

### Transportation Enhancement Program Overview and Proposed Policy Changes

September, 2010 Michael Estes, P.E. Director, Local Assistance Division

# **Program Overview**

- Mandatory 10% STP Program Set-Aside
  - Receive ~ 150-200 project applications annually
  - CTB allocates funds to ~ 100 projects annually
- 12 eligibility categories
- Current CTB Policy (November 2009)
  - Annual allocation (~\$15M-\$20M) divided equally among members
  - Consider all eligible projects thru FY2013
  - Applications scored annually (2006 CTB resolution)
  - Funding requests limited to \$1M annually per project
  - Must fund a minimum of 50% of requested amount
  - Must fully fund projects requesting < \$200,000</li>
  - Projects must be complete within 4 yrs. of CTB allocation

# **Eligible Categories**

- 1. Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities
- 2. Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety and Education
- 3. Acquisition of Scenic or Historic Easements and Sites
- 4. Scenic or Historic Highway Programs, including Tourist and Welcome Centers
- 5. Landscaping and Scenic Beautification along Corridors
- 6. Historic Preservation

**VDOT** 

- Rehabilitation of Historic Transportation Buildings, Structures or Facilities
- 8. Preservation of Abandoned Railway Corridors for Conversion to Trails
- 9. Inventory Control, and Removal of Outdoor Advertising
- 10. Archeological Planning and Research
- 11. Environmental Mitigation and Runoff Pollution and Provision of Wildlife Connectivity
- 12. Establishment of Transportation Museums

## 2009 Policy Discussion Program Status (as of June 2009)

- Due to funding limitations and large number of requests large pool of projects not yet completed:
  - 817 projects have received funding since 1993 (through FY10)
  - 389 projects completed

- 120 under construction (may have multiple phases)
- 308 in project development
- Only 56% of allocated funds have been expended
- Virginia lags behind other states in reimbursement rates (as reported by FHWA)

# 2009 Policy Discussion

### Policy Revision Goals (June 2009)

- Focus resources on completing existing projects
- Apply any funding for new projects to those that promote core transportation function
- Modify policy to better enable projects to reach completion

## 2009 Policy Discussion Adopted Recommendations (November 2009)

### Changes implemented in FY2011 (in effect)

DOT

- Increase minimum allocation for selected projects from 25% to 50%
- Fully fund any project <u>selected</u> that is estimated to cost \$200,000 or less

# **Proposals to be implemented in FY2012** (for applications due Dec 1, 2010)

 Limit applications to existing projects only for <u>one year</u> (Fund only those projects currently in the program and not add additional new projects)

### 2009 Policy Discussion Adopted Recommendations (November 2009)

#### **Proposals to be implemented in FY2013**

- Apply any funding for new projects to those that promote core transportation function:
  - Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities
  - Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety and Education
  - Landscaping and Scenic Beautification along Corridors
  - Preservation of Abandoned Railway Corridors for Conversion to Trails
  - Rehabilitation of Historic Transportation Buildings, Structures or Facilities
  - Acquisition of Scenic or Historic Easements and Sites

Notes:

- Nine comments supported all aspects of the proposed changes
- Five comments requested retaining one or more other categories
- Staff recommended addition blue font
- CTB member recommended addition red font

# FY11 Application Summary

- 136 Applications received
- \$59 million requested

- 42 of the applications were for new projects
- 72 projects selected
- 16 new projects selected
- 53 projects fully funded
- 74% of requests fully funded

# **Program Overview-History**

		Applications	# Projects	# Requests	% Requests	# New Projects	% New Projects
Year	Allocations	Received	Selected	Fully Funded	Fully Funded	Selected	Selected
2000	\$19,424,000	219	118	25	21%	66	56%
2001	\$20,288,000	204	117	38	32%	43	37%
2002	\$19,406,000	210	130	29	22%	48	37%
2003	\$18,859,000	219	107	44	41%	26	24%
2004	\$14,855,000	243	107	36	34%	28	26%
2005	\$21,850,000	170	108	61	56%	40	37%
2006	\$17,278,000	173	89	46	52%	28	31%
2007	\$17,212,000	151	85	40	47%	27	32%
2008	\$22,279,130	155	102	57	56%	36	35%
2009	\$19,221,038	148	92	42	46%	22	24%
Totals	\$190,672,168	1892	1055	418		364	
10 Year Average	\$19,067,217	189	106	42	41%	36	34%
2010	21,968,332	136	72	53	74%	16	22%

