

Joint Multistate Study Agreement on Transportation Issues and Needs in the Interstate 81 Corridor

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Mary Lynn Tischer, PhD

CTB Workshop

Overview

- **Background**
- **Participating States**
- **Memorandum of Understanding**

Background

- States along the I-81 Corridor have met annually to share information on common transportation challenges and each state's efforts to meet the growing demands for the movement of people and goods along the corridor
- Virginia initiated discussion with other states early in 2004
 - First meeting was held on September 23, 2004 at the Hotel Roanoke
- Virginia has hosted two other meetings – one in August 2007 in Roanoke and April 2008 in Winchester
- Participating states included Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New York
- State representatives discussed on-going studies, planned highway and rail improvements, and emerging needs along the corridor
- States recognized the need to coordinate planning and federal advocacy efforts regarding improvements to the I-81 corridor, including a seamless approach to I-81 corridor freight study efforts

Participating States

- All of the participating states have major statewide freight planning efforts, either underway or just waiting for the notice to proceed
- Some states have completed capital projects on I-81 and have other projects programmed
- The participating states are interested in having the common planning and project works compiled and would like to determine where further information is required to have one consolidated, multistate plan for the corridor



Memorandum of Understanding

- **CTB resolution authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to enter into the MOU**
- **If approved, the MOU will allow for the pooling of funds, if necessary, to procure a consultant to conduct work on behalf of all the Signatory States**
- **The Signatory States of the MOU are agreeing to**
 - **Share and coordinate I-81 truck and rail freight study planning**
 - **Review and coordinate operating and capital plans for the corridor**
 - **Make recommendations regarding corridor-wide improvements and initiate joint efforts to address corridor-wide needs, if necessary**
 - **Convene a Steering Committee composed of representatives from each Signatory State to provide guidance for the studies and coordinate plans**
 - **Procure a third party identified by the Steering Committee to review and integrate current studies for highway and rail in the corridor**
 - **Discuss the capacity and performance needs of the corridor**
 - **Include other states or Canadian provinces in the process, if advantageous or necessary**

Questions?