



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the

SECRETARY of TRANSPORTATION

Federal COVID Relief and Appropriations Funds

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February 2021



COVID Relief and Appropriations Funds

- In December, Congress passed a combined Omnibus Appropriations Act and COVID Relief package
- Both components of the bill contained additional transportation revenues
 - \$14B – Transit agencies (COVID)
 - \$10B – State DOTs (COVID)
 - \$2B – State DOTs (Appropriations)
 - \$2B – Private transportation service providers
 - \$1B – Amtrak

Virginia DOT Federal Funding

	Statewide	MPO Controlled	TOTAL
COVID Relief	\$214.5	\$38.0	\$252.5
Appropriations-Flexible	\$18.9	\$5.5	\$24.4
ADHS	\$8.3	-	\$8.3
TOTAL	\$241.7	\$43.5	\$285.2

Figures in millions

Statewide Funds

- **\$233.4M allocated to the Board to address opportunity costs of COVID impact to transportation revenues**
 - Remaining \$8.3M must be used on ADHS – will help support Corridor Q in Southwest Virginia
- **Still waiting on guidance from Federal Highway Administration on use of funds**
 - Appears that highway, transit, trail and commuter rail projects are eligible
 - Appears that intercity passenger rail is not eligible

Potential Uses of Available Funds

- **VRE Manassas Line Improvements**
- **I-64 Corridor from Hampton Roads to Richmond**
- **Western Rail Initiative**
- **WMATA Capital Fund**
- **Transportation equity pilot**

VRE Manassas Line Improvements

- Funds would be used in partnership with Norfolk-Southern
- Potential outcomes include—
 - Additional peak period trains
 - Bi-directional service
 - Weekend service

Interstate 64 Corridor Improvements

Tiered priority for the use of funds—

- 1. Apply towards funding gaps related to the Hampton Roads Express Lanes Network**
 - \$93.1M potential shortfall today
 - Extent of shortfall will be known when weekend traffic and revenue modeling is completed this Fall
- 2. Use any remaining funds to help address the ‘64 gap’ between Richmond and Williamsburg**

Western Rail Initiative

- **Use funds to complete funding package for Western Rail Initiative**
- **Commonwealth is advancing final negotiations with Norfolk-Southern to add a second train and extend service from Roanoke to the New River Valley**
- **Need to determine whether this is an eligible use under federal law**

WMATA Capital Fund

- **Dedicated capital funding for WMATA as a result of the 2018 regional effort**
- **Estimated \$22.4M shortfall in FY22 mostly due to lower estimates for regional transient occupancy tax**
- **Maryland and DC match Virginia's fund to ensure full \$500M commitment to WMATA's capital program**

Transportation Equity Pilot

- **Partnership with transit agencies to implement fare-free transit programs**
- **A number of agencies expressed interest in response to DRPT's request for information for the Transit Ridership Incentive Program**
- **Pilot would provide funds with a step down over time and require increasing local match to allow for sustainable implementation of fare-free transit**

Transportation Equity Pilot

GRTