	SB only	Add auxiliary lane between Exit 54 and Smyth Safety Rest Area	CE	D/B/B	\$5M - \$8M		
48.1	48.9	Bristol	Marion / Smyth County	7	NB only	Exit 47 acceleration lane extension	CE	D/B/B	\$19M - \$34M		
47.4	47.6	Bristol	Marion / Smyth County	16	SB only	Exit 47 acceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$4M - \$5M		
45.5	45.6	Bristol	Marion / Smyth County	6	NB only	Exit 45 deceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B	\$22M - \$27M		
42.8	43	Bristol	Marion / Smyth County	17	SB only	Exit 44 acceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$4M - \$6M		
39.5	40.6	Bristol	Chilhowie / Smyth County	4	NB only	Add truck climbing lane	CE	D/B/B	\$21M - \$33M		
39.4	39.5	Bristol	Smyth County	19	SB only	Exit 39 deceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$1M - \$2M		
38.9	39	Bristol	Smyth County	5	NB only	Exit 39 deceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$2M - \$3M		
38.7	38.9	Bristol	Smyth County	20	SB only	Exit 39 acceleration lane extension	CE	D/B/B	\$6M - \$10M		
33	34	Bristol	Washington County	21	SB only	Add truck climbing lane	CE	D/B/B	\$18M - \$26M		
32.4	33.5	Bristol	Chilhowie / Washington County	3	NB only	Add truck climbing lane	CE	D/B/B	\$23M - \$36M		
19.2	19.3	Bristol	Abingdon / Washington County	2	NB only	Exit 19 deceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$2M - \$4M		
16.6	16.7	Bristol	Abingdon	26	SB only	Exit 17 acceleration lane extension	PCE	D/B/B	\$3M - \$4M		
8.1	9.7	Bristol	Bristol / Washington County	27	SB only	Widen to three lanes	CE	D/B/B	\$37M - \$62M		

*Project not included in FY22-FY27 SYIP. Schedule estimate based on target program completion of 2038.

