

Interstate 95 Corridor Improvement Program Commonwealth Transportation Board

June 20, 2012 Michael Estes, P.E. Office of the Commissioner



Virginia's Interstate 95

- Opened to Traffic in the 1950's
- 178 Miles from NC to DC
- Crosses 17 Jurisdictions
- 427 Structures
- 40% of the Interstate Traffic in Virginia
- Some of the Worst Congestion in the US
- 67 Fatal Crashes from 2008 to 2010







I-95 is a Critical Link for Virginia's Economy

- Serves 45% of Population
- Links 1.7 Million Jobs
- Connects Virginians to the World's Largest Regional Economy
- Links 8 Million Square Feet of Warehouse/Distribution Facilities
- Access to 3 International Airports
- Serves Richmond and Norfolk Ports







I-95 Needs

80% Mainline Bridges Over 40 Years Old

67% Portion of I-95 at or above Capacity by 2035

72% Mainline Pavement in Need of Maintenance

40% Projected Increase in Travel Time by 2035

\$12.1B

Projected 25-Year Need

\$ 2.5B

Projected 25-Year Funding at Current Levels

(\$ 9.6B)

Funding Gap

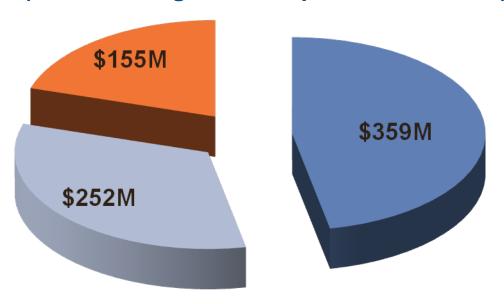




Balanced Use of Funding

VDOT is committed to a balanced funding approach to advancing I-95 projects.

(Six Year Program Example – Scenario A1)



I-95 Funding Sources





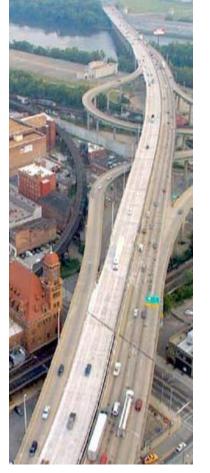






Tolling Proposal Background

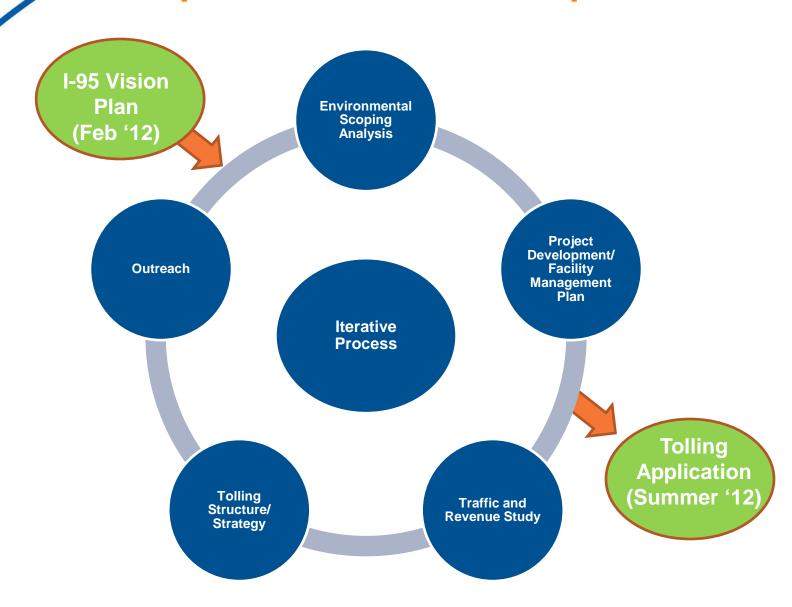
- FHWA's Interstate System Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Pilot Program (ISRRPP) permits a state to toll an interstate facility
 - Limited to three facilities in three different states
- April 2010: VDOT submitted a proposal to toll I-95
- January 2011: VDOT submitted an expression of interest
- September 2011: FHWA granted conditional provisional approval
- The toll revenue will be used to make pavement, structural, operational, capacity, and safety improvements throughout the corridor







