



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Pierce R. Homer
Chairman

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Agenda item # 11

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

June 19, 2008

MOTION

Made By: Dr. Davis Seconded By: Mr. Bowie Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Joint Multistate Study Agreement on Transportation Issues and Needs in the I-81 Corridor

WHEREAS, the Interstate 81 Corridor is considered to be a significant economic and cultural asset to the Commonwealth of Virginia and surrounding states; and

WHEREAS, there has been considerable growth in traffic in the corridor, specifically long-haul truck traffic, and that traffic is expected to more than double over the next 20 years; and

WHEREAS, class I rail carriers serve the corridor with a network that extends throughout the entire east coast and provides an alternative to the growing freight traffic on I-81; and

WHEREAS, rail and highway investments in Virginia will have little impact if similar investments are not made throughout the entire I-81 Corridor; and

WHEREAS, there is a common interest with the other states in the I-81 Corridor to maintain and even improve mobility and safety of the traveling public and freight in the corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), the Tennessee Department of Transportation, the West Virginia Department of Transportation, the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, and the New York State Department of Transportation (collectively the Signatory States) are jointly interested in studying the mutual transportation needs of the I-81 Corridor (the study area to be known as the I-81 Regional Commerce Corridor); and

WHEREAS, the States along the I-81 Regional Commerce Corridor have drafted a Memorandum of Understanding delineating the general scope of a study to identify and address I-81 Corridor needs and the responsibilities of each Signatory State to effectuate this study.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to § 33.1-12 of the *Code of Virginia*, the Commonwealth Transportation Board hereby authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding, and any amendments thereto, with the Signatory States, and any other state or Canadian province that may join the I-81 Regional Commerce Corridor, and such other agreements as may be necessary between the Signatory States, to study and address the transportation needs of the I-81 Corridor.

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