Preliminary Engineering

Construction

Appendix B: Improvements Summary Map and Table

I-81 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Study		District			Mi	le Marke	r	
Project ID	UPC	District	Jurisdiction(s)	Direction	From	to	То	Improvement Description
63	116281	Staunton	Frederick County / Winchester	Both Directions	313.8	to	317.5	Widen to three lanes between Exit 313 and Exit 317
49	115803	Staunton	Frederick County	NB only	303.7	to	303.9	Truck scales acceleration lane extension
47	116236	Staunton	Frederick County	NB only	302.5	to	302.9	Exit 302 acceleration lane extension
48	115870	Staunton	Frederick County	NB only	302.1	to	302.2	Exit 302 deceleration lane extension
51	116244	Staunton	Shenandoah County	SB only	296.3	to	296.7	Exit 296 acceleration lane extension
50	116268	Staunton	Shenandoah County / Warren County / Frederick County	SB only	295.7	to	299.2	Widen to three lanes between Exit 299 and Exit 296
46	116270	Staunton	Shenandoah County	NB only	290.6	to	291.1	Exit 291 acceleration lane extension
52	115804	Staunton	Shenandoah County	SB only	282.9	to	283.3	Exit 283 acceleration lane extension
53	116243	Staunton	Shenandoah County	SB only	278.7	to	279.2	Exit 279 acceleration lane extension
45	115802	Staunton	Shenandoah County	NB only	268.8	to	268.9	Exit 269 deceleration lane extension
62	116280	Staunton	Rockingham County / Harrisonburg	Both Directions	242.2	to	248.1	Widen to three lanes between Exit 243 and Exit 248
55	116278	Staunton	Augusta County	SB only	234.6	to	236.5	Weyers Cave truck climbing lane
44	116277	Staunton	Augusta County / Rockingham County	NB only	233.3	to	237.4	Weyers Cave truck climbing lane
56	116275	Staunton	Augusta County	SB only	232.7	to	232.9	Mt. Sidney Rest Area deceleration lane extension
57	116276	Staunton	Augusta County	SB only	231.9	to	232.5	Mt. Sidney Rest Area acceleration lane extension
43	116271	Staunton	Augusta County	NB only	232.4	to	232.8	Mt. Sidney Rest Area acceleration lane extension
61	116269	Staunton	Augusta County / Staunton	Both Directions	221.8	to	225.3	Widen to three lanes between Exit 221 and Exit 225
58	116279	Staunton	Augusta County	SB only	221.2	to	221.5	Add auxiliary lane between Exit 220 and Exit 221
42	115801	Staunton	Rockbridge County	NB only	205.3	to	205.7	Exit 205 acceleration lane extension
59	116245	Staunton		SB only	204.7	to	205.2	Exit 205 acceleration lane extension
60	116282	Staunton	Rockbridge County	SB only	195.1	to	204.5	Rockbridge County shoulder improvements
41	116246	Staunton	Rockbridge County	NB only	189	to	189.4	Exit 188 acceleration lane extension
33	116199	Salem	Buchanan / Botetourt County		162.4		162.9	Exit 162 acceleration lane extension
	110199			NB only		to		
36	116202	Salem	Botetourt County	SB only	158.2	to	158.4	Troutville Safety Rest Area deceleration lane extension
37	446204	Salem	Botetourt County	SB only	157.2	to	158	Troutville Safety Rest Area acceleration lane extension
40	116201	Salem	Roanoke / Roanoke County	Both Directions	144.2	to	151.3	Widen to three lanes between Exit 143 and Exit 150
39B	116203	Salem	Salem / Roanoke County	Both Directions	139	to	141	Widen to three lanes between MM 139 and Exit 141
39A		Salem	Salem / Roanoke County	Both Directions	136	to	139	Widen to three lanes between MM 136 to MM 139
32	116197	Salem	Montgomery County / Roanoke County / Salem	NB only	128.4	to	136	Widen to three lanes from Exit 128 to MM 136
31	116196	Salem	Christiansburg / Montgomery County	NB only	116	to	128.4	Widen to three lanes from MM 116 to Exit 128
30	116198	Salem	Radford / Montgomery County	NB only	105.5	to	106	Exit 105 acceleration lane extension
38	116200	Salem	Pulaski / Pulaski County	SB only	93.7	to	94.2	Exit 94 acceleration lane extension
29	115795	Salem	Pulaski County	NB only	90.2	to	90.7	Exit 89 acceleration lane extension
12	116165	Bristol	Wythe County	SB only	84.3	to	84.5	Exit 84 deceleration lane extension
13	116166	Bristol	Wythe County	SB only	81.7	to	81.9	Exit 81 deceleration lane extension
18	116175	Bristol	Wythe County	SB only	41.6	to	41.8	Add auxiliary lane between Exit 40 on I-77 and Exit 72 on I-81 and extend acceleration la
	446460	P. S. C. J.			(1-77)		(1-77)	from I-77 SB to I-81 SB
14	116168	Bristol	Wytheville	SB only	73.2	to	73.8	Add auxiliary lane between Exit 73 and Exit 72
11	116164	Bristol	Wytheville	NB only	73	to	42.9 (I-77)	I-77 deceleration lane extension and reconfigure off-ramp
10	116163	Bristol	Wytheville	NB only	72.7	to	72.9	Exit 72 deceleration lane extension
8	116162	Bristol	Wytheville	NB only	67.3	to	67.4	Exit 67 deceleration lane extension
15	116169	Bristol	Smyth County	SB only	54.1	to	54.4	Add auxiliary lane between Exit 54 and Smyth Safety Rest Area
7	116161	Bristol	Marion / Smyth County	NB only	48.1	to	48.9	Exit 47 acceleration lane extension
16	116158	Bristol	Marion / Smyth County	SB only	47.4	to	47.6	Exit 47 acceleration lane extension
6	116160	Bristol	Marion / Smyth County	NB only	45.5	to	47.0	Exit 45 deceleration lane extension
17	116167	Bristol	Marion / Smyth County	SB only	45.5	to	43.0	Exit 45 deceleration lane extension Exit 44 acceleration lane extension
Λ	116157	Bristol	Chilhowie / Smyth County	NB only	39.5		40.6	Add truck climbing lane
4						to		
19 F	116174	Bristol	Smyth County	SB only	39.4	to	39.5	Exit 39 deceleration lane extension
20	116159	Bristol	Smyth County	NB only	38.9	to	39	Exit 39 deceleration lane extension
20	116173	Bristol	Smyth County	SB only	38.7	to	38.9	Exit 39 acceleration lane extension
21	116172	Bristol	Washington County	SB only	33	to	34	Add truck climbing lane
3	116156	Bristol	Chilhowie / Washington County	NB only	32.4	to	33.5	Add truck climbing lane
22	115345	Bristol	Washington County	SB only	26.7	to	26.8	Exit 26 deceleration lane extension
23	115346	Bristol	Washington County	SB only	25.9	to	26.1	Exit 26 acceleration lane extension
2	116155	Bristol	Abingdon / Washington County	NB only	19.2	to	19.3	Exit 19 deceleration lane extension



SS1	105309	Bristol	SB only	Exit 5	Exit 5 - widen Route 11 (Lee Highway) & widen I-81 off-ramps (2021)	SYIP Projects Programme
SS2	109419	Bristol	NB only	Exit 17	Exit 17 interchange improvements (2021)	
SS3	109440	Bristol	Both Directions	Exit 19	Exit 19 interchange improvements (2020)	Not in SYIP
SS4	108906, 111373	Salem	Both Directions	Exit 141 to 143	Add auxiliary lanes between Exit 141 and Exit 143 (2019)	SMART SCALE Funded Pr
SS5*	111359	Salem	SB only	MM 167.4 to MM 169.5	Safety improvements between MM 167.4 to MM 169.5 (2020)	
SS6	109370	Staunton	Both Directions	Exit 205	Exit 205 ramp terminal intersection improvements (2021)	
SS7	111055	Staunton	Both Directions	Exit 235	Exit 235 access improvements (2021)	December 2021
SS8	108809	Staunton	NB only	Exit 245	Exit 245 interchange improvements (2019)	December 2021
SS9	111230	Staunton	Both Directions	Exit 247	Exit 247 interchange improvements (2022)	
SS10	115129	Staunton	NB only	Exit 291	Exit 291 northbound ramp widening (2028)	
SS11	111054	Staunton	SB only	Exit 300	Exit 300 acceleration lane extension (2021)	Office of
SS12	115717	Staunton	Both	Exit 313	Exit 313 bridge capacity improvement (2028)	INTERMODAL
SS13	115181	Staunton	Both Directions	Exit 317	Exit 317 acceleration and deceleration lane extensions (2028)	Planning and Investment

* SS5 - Project is not depicted on map.



