



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

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Agenda item # 12

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

June 17, 2020

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Rucker, Seconded By: Mr. Williams

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

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Title: Approval of Annual Safety Performance Targets for Calendar Year 2021

WHEREAS, pursuant to §2.2-229 of the *Code of Virginia*, as amended by Chapter 828 of the 2018 Acts of Assembly, it is the responsibility of the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) to develop measures and targets related to the performance of the Commonwealth's surface transportation network for the Commonwealth Transportation Board's (Board) approval, *including any performance measurement required by Title 23 or 49 of the United States Code*; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 112-141, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) amended 23 USC 150, providing that, “[p]erformance management will transform the Federal-aid highway program and provide a means to the most efficient investment of Federal transportation funds by refocusing on national transportation goals, increasing the accountability and transparency of the Federal-aid highway program, and improving project decision-making through performance-based planning and programming.” Pursuant to 23 USC 150, the Federal-aid highway program is to be focused on national transportation goals in the areas of safety, infrastructure condition, congestion reduction, system reliability, freight movement and economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and reduced project delivery delays; and

WHEREAS, MAP-21 also amended 23 USC 150 to direct the United States Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with State departments of transportation, metropolitan planning organizations, and other stakeholders, to promulgate a rulemaking that establishes performance

measures and standards relating to the national transportation goals and for each state to set performance targets that reflect the performance measures established in said rule(s); and

WHEREAS, various federal regulations were promulgated to address and set forth the requirements for, among other things, safety performance measures and targets relating to the Highway Safety Improvement Program (Safety Performance Regulations), including 23 CFR §§490.207 and 490.209, which require State Departments of Transportation and Metropolitan Planning Organizations to set targets for five safety related performance measures (Safety Performance Targets); and

WHEREAS, 23 CFR §§490.207 and 490.209 require the state to set Safety Performance Targets, which apply to all public roads, for the following five measures: number of fatalities, rate of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (VMT), number of serious injuries, rate of serious injuries per 100 million VMT, and number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries; and

WHEREAS, 23 CFR §490.209(a)(1) requires the targets established by the state Department of Transportation to be identical to the targets established by the State Highway Safety Office (represented by the Department of Motor Vehicles) and reported in the State's Highway Safety Plan/State Strategic Highway Safety Plan for three common safety performance measures, namely number of fatalities, rate of fatalities per 100 million VMT, and number of serious injuries (common Safety Performance Targets); and

WHEREAS, in July 2018, the Board directed the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI), in consultation with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), to develop a more rigorous data-driven methodology that will be used to establish targets for the Federal Safety Performance Measures; and

WHEREAS, in June 2019, the Board reaffirmed its July 2018 direction to OIPI, in consultation with VDOT and DMV, to continue development and improvement of the data-driven and statistical modeling for establishing Safety Performance Targets and also directed OIPI, in consultation with VDOT and DMV, to develop a plan resulting in a net reduction in fatal and serious injury crashes; and

WHEREAS, a key finding from the data-driven analysis demonstrates that systemic and hybrid corridor safety projects—low-cost improvements, such as high-visibility backplates, flashing yellow left turn signals, and rumble strips, systemically spread on a roadway network—provide more potential crash reduction benefits for lower costs than do spot improvement projects; and

WHEREAS, in December 2019, the Board adopted the HSIP Project Prioritization Policy directing deployment of systemic safety improvements in support of the Board's desire to reduce serious injury and fatal crashes; and

WHEREAS, OIPI working collaboratively with VDOT has for Calendar Year 2021 established proposed Safety Performance Targets using a data-driven methodology and, where applicable, has coordinated with DMV and agreed on target setting methodologies to establish the proposed common Safety Performance Targets set out in Table A below, having complied with the safety target setting and reporting requirements set forth in 23 CFR §§ 490.207, 490.209, 490.213 and 924.15; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with 23 CFR §§ 490.207, 490.209, 490.213 and 924.15, targets for the MAP-21 performance measures relating to safety were to be established and first reported in August 2017 and must be established and reported by June 30 by DMV and August 31 by VDOT for each subsequent year; and

WHEREAS, OIPI, in consultation with VDOT, recommends adoption of the proposed Calendar Year 2021 Safety Performance Targets set forth in Table A below:

Table A

Annual Safety Performance Measures	2021 Target
Number of Fatalities	898
Rate of Fatalities per 100 million VMT	1.012
Number of Serious Injuries	7,385
Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT	8.325
Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries	750

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board hereby approves, for each of the safety performance measures referenced therein, the Safety Performance Targets set forth in Table A for calendar year 2021.

