



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA  
*Office of the*  
SECRETARY of TRANSPORTATION

## Legislative Update

**Nick Donohue**  
Deputy Secretary of Transportation  
March 19, 2014



# State Budget

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- **General Assembly adjourned without passing the caboose budget or the next biennium's budget**
- **Governor McAuliffe has called a special session that will start on March 24<sup>th</sup> to address to the budget**
- **Focus will be on expansion of Medicaid to fill the coverage gap**

# House Bill 2: Statewide Prioritization Process

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- **Passed House and Senate unanimously**
- **Directs the Commonwealth Transportation Board to develop a statewide prioritization process for construction funds**
- **Would be starting with the FY17-22 Six-Year Improvement Program**
- **Projects fully funded as of June 30, 2014 and that have completed environmental review *may* be exempt from this process**

# House Bill 2: Statewide Prioritization Process

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- **Significant implications for the Six-Year Improvement Program**
  - Will require projects in out years of the program to be re-evaluated (FY17 and later years)
  - SYIP that will be considered this June will need to be revised off-cycle to de-allocate funding that will need to be run through prioritization
- **Implementation plan for House Bill 2 will be provided to CTB within the next 60 days**

# Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission

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- **HB1253 (Jones) and SB513 (Wagner and Lucas)**
- **Establishes the Accountability Commission for the Hampton Roads region**
  - **Serve as a financing arm for Hampton Roads Regional Fund**
  - **Provides policy oversight for key regional projects advanced with regional funds**
- **VDOT would continue to oversee construction of projects**

# Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission

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- **Board would consist of 23 members**
  - Chief elected officials of the 14 member local governments
  - 5 members of the General Assembly
  - 4 ex officio members
    - CTB members from the area, DRPT director, Commissioner of Highways, VPA Director
- **Affirmative decisions require 2/3s vote of members representing at least 2/3s of the regional population**

# Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission

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## Powers of the authority include:

- Issuing bonds backed by regional revenues
- Setting toll rates for toll projects advanced using regional revenues
- Negotiating public private partnerships as the responsible public entity

# EZ Pass Maintenance Fee

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- **SB 156 (Miller) passed House and Senate unanimously**
- **Directs VDOT to develop and implement a plan by September 2014 to eliminate the maintenance fee for EZ Pass use**
- **Encourages the Secretary of Transportation to review methods of retail distribution to provide better and more convenient access to EZ Passes**

# Other Key Legislation

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- **Hybrid vehicle registration fee is repealed – HB975 and SB127**
- **Primary extensions in cities will be eligible for funding under the CTB formula for pavement rehabilitation – HB1048 and SB518**
- **Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment is directed to develop a Master Rail Plan for access to key Port facilities**