Appendix C: Crash Frequency and Severity Per Mile for Truck-Related Crashes



Annual Equivalent Property Damage Only Crashes per Mile for Truck-Related Crashes

Source: Virginia Roadway Network System, 2021.

Appendix D: April 2021 Commonwealth Transportation Board PowerPoint Presentation



IMPROVE 81

I-81 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Dave Covington, PE – VDOT I-81 Program Delivery Director

April 20, 2021

Program Benefits

Enhanced Safety

This program will implement a series of improvements such as lane and shoulder widening to reduce the rate and frequency of crashes along the corridor.

Reduced Congestion

The program will reduce congestion and improve reliability by adding capacity in targeted areas of the corridor and improve speed of incident clearance to help limit travel delays.

Economic Development

I-81 is the main corridor and key economic artery of western Virginia. These improvements will ensure that goods and services critical to our economy move safely and efficiently through and within the region.

IMPROVE **81** I-81 Corridor Improvement Program

Planned Improvements

The 325-mile long corridor spans three VDOT districts: Bristol, Salem, and Staunton.

Localities along the corridor include:

City of Bristol Washington County Smyth County Wythe County Pulaski County City of Radford Montgomery County City of Salem

Roanoke County City of Roanoke Botetourt County Rockbridge County City of Lexington City of Buena Vista Augusta County City of Staunton City of Waynesboro Rockingham County City of Harrisonburg Shenandoah County Frederick County

City of Winchester

STAUNTON

Takeaway Scorecard

Activity	Status	Anticipated Completion
Curve improvements (8)	Complete	Fall 2019
Initial accel/decel lane extensions (8)	Complete	Fall 2020
Safety Service Patrol Expansion	Complete	Summer 2019
Additional Cameras (51)	Complete	Spring 2020
Additional Digital Message Signs	と Underway	Fall 2021
Arterial Upgrades	실 Underway	Varies by project
Active Construction Projects (4)	🕑 Underway	Varies by project
Remaining capital projects (28)	😔 Underway	Varies by project



IMPROVE 81





Project Development Process (Capital Projects)










IMPROVE 81

Infrastructure Improvements

Acceleration & Deceleration Extension

36 Improvements Planned

IMPROVE **81** I-81 Corridor Improvement Program



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IMPROVE 81

Infrastructure Improvements

Truck Climbing Lanes



5 Improvements Planned





Infrastructure Improvements Auxiliary Lane **4 Improvements Planned**



IMPROVE 81



IMPROVE 81

Infrastructure Improvements

Shoulder Widening

+S

1 Improvement Planned







IMPROVE 81







Upcoming Program Improvements

- Exit 137 to Exit 141 Design Build (2 projects bundled)
- MM 48 Single Phase Design-Build
- Continue Design of Capital Improvement Projects

Complete Projects Under Construction

IMPROVE 81

- Begin Arterial Improvements
- Execute TRIP Program



Planned Studies With Potential Future Improvements

The <u>I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan</u>, Section 10, identified three areas for further analysis and potential future improvements based on the outcome of the analyses:



Truck Parking

Appendix I of the I-81 Study Report includes an analysis of truck parking availability along the corridor and identifies deficiencies. The Plan recommends the formation of a task force comprised of representatives from the Virginia Department of Transportation, The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, private travel center owners, economic development authorities, trucking associations, and representatives from local and regional governments and planning agencies. The purpose of the task force is to:

- Identify site-specific issues and overcome obstacles to parking development
- Investigate opportunities to fund the expansion of public and private truck parking facilities in targeted locations
- Develop a truck parking information system for public rest areas initially and examine opportunities to partner with the private sector
- Implement mobile technology to assist truck drivers with finding available and reserved parking

The Truck Parking Task Force was formed in August 2020 and has begun the work to serve its purpose.



Studies With Potential Future Improvements

The <u>I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan</u>, Section 10, identified three areas for further analysis and potential future improvements based on the outcome of the analyses:



Speed Enforcement

With specific focus on the northern end of the I-81 Corridor within the Commonwealth, the I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan recommends the formation of a task force comprised of members of the Commonwealth Transportation Board, Department of State Police, and local law enforcement to determine strategies for enhanced speed enforcement.



Multimodal Improvements

The I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan states that the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation will work through a cooperative process with the railroad industry, Amtrak, local governments, intercity bus operators, and regional planning bodies to fully develop the capital improvement needs to support impactful multimodal improvements along the I-81 Corridor.



