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CTB Approves Final Six-Year Program
Tough decisions lead to credible and realistic program

The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) approved on June 20th the final Six-Year Program, a roadmap for funding transportation projects over the next six fiscal years. The final program allocates a total of \$7.3 billion over the next six fiscal years, \$2.8 billion less than the program approved last year, a 28% reduction.

Workshop Presentations

- [Six-Year Program](#)
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"We have finished the difficult task of bringing the transportation program in line with what we can realistically afford," said Transportation Secretary Whitt Clement. "The program is not perfect, but it is based on a disciplined, fiscally responsible approach to the future demands of transportation in Virginia."

The final program has a total of 1,157 projects, 166 fewer projects than compared with the previous program approved in December 2001.

[The final program and other background information is available online.](#)

The final program meets the following key objectives:

- Uses realistic revenue projections and cost estimates
- Funds highway maintenance needs adequately
- Brings projects to an acceptable level of completion
- Supports rail and public transportation

"We are moving in a direction to minimize and control debt," said Clement. "The CTB is also working toward an important goal of funding projects by the year of completion."

"VDOT has taken great strides to do the most with the least in these new and challenging times," said Commissioner Philip A. Shucet. "Now that our course is set, our new challenge will be the successful delivery of the program and to continue to improve the process."

Six-Year Program Background

The final program is substantially less than the program approved in

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December of 2001. The key reasons for the smaller program are:

- Due to the downturn in the economy, federal and state revenues fell. This includes the elimination of most of the state general funds that had been provided for construction projects in the Virginia Transportation Act (VTA) of 2000.
- VDOT is recommending a more responsible growth rate for highway maintenance work. This increase is needed to protect the taxpayers' investment in Virginia's growing and aging transportation system. This increased investment further decreases construction funding.
- VDOT updated cost estimates for many projects that were significantly too low.

The final program is divided in two phases: development and construction. Projects in the development phase are in the planning stages and do not yet have the funding available to advance to construction. Projects in the construction phase have funding to begin building over the next six fiscal years.

Work on projects is prioritized as follows:

- Complete construction projects already under contract
- Advance projects in latter stages of right of way acquisition and utility relocation
- Continue projects that address critical safety, mobility and environmental issues

Fast Facts

- Total final Six-Year Program is \$7.3 billion, \$2.8 billion less than the program approved in December 2001, a reduction of 28% with 166 fewer projects compared to the program approved in December 2001
- Final program breakdown - 1,157 total projects: 873 projects in construction phase, 284 projects in development phase