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CTB Decision Brief

Approval of Annual Safety Performance Targets for Calendar Year 2021

Issue: In accordance with §2.2-229 of the *Code of Virginia*, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) must approve measures and targets related to the performance of the Commonwealth's surface transportation network, including any performance measurement required by Title 23 or 49 of the United States Code. In accordance with 23 CFR §§490.207, 490.209, 490.213 and 924.15, targets for five federally mandated safety performance measures (Safety Performance Targets) must be established annually and reported by August 31 of each year. CTB approval of the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) and Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) proposed Safety Performance Targets is requested.

Facts: In 2012, Congress passed the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) and, in 2015, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act that mandated, and continued the mandate, respectively, for establishment of performance management to transform the Federal-aid highway program and provide a means to the most efficient investment of Federal transportation funds by refocusing on national transportation goals, increasing the accountability and transparency of the Federal-aid highway program, and improving project decision-making through performance-based planning and programming. One such national transportation goal focuses on safety and seeks to achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all roads. The remaining national transportation goals focus on infrastructure condition, congestion reduction, system reliability, freight movement and economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and reduced project delivery delays.

Pursuant to MAP-21 and the FAST Act, various federal regulations were promulgated to address and set forth the requirements for, among other things, safety performance measures and targets relating to the Highway Safety Improvement Program (Safety Performance Regulations), including 23 CFR §§490.207 and 490.209, which require State Departments of Transportation and Metropolitan Planning Organizations to set Safety Performance Targets for five measures. Additionally, the Safety Performance Regulations require the State DOT and the State Highway Safety Office (represented by the Department of Motor Vehicles) to establish identical targets for three of the five measures. Safety Performance Targets were first established and reported in August 2017 for Calendar Year 2018 without CTB approval; however, with changes to §2.2-229 of the *Code of Virginia* that became effective on July 1, 2018, CTB approval is now required. DMV must establish and report its targets by June 30 of each year.

Pursuant to 23 CFR §490.211(c), FHWA annually evaluates whether VDOT has met or made significant progress toward meeting Safety Performance Targets. FHWA bases its determination on a 5-year average of actual results compared to a 5-year average of the VDOT's Safety Performance Targets. In May 2020, the CTB was briefed on the results of the first annual FHWA determination of significant progress which found that Virginia did not achieve significant progress. VDOT has responded to FHWA's findings and is in the process of developing a report on the efforts VDOT has taken and plans to take to improve safety outcomes across the Commonwealth.

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OIPI has coordinated and worked collaboratively with VDOT and DMV and agreed on target setting methodologies and proposed targets for Calendar Year 2021 in accordance with the reporting requirements and pursuant to development and publication of the 2017-2021 Virginia Strategic Highway Safety Plan. The proposed targets for the five safety performance measures (Proposed Safety Performance Targets) are set forth below:

Annual Safety Performance Measures	2021 Target
Number of Fatalities ¹	898
Rate of Fatalities per 100 million VMT ¹	1.012
Number of Serious Injuries ¹	7,385
Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT	8.325
Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries	750

The target setting methodology for Calendar Year 2021 meets the July 2018 CTB directive for OIPI, in consultation with VDOT and DMV, to develop a more rigorous data-driven methodology to establish targets for the Federal Safety Performance Measures. Statistical models were developed to project future performance based on a number of data variables and expected crash reductions from completed projects. The models were calibrated against past annual performance, or actual annual numbers of fatalities, serious injuries, and non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries.

In June 2019, when presented with targets for Federal Safety Performance Measures for CY2020 reflecting increases in fatalities, the CTB directed OIPI, in consultation with VDOT and DMV, to develop a plan resulting in a net reduction in fatal and serious injury crashes. This effort led to the development of and adoption by the CTB of the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Project Prioritization Policy (Policy) in December 2019. The Policy directs the deployment of systemic safety improvements in support of the Board's desire to reduce serious injury and fatal crashes.

Recommendations: OIPI in consultation with VDOT recommend the approval of the Proposed Safety Performance Targets.

Action Required by CTB: The CTB will be presented with a resolution for a formal vote to approve the Proposed Safety Performance Targets for Calendar Year 2021.

Result, if Approved: If approved, targets will be reported prior to the August 31 deadline.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

Public Comments/Reactions: None

¹ Safety Performance Targets common to both VDOT and DMV