Website Implementation







VDOT 17

I-81 PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT | APPENDIX

Appendix E: October 2021 Commonwealth Transportation Board PowerPoint Presentation



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA Office of the ______ SECRETARY of TRANSPORTATION

Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Program and Fund Update

Commonwealth Transportation Board Meeting October 2021













Agenda

2019 Acts of Assembly

- **Performance Measures Comparison**
- **Project Development Process**
- **Assessment of Strategies**
- **Annual Program Allocations and Financing Plan**
- **Takeaway Scorecard**

2019 Acts of Assembly

- Chapters 837 and 846 CTB Report Requirements
- Report by December 15 to General Assembly
 - Performance of the I-81 corridor
 - Effectiveness of operational strategies and capital improvements
 - Status of projects
 - Current and projected I-81 Fund balance
- Annual program allocation
- Financing plan
- Schedule of projects and strategies

Performance Measures - Baseline Comparison

Safety and Performance of I-81

- Crash frequency and severity
- Person-hours of delay
- Number of incidents involving lane closures
- Average duration of incidents involving lane closures

Performance Measures - Baseline Comparison

Start	End	Person Hours	of Delay (Tho	ousands)	Lane-Im	pacting Incide	nts	Hours of Lane Closures			
Year	Year	Northbound	Southbound	Total	Northbound	Southbound	Total	Northbound	Southbound	Total	
2018	2019	2,116	1,471	3,587	1,894	1,691	3,585	2,329	1,812	4,141	
2019	2020	1,908	1,245	3,153	1,763	1,580	3,343	2,121	1,627	3,748	
Percent	Change	-9.8%	-15.4%	-12.1%	-6.9%	-6.6%	-6.8%	-8.9%	-10.2%	-9.5%	

Start	End	EPDO Crashes					
Year	Year	Northbound	Southbound	Total			
2015	2019	50,094	48,907	99,001			
2016 2020		49,360	47,270	96,630			
Percent	Change	-1%	-3%	-2%			

Operational Improvement Project Status

Operational Improvement Type	Status
Curve improvements (static and flashing chevrons)	
Safety Service Patrol enhancements	
Lift and tow	
Towing and Recovery Incentive Program (TRIP)	
Traffic camera installations	
Changeable message signs installations	Under construction Fixed completion date: October 28, 2021







Arterial Improvement Project Status

Corridor-wide Arterial Improvements

- Traffic signal upgrades
 - Planning and design continues in concert with coordination with localities for traffic signal system integration into the VDOT central signal system along entire corridor
- Parallel route upgrades
 - Minor geometric improvement projects to facilitate access to and from I-81 during incidents are complete (3 projects in Rockbridge County)

Project Development Process - Capital Projects



Capital Improvement Project Status - Bristol District

- 4 projects under design by VDOT staff
- 1 project under design by on-call consultant
- 2 projects under design by project-specific consultant (procured)
- 2 design-build projects (bundled) under development (<u>out year projects advanced</u>)
- 4 projects under construction
- 5 projects contracts awarded, Spring constr.
- 2 projects construction complete
- Of the 18 SYIP projects in Bristol, all are currently under design or have construction completed. 2 out year projects advanced.



Exit 26 Washington County Southbound

acceleration and deceleration lane extensions



Capital Improvement Project Status - Salem District

- 2 projects under design by VDOT staff
- 0 projects under design by on-call consultant
- 1 project under design by project-specific consultant (procured)
- 2 design-build projects (bundled) under construction
- 1 project construction complete
- Of the 6 SYIP projects in Salem, all are currently under design or construction



Exit 89 Pulaski County

Northbound deceleration lane extension

Capital Improvement Project Status - Staunton District

- 1 project under design by VDOT staff
- 1 project under design by on-call consultant
- 4 projects under design by project-specific consultants (procured)
- 0 design-build projects
- 5 projects under construction
- 5 projects construction complete
- Of the 16 current SYIP projects in the Staunton District, all are currently under design or have construction completed



Exit 269 -Shenandoah County

Northbound deceleration lane extension

Truck Weigh Station, MM 304 - Frederick County Northbound deceleration lane extension



Takeaway Scorecard

Activity	Status	Actual/Anticipated Completion			
Curve improvements (8)	Complete	Fall 2019			
Initial accel/decel lane extensions (8)	Complete	Fall 2020			
Safety service patrol expansion	Complete	July 2019			
Additional cameras (51)	Complete	Spring 2021			
Additional changeable message signs	Nearly complete	October 2021			
Arterial upgrades	Underway (geometric improvements complete)	Varies by project			
Remaining capital projects (19)	Underway	Varies by project			

Multimodal Project Status – Virginia Breeze Intercity Bus

- Establishing new daily roundtrip service from Bristol to Washington DC
 - Ribbon cutting on November 13th, service begins November 15th
- Anticipated annual ridership of 25,000 on new service, nearly doubling intercity bus ridership in the I-81 corridor
- Highlands Rhythm is the 4th route in the Virginia Breeze network – joining daily services between:
 - Valley Flyer Blacksburg to DC
 - Piedmont Express Danville to DC
 - Capital Connector Martinsville to RVA and DC