VDOT

# FY 12 Application Cycle

- Seeking applications from existing project sponsors <u>only</u>
- Letters sent to all project sponsors with active unfinished projects
- Emphasizing quarterly status report and keeping VDOT updated on project status
- No application workshops
- Applications due December 1<sup>st</sup>

# Continued Policy Refinement. . .

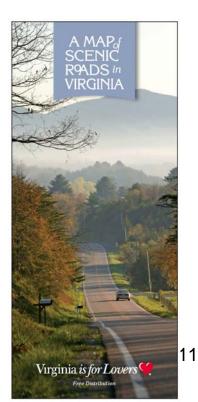
#### FY2010-2011 Statewide Tourism Initiative:

Focus a portion of allocations on an assortment of activities centered around the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, job creation and tourism as follows:

#### • Promotion of Virginia's Scenic Road Program

- Multi-media solution to communicate historic and scenic tourism around the Commonwealth
  - Available at Virginia's Welcome Centers (with goal to make available at certain rest areas as well)
- Tourism categories currently included in Virginia's Scenic Road Program:
  - Virginia byways
  - Scenic roads
  - Wineries/Vineyards
  - Historical/cultural attractions
  - National historic sites, monuments and cemeteries
  - Civil War Battlefield parks and sites
  - Recreational trails
  - Etc.

- Acquisition of Historic Battlefields
- Virginia Civil War Trails
  - Updating Virginia Civil War Trails Maps
  - Installing interpretive markers at welcome centers/rest areas, etc.
- Battlefield Interpretation
  - GPS-Aided Civil War SmartTours



# Potential Modifications to CTB Policy

### **Distribution of Allocations**

	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012 (Applications due – 12/1/10)
Allocation distribution among Board members	Split into 15 equal shares	Split into 15 equal shares	<ul> <li>\$4 M set aside for high priority statewide initiatives (tourism based initiatives, etc.)</li> <li>Of remaining funds:</li> <li>75% provided to District members – split equally between 9 members</li> <li>Remaining 25% used by at large CTB members to support projects of regional significance and to complete funding of projects selected by District CTB members</li> </ul>
Hierarchy	<ul> <li>District members make selections</li> <li>Staff provide recommendations for ~ ½ of at-large allocation pool</li> <li>At-Large members provide selections</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>District members make selections</li> <li>Chairman sets aside ~1/2 of At-Large allocation pool</li> <li>Staff provide recommendations for ~1/2 of At-Large allocation pool</li> <li>At-Large members provide selections</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Chairman establishes priorities for high priority statewide initiatives (these projects will not necessarily go through application process)</li> <li>District members make selections with their share of funds</li> <li>Staff provide recommendations to Chairman and at large members for allocation of remaining funds for projects of regional significance and to complete funding of projects</li> </ul>
Eligible projects	All	All	Only existing projects may submit applications 12

### Potential Modifications to CTB Policy Eligible Categories

Proposals to be implemented in FY2013 (as adopted, November 2009)

- Apply any funding for <u>new</u> projects to those that promote core transportation function:
  - Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities
  - Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety and Education
  - Landscaping and Scenic Beautification along Corridors
  - Preservation of Abandoned Railway Corridors for Conversion to Trails
  - Rehabilitation of Historic Transportation Buildings, Structures or Facilities
  - Acquisition of Scenic or Historic Easements and Sites

### For consideration:

DOT

 Return to accepting applications for all 12 eligible categories

## Next Steps (2010)

### September

October

**CTB Workshop Presentation** 

CTB Workshop – Review of Member Feedback

November

Action on Revised Policy

December 1<sup>st</sup>

**Application Deadline FY12** 



# Questions?