



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Sean T. Connaughton
Chairman

1401 East Broad Street - Policy Division - CTB Section - #1106
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 786-1830
Fax: (804) 225-4700

Agenda item # 12

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

February 16, 2011

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Sterling Seconded By: Mr. Rich

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: CMAQ Policy

WHEREAS, Section 33.1-12 (9)(b) of the *Code of Virginia*, requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board (Board) to adopt by July 1 of each year a Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP) of anticipated projects and programs and that the Program shall be based on the most recent official revenue forecasts and a debt management policy; and,

WHEREAS, the Board is required by *Code of Virginia* Section 33.1-12 (9) and (11) to administer and allocate funds in the Transportation Trust Fund; and,

WHEREAS, Section 33.1-12 (9)(b) of the *Code of Virginia* provides that the Board is to coordinate the planning for financing of transportation needs, including needs for highways, railways, seaports, airports, and public transportation and is to allocate funds for these needs pursuant to §§ 33.1-23.1 and 58.1-638, by adopting a Six-Year Improvement Program; and,

WHEREAS, Section 58.1-638 authorizes allocations to local governing bodies, transportation district commissions, or public service corporations for, among other things, capital project costs for public transportation and ridesharing equipment, facilities, and associated costs; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth receives approximately \$50 million annually in federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funds as defined in 23 USC 149; and,

WHEREAS, CMAQ funds may be used to fund projects that reduce air pollution and reduce congestion in designated nonattainment or maintenance areas or outside of nonattainment or maintenance areas where they contribute to air quality improvements in those areas; and,

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) has historically delegated the authority to program CMAQ funds to the metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) in the Commonwealth's nonattainment and maintenance areas; and,

WHEREAS, Chapter 874 of the 2010 Virginia Acts of the Assembly Item 436 contains certain conditions regarding the efficient use of CMAQ funds; and,

WHEREAS, the Board is committed to aligning priorities, improving project execution, improved planning, and increased accountability of CMAQ funds; and,

WHEREAS, the Board believes that direct involvement by the Board in the allocation of these federal funds will facilitate the efficient use of these funds; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Commonwealth Transportation Board that, beginning with the FY12-17 SYIP, the district CTB member will work with appropriate MPOs and VDOT and DRPT staff to recommend to the Board a list of CMAQ projects for inclusion in the SYIP in order to allocate all six years of CMAQ funds anticipated to be available to the MPOs; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CMAQ funds will be programmed to facilitate maximization of the use of federal funds, including fully funding project phases according to current schedules and estimates; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CMAQ allocations will be programmed centrally by VDOT and DRPT staff based on the recommended CMAQ projects according to CTB priorities and federal eligibility requirements; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CTB supports revisions to the Appropriations Act regarding the efficient use of CMAQ and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds to revise obligation and expenditure timeframes for RSTP funds, to eliminate CMAQ requirements, to eliminate retroactive implementation of fund withdrawal, and to provide localities with an opportunity to address deficiencies prior to withdrawing state match for RSTP; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that legislative direction regarding the efficient obligation and expenditure of CMAQ funds, as specified in Chapter 874 of the 2010 Virginia Acts of the Assembly Item 436, will be implemented by the CTB beginning in fiscal year 2012.

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