Multimodal Project Status – Western Rail Initiative

- DRPT and NS signed a term sheet for a 2nd State-supported Amtrak train to Roanoke (commence 2022) and an extension of both trains to the New River Valley (commence 2026).
- Major features include: purchase of 28 miles of track, construction of a double track south of Manassas and passenger rail bypass of Roanoke Yard, and a station in the New River Valley.
- DRPT, VPRA, and the Office of the Attorney General are negotiating the definitive agreements, completing environmental reviews and due diligence.
- The addition of the 2nd train and the extension to the New River Valley are estimated to add 80,000 net new rides



Fiscal Year 2022-2027 Performance (in millions)

Interstate I-81 Improvement Funding

Fund	PV	F	Y22	F	Y23	F	Y24	F	Y25	ł	-Y26	F	Y27
I-81 Regional Fuels Tax	\$ 110.1	\$	53.6	\$	57.3	\$	47.5	\$	59.5	\$	56.2	\$	43.9
I-81 Bond Proceeds		\$	101.9		-		-		-		-	\$	14.8
I-81 TIFIA Proceeds		\$	101.8		-	\$	258.2		-		-	\$	379.8
Interstate 81 Fund	\$ 119.6	\$	55.6	\$	68.4	\$	68.3	\$	71.6	\$	75.2	\$	71.2
Total	\$ 229.7	\$	312.9	\$	125.7	\$	374.0	\$	131.1	\$	131.4	\$	509.7

Fund balance as of June 30, 2021	\$198.8 million
Fund balance as of September 30, 2021	\$215.4 million

Study Website Improve81.org

IMPROVE 81

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What Is The I-81 Improvement Program?

The I-81 Corridor Improvement Program consists of innovative, targeted improvements that will have a substantial effect on the safety and reliability of a critical portion of our nation's infrastructure.

		CORRIDOR O	VERVIEW		
PROGRAM IMPROVE	MENTS BY DISTRICT	Ali	Bristol 💷	Salem 🐵	Staunton 🐵
+ Muncie - moranapolis Day	оніо Columbus	Wheeling	St. H	Harrisburg	Trenton Philadelphia

I-81 PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT | APPENDIX

Appendix F: December 2021 Commonwealth Transportation Board Resolution



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Shannon Valentine Chairperson 1401 East Broad Street Richmond, Virginia 23219 (804) 786-2701 Fax: (804) 786-2940

Agenda item # <u>10</u>

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

December 8, 2021

MOTION

Made By: Seconded By:

Action:

Title: Approval of Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Program Progress Report

WHEREAS, Chapter 743 of the 2018 Acts of Assembly, the General Assembly directed the Commonwealth Transportation Board (Board), to study financing options for improvements to Interstate I-81 (I-81) and, with support from the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment, develop and adopt an I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan (Plan); and

WHEREAS, the Board adopted the Plan on December 5, 2018, which identified targeted improvements for potential financing and evaluated such improvements using the statewide prioritization process; and

WHEREAS, Chapters 837 and 846 of the 2019 Acts of Assembly established Chapter 36 (§ 33.2-3600 *et seq.*) of Title 33.2 of the *Code of Virginia*, creating the I-81 Corridor Improvement Fund (Fund), and directing the Board to establish the I-81 Committee (Committee), to adopt an I-81 Corridor Improvement Program (Program), to update the Program by July 1st of each year and to report to the General Assembly the status and progress of implementation of the Program (I-81 Corridor Improvement Program Progress Report) by December 15th of each year; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 33.2-3603, the Board established the I-81 Committee on May 15, 2019; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 33.2-3602, the I-81 Corridor Improvement Program shall, at a minimum:

Resolution of the Board Approval of I-81 Corridor Improvement Program Progress Report December 8, 2021 Page 2 of 2

- 1. Allocate year by year the revenues, if any, from the Fund and bond proceeds, if any, backed by the Fund to projects and strategies identified in the Plan adopted by the Board in 2018 and as may be adopted from time to time;
- 2. Include a financing plan to support such allocation; and
- 3. Include a schedule for all new projects and strategies identified in the Plan adopted by the Board; and

WHEREAS, prior to the adoption of such Program, the Board shall review the recommendations of and consult with the I-81 Committee; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to§ 33.2-3602, the I-81 Corridor Improvement Program Progress Report must include, at a minimum:

- 1. The safety and performance of the Interstate 81 Corridor, including the number of incidents, the average duration of incidents, the number and average duration of incidents involving lane closures, and the person-hours of delay along the Interstate 81 corridor;
- 2. An assessment of the effectiveness of the operational strategies and capital projects implemented and funded through the Program;
- 3. The status of capital projects funded through the Program; and
- 4. The current and projected balances of the Fund.

WHEREAS, the I-81 Committee received a copy of the draft I-81 Corridor Improvement Program Progress Report on November 22, 2021, for review and comment; and

WHEREAS, the I-81 Corridor Improvement Program Progress Report completely satisfies the above-referenced requirements set forth in § 33.2-3602.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board approves the annual I-81 Corridor Improvement Program Progress Report, attached hereto as Attachment A, as required by § 33.2-3602 of the *Code of Virginia*.