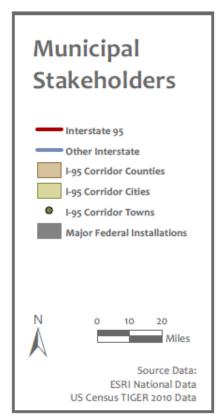
Implementation Roadmap

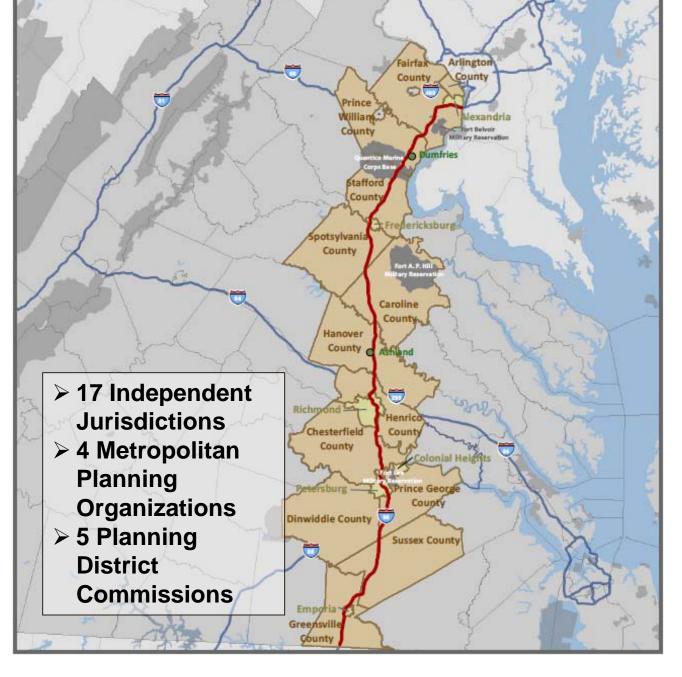






Outreach & Coordination









Outreach & Coordination

- Outreach & Coordination (MPOs/PDCs/Local Governments)
 - Kick-off (February 8th Winter meeting)
 - Individual meetings with MPO & PDC staff
 - Environmental coordination letters
 - MPO Policy Board meetings
 - Regional workshops
- Business Stakeholders
 - Virginia Trucking Association
 - Virginia Chamber of Commerce
 - Others
- Continued Outreach Public Meetings (Fall 2012)
 - Residents
 - Businesses





Outreach & Coordination

MPO Policy Board Briefings (elected officials)	Process, Scenarios, etc.	Traffic & Revenue, Tolling strategies, etc.
Richmond Area	April 12 th	June 14 th
Tri-Cities	April 12 th	June 14 th
Fredericksburg Area	April 16 th	June 18 th
National Capital Region	April 18 th	June 20 th

MPO/Local Government Staff Workshops	Date
Richmond Area MPO Transportation Advisory Committee	June12 th
Southern Workshop (Petersburg)	June 4 th
Northern Workshop (Fredericksburg)	June 6 th





Key Themes of Input Received

- Location of tolling facilities needs to consider economic and mobility impacts on local and regional communities
- VDOT needs to assess the impact on roadways affected by diversion
- The use of funds should be equitable and reflect where funds are being collected
- Program of projects should include all transportation aspects such as transit, rail, ITS, and park and ride projects
- Environmental studies should include whether tolling would increase emissions of pollution and/or storm water runoff
- Consideration should be given to the methods of toll collection and their effect on congestion
- Toll rate setting needs to consider impact on highway users
- Toll facilities and roadway improvements should be context sensitive





What Toll Rates to Employ?

- If Virginia attempted to fund the entire \$9.6 billion gap over 25 years by tolls alone, the toll rate required would be:
 - Utilizing two collection points, one north of Richmond and one south of Petersburg, the toll rate would be ~ \$0.53 per mile*
 - Using a barrier system with 6 collection points, the toll rate would be ~
 \$0.27 per mile*
 - Using a closed system where all trips were charged based on actual miles traveled, the toll rate would be ~ \$0.14 per mile
- VDOT analyzed rates from \$0.02 to \$0.15 per mile
- VDOT is requesting approval to initiate tolling at a reduced rate of ~ \$0.02 per mile



* Note that diversion would be extremely high with rates of \$0.27 to \$0.53 per mile under these scenarios.