####

I-81 PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT | APPENDIX

Appendix G: April 2021 I-81 Committee PowerPoint Presentation



IMPROVE 81

I-81 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

I-81 Committee Meeting

Dave Covington, PE – VDOT I-81 Program Delivery Director

April 28, 2021

Program Benefits

Enhanced Safety

This program will implement a series of improvements such as lane and shoulder widening to reduce the rate and frequency of crashes along the corridor.

Reduced Congestion

The program will reduce congestion and improve reliability by adding capacity in targeted areas of the corridor and improve speed of incident clearance to help limit travel delays.

Economic Development

I-81 is the main corridor and key economic artery of western Virginia. These improvements will ensure that goods and services critical to our economy move safely and efficiently through and within the region.

Planned Improvements

The 325-mile long corridor spans three VDOT districts: Bristol, Salem, and Staunton.

Localities along the corridor include:

City of Bristol Washington County Smyth County Wythe County Pulaski County City of Radford Montgomery County City of Salem

Roanoke County City of Roanoke Botetourt County Rockbridge County City of Lexington City of Buena Vista Augusta County City of Staunton City of Waynesboro Rockingham County City of Harrisonburg Shenandoah County Frederick County

City of Winchester

STAUNTON

Takeaway Scorecard

Activity	Status	Anticipated Completion
Curve improvements (8)	Complete	Fall 2019
Initial accel/decel lane extensions (8)	Complete	Fall 2020
Safety Service Patrol Expansion	Complete	Summer 2019
Additional Cameras (51)	Complete	Spring 2020
Additional Digital Message Signs	と Underway	Fall 2021
Arterial Upgrades	실 Underway	Varies by project
Active Construction Projects (4)	🕑 Underway	Varies by project
Remaining capital projects (28)	😔 Underway	Varies by project



IMPROVE 81




Project Development Process (Capital Projects)



IMPROVE **81** I-81 Corridor Improvement Program

VDOT 6







IMPROVE 81

Infrastructure Improvements

Acceleration & Deceleration Extension

36 Improvements Planned

IMPROVE **81** I-81 Corridor Improvement Program



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IMPROVE 81

Infrastructure Improvements

Truck Climbing Lanes



5 Improvements Planned





Infrastructure Improvements Auxiliary Lane **4 Improvements Planned**



IMPROVE 81



IMPROVE 81

Infrastructure Improvements

Shoulder Widening

+S

1 Improvement Planned







IMPROVE 81







Upcoming Program Improvements

- Exit 137 to Exit 141 Design Build (2 projects bundled)
- MM 48 Single Phase Design-Build
- Continue Design of Capital Improvement Projects

Complete Projects Under Construction

IMPROVE 81

- Begin Arterial Improvements
- Execute TRIP Program



Planned Studies With Potential Future Improvements

The <u>I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan</u>, Section 10, identified three areas for further analysis and potential future improvements based on the outcome of the analyses:



Truck Parking

Appendix I of the I-81 Study Report includes an analysis of truck parking availability along the corridor and identifies deficiencies. The Plan recommends the formation of a task force comprised of representatives from the Virginia Department of Transportation, The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, private travel center owners, economic development authorities, trucking associations, and representatives from local and regional governments and planning agencies. The purpose of the task force is to:

- Identify site-specific issues and overcome obstacles to parking development
- Investigate opportunities to fund the expansion of public and private truck parking facilities in targeted locations
- Develop a truck parking information system for public rest areas initially and examine opportunities to partner with the private sector
- Implement mobile technology to assist truck drivers with finding available and reserved parking

The Truck Parking Task Force was formed in August 2020 and has begun the work to serve its purpose.



Studies With Potential Future Improvements

The <u>I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan</u>, Section 10, identified three areas for further analysis and potential future improvements based on the outcome of the analyses:



Speed Enforcement

With specific focus on the northern end of the I-81 Corridor within the Commonwealth, the I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan recommends the formation of a task force comprised of members of the Commonwealth Transportation Board, Department of State Police, and local law enforcement to determine strategies for enhanced speed enforcement.



Multimodal Improvements

The I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan states that the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation will work through a cooperative process with the railroad industry, Amtrak, local governments, intercity bus operators, and regional planning bodies to fully develop the capital improvement needs to support impactful multimodal improvements along the I-81 Corridor.



Website Implementation







VDOT 17



I-81 Multimodal Improvements Funding Recommendations

April 28, 2021

I-81 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PLAN



Background

- Over 300 comments from I-81
 Corridor Improvement public meetings referenced lack of multimodal options
- DRPT has identified potential transit and rail improvements, taking into account existing gaps in service
- DRPT briefed the I-81 Advisory Committee on technical study in October 2020





Virginia Breeze Expansion

- Virginia Breeze Bus Lines operates the Valley Flyer daily roundtrip service between Blacksburg and Washington D.C. with stops in the Shenandoah Valley, Front Royal, Dulles Airport, and Arlington
- DRPT studied an expansion of *Virginia Breeze* intercity bus service to Bristol, along with new bus stops and critical improvements to existing intercity bus stops along the corridor



Virginia Breeze Expansion

- Provide new daily roundtrip service from Bristol to Washington DC
- Anticipated annual ridership of 25,000 on new service, nearly doubling intercity bus ridership in the corridor
- Net annual O&M cost estimated at \$243,000*
- Corridor bus stop improvements estimated at \$100,000*
 - Improvements to existing Front Royal and Lexington stops
 - New bus stops at Bristol, Wytheville, and Salem
- Service to be initiated in Fall 2021

25,000 New Riders Estimated to be added to a Route that had 27,000 riders in 2019.

27,000 riders in 2019.





shown are 2022 YOE

*All costs

Western Rail Initiative

- 2nd State-Supported Round Trip would connect the Northeast Corridor and Alexandria, Burke, Manassas, Culpeper, Charlottesville, Lynchburg and Roanoke
- Extension of Service to New River Valley
- Discussions with NS ongoing



80,000 New Riders Estimated to be added to a Route that had 220,000 riders in 2019.



Western Rail Initiative Funding

- Budget Bill Passed General Assembly in March (\$83.5M)
- I-81 Multimodal Funding (\$100M)
- SMART SCALE (application submitted by CTB for \$50M)
- SYIP and Commonwealth Rail Fund Allocations





Next Steps

- CTB Approval of SYIP June
- Western Rail Initiative:
 - Continue Engineering Due Diligence
 - Continue Negotiations with Norfolk Southern
- Virginia Breeze:
 - Negotiate contract for additional I-81 service
 - Corridor branding/marketing
 - Initiate service Fall 2021







I-81 Multimodal Improvements Funding Recommendations

April 28, 2021

I-81 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PLAN







I-81 Project Finance Update

Series 2021 Authorization

Laura Farmer Chief Financial Officer

April 20, 2021

Legislative Background

- Chapters 837 and 846 (HB 2718 and SB 1716)
 - Created the Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Program and Fund
 - Provided new transportation revenues to support the interstate highways and specifically I-81
- Chapters 1230 and 1275 (HB 1414 and SB 890)
 - Authorized the sale and issuance of bonds with an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1 billion
 - Changed the localities contributing to fuel tax revenue for I-81 Fund to those through which I-81 passes or cities wholly encompassed by a county through which I-81 passes
 - Provided allocated funding through the Interstate Operations and Enhancement Program (IOEP)



Funding Sources and Structure

- Dedicated funding for the I-81 Program is deposited in the I-81 Corridor Improvement Fund and includes:
 - Regional Fuels Tax along the I-81 Corridor
 - Share of statewide revenues from allocation of the IOEP
- Regional Fuels Tax
 - July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, additional 2.1% tax on gasoline and diesel sold by a distributor to a retail dealer
 - Effective July 1, 2020, changed to a per gallon rate subject to annual CPI-U adjustment
 - May be leveraged for debt service and paygo
- Allocation from IOEP
 - I-81 receives allocation equal to ratio of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) on I-81 by vehicles Class 6 or higher to total VMT on all Interstate highways
 - May provide funding only for paygo



Revenue Performance and Projections

Interstate 81 Improvement Fund (in millions) - Actual Receipts for FY 2020 and Projections for FY 2021-2027

Source	FY 2020	FY 2021*	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	Total
Regional Fuels Tax	\$69.8	\$59.3	\$61.0	\$62.8	\$64.2	\$65.0	\$66.1	\$67.7	\$515.9
Interstate Operation and Enhancement Program	22.6	71.3	69.4	69.4	69.4	72.7	76.3	72.3	523.4
Interest Income	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	4.2
Total	\$93.1	\$131.1	\$130.9	\$132.7	\$134.1	\$138.2	\$142.9	\$140.5	\$1,043.5

*FY 2021 regional fuels tax collections as March 31, 2021 were \$53.8 million

Project Expenditures through March 31, 2021	\$24.8
Cash Balance on March 31, 2021	\$123.1



I-81 Corridor Program – Project Costs

- Project costs total \$2.87* billion over life of program
 - Comprised of operational and capital improvements
 - No single project exceeds 11% of the Program
 - Projects are implemented in phases through 2038 based on current revenue assumptions and debt model
 - Projects are independent of each other

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	Total
in millions																				
Operational Improvements	\$11	\$16	\$12	\$45	\$43	\$38	\$39	\$39	\$39	\$14	\$14	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$16	\$16	\$17	\$17	\$18	\$441
Capital Improvements																				
Rural Projects	\$1	\$2	\$29	\$26	\$36	\$87	\$64	\$114	\$114	\$45	\$21									\$540
Regular Projects	\$2	\$1	\$58	\$58	\$58	\$168	\$244	\$180	\$218	\$154	\$154	\$84	\$84	\$121	\$77	\$77	\$77	\$37	\$37	\$1,889
sub-total	\$3	\$3	\$87	\$85	\$95	\$255	\$308	\$294	\$333	\$199	\$175	\$84	\$84	\$121	\$77	\$77	\$77	\$37	\$37	\$2,429
Total	\$14	\$19	\$100	\$130	\$138	\$293	\$347	\$333	\$372	\$213	\$189	\$98	\$99	\$136	\$93	\$93	\$94	\$55	\$55	\$2,870