Toll Scenarios Analysis

Potential Locations:

- A1: 1 Gantry System (tolling both directions)
- A2: 2 Gantry System (one toll northbound; one toll southbound)
- A3: 2 Gantry System (tolling both directions)
- B: 6 Gantry System (tolling both directions at ~ 20 mile intervals)
- C: Closed System (tolling at every interchange ramps)
- D: Hybrid System (mainline tolling + ramp tolling)
- E: Closed System (tolling between every interchange)





How to toll? (location and # of gantries)

Factors to consider (location):

- Traffic Characteristics
 - Local vs long-distance trips
 - Heavy vehicles share of total volume
- Diversion
 - Availability of routes for local trips
 - Ability to reduce diversion (i.e. capacity for ramp tolling)
 - Number and types of businesses in area (i.e. truck services, lodging, food services, etc.)

Factors to consider (# of gantries):

- Implementation (ease and timeliness of construction, etc.)
- Cost effectiveness of up-front capital costs
- Operations and maintenance implications



VDOT

Option A-1: One Gantry System (tolling both directions)

Current Condition

- ADT 36,000
- 15% trucks
- High share of long trips
 - 48% of traffic continues through mile marker 100
- Low commuter traffic
- Low local trucks
- High long-haul trucks

Items Under Further Review

- Diversion
- Toll Rate vs Revenue
- Economic Review





Facility Management Plan (for option under further consideration)

A-1: One Gantry System (tolling both directions)

• Location: Gantry Between MP 20 and MP 24

Ramp Gantries to Minimize Diversion

Method: Open Road Tolling & Cash Collection

• Rate: \$4.00 2-Axle Mainline (~\$0.02/mile)

\$2.00 2-Axle Ramp

5-Axle Vehicle: 3X Base Rate

Duration: >30 Yrs

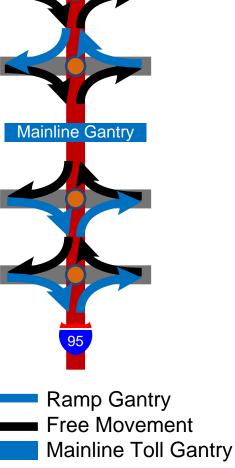
• Operator: VDOT will own, operate, and maintain

(option to contract)

Congestion Pricing: None, Fixed Rates

Rate Changes: Indexed to Inflation







Benefits of Tolling Revenue

Acceleration of an identified need (SYIP, CLRP, STP, and other priorities)

- Safety
 - Advances road safety audit findings
- System Maintenance & Preservation
 - Improves pavement quality and safety
 - Regular investment results in reduced and stabilized maintenance costs (pavement and structures)
- Mobility (Capacity Improvements)
 - Improves capacity and provides more reliable travel times
 - Enhances communication/information (Intelligent Transportation Systems)
- Economic Vitality
 - Supports growth of regional, statewide, and national economies





Benefits of Tolling Revenue

Gross Revenue Projections:

- Scenario A-1 ~ \$35M \$40M/year (gross)
- Other Scenarios ~ \$55M \$160M/year (gross)

Acceleration of an identified need (SYIP, CLRP, STP, and other priorities) – Potential uses of Scenario A-1 revenue:

- Safety
 - I-95/I-64 Overlap Study Short Term Improvements
- Mobility/Economic Vitality
 - I-95/I-85/460 Interchange upgrades
- System Maintenance & Preservation
 - Pavement Reconstruction (~ 35 Lane Miles)
 - Bridge Reconstruction (~ 4 Bridges)





Preliminary Schedule

Jan – April 2012 Data Collection/Analysis

Feb 2012 Vision Plan

April 2012 MPO/Locality Briefings

May 2012 Preliminary Traffic & Revenue Forecasts,

tolling scenario analysis, etc.

June 2012 MPO/PDC/Locality Workshops

Summer 2012 Submit ISRRPP application to FHWA

Fall 2012 Public Hearings

Winter 2012 Execute Tolling Agreement





Closing

- I-95 is the economic backbone of Virginia and critical to its future.
- Without additional revenue, residents, business, and visitors will face:
 - Degradation of travel times due to congestion and emergency repairs
 - Higher costs due to failing infrastructure
 - Reduced safety
- VDOT has performed outreach and will continue coordinating with MPOs, local governments, businesses, and residents to develop a program that meets the needs of its users.
- VDOT's plan for imposing tolls is sound and will address many critical needs of the corridor.
- VDOT is committed to developing a program (tolling is but one aspect) that will generate value for users of I-95 through:
 - Capacity improvements
 - Safety improvements
 - A more reliable system