* Preliminary and subject to change

Virginia Department of Transportation

Debt Issuance Plan

- The I-81 Regional Fuels Tax revenues will support all debt issued
- Will not impact debt capacity of the Commonwealth
- Similar to bond programs implemented by NVTA and HRTAC backed by regional revenues
- Mixture of municipal bonds and Transportation Infrastructure Financing Innovation Act (TIFIA) loans over the life of the program

	2021 Financings	Future Financings	Total
Funded Costs (in \$MM)			
Senior Lien Bonds	\$99	\$30	\$129
Senior Lien Rural TIFIA Loan	\$19	\$258	\$277
Junior Lien Regular TIFIA Loan	\$77	\$517	\$594
Total	\$195	\$805	\$1,000

* Preliminary and subject to change



Planned Use of Regional Fuels Tax



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Preliminary Funding by Year and Source

- Well-balanced funding mix of paygo and multi-lien debt
- TIFIA loans are shown based on expected cash flow draws with loans committed in advance
- Healthy cash liquidity maintained (preliminary minimum target of \$25 million)



Inaugural Municipal Bond Offering – 2021 Series

- Negotiated sale
- Allows additional focus on introducing new program to investor community
- Both HRTAC (2018) and NVTA (2014) sold inaugural bonds on a negotiated basis

Summary Terms of Offering*						
Issuer	Commonwealth Transportation Board					
Project(s)	UPC 116203 - MM136 TO MM142 Add Lane in Each Direction Roanoke County					
Anticipated Ratings	Double-A Category					
Pricing Date	July 2021*					
Security	Regional Fuels Tax Revenue					
Par Amount	\$90 million*					
Structure	Serial Bonds 2022-2055*					
Final Maturity (years)	35*					
* Proliminary and subject to cha	200					

* Preliminary and subject to change



Series 2021 Bond Sale – Schedule*

April 2021

Request confidential indicative ratingsPresent financing plan to CTB

May 2021

Request CTB approval to issue Series 2021

June 2021

• Request Treasury Board approval to issue Series 2021

• Request formal public ratings

July 2021

- Bond pricing
- Closing

* Preliminary and subject to change



Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) Loan

- Proposed structure allows for maximized TIFIA program benefits
 - Rural loan allows for financing of up to 49% of project costs at onehalf 30-year U.S. Treasury rate
 - Regular/non-rural loan allows for financing of up to 33% of project costs at 30-year U.S. Treasury rate
- Repayment term 35 years after substantial completion
- Flexible payment structure
- Flexible draw period of up to one-year post substantial completion

TIFIA Debt Issuance Approach

- Will assist in financing approximately \$870 million over the program through multiple loans
- **Projects (UPCs) to be packaged:**
 - Rural v. regular/non-rural projects
 - Based on project readiness/schedules and cash flow
- Anticipate submitting two TIFIA Letters of Interest (LOI) in late spring/early summer for the 2022 loans

TIFIA Loans – 2022		
Туре	Total Project(s) Cost* (millions)	Anticipated Loan Amount* (millions)
Rural projects	\$39.3	\$19.3
Regular/non-rural project(s)	\$232.7	\$76.8
	\$272.0	\$96.1
* Preliminary and subject to change		



2022 TIFIA – Projects*

	2022 Rural TIFI	Α	
UPC(s)	Project Description	Project Location	Project Cost (millions)
115801, 116245	Extending northbound and southbound Exit 205 acceleration lanes	Rockbridge County	\$2.75
115803, 116244, 116270	Extending northbound Exit 291 acceleration lane, northbound Exit 304 acceleration lane, and southbound Exist 296 acceleration lane	Frederick and Shenandoah Counties	3.71
116158, 116174, 116159	Extending northbound deceleration and southbound acceleration lanes	Smyth County	5.31
115345	Extend southbound deceleration lane from MM 26.7 to 26.8	Washington County	0.27
115346	Extend southbound acceleration lane from MM 25.9 to 26.1	Washington County	0.68
115795	Extend acceleration lane at Exit 89	Pulaski County	0.82
116171	Extend southbound acceleration lane at MM 16.6	Abingdon	1.62
116155	Extend northbound deceleration lane at MM 19.2	Abingdon	1.60
116165	Extend southbound deceleration lane at MM 84.3	Wythe County	1.80
116162	Extend northbound deceleration lane at MM 67.3	Wytheville	1.46
116173	Apply high friction epoxy to southbound curve Exit 39	Smyth County	2.10
116161	Design Build to extend northbound acceleration lane at MM 48.1	Smyth County	17.20
Total Rura	I Projects Costs		\$39.32
	2022 Regular TIF	FIA	
116203	MM 136 to MM 139 adding lane in each direction	Roanoke County	232.70
Total Regu	lar Project Costs		\$232.70
Total 2022	TIFIA Project Costs		\$272.02

* Preliminary and subject to change

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2022 TIFIA Loan – Schedule*

June 2021 through August 2021	 Submit Letter of Interest (LOI) Creditworthiness presentation to TIFIA 	
September 2021	 Present TIFIA plan of finance to CTB 	
October 2021	 Request CTB approval to submit loan application and enter into TIFIA loan agreement 	
November 2021	 Request Treasury Board approval Submit TIFIA loan application 	
February 2022	TIFIA loan execution	
* Preliminary and subject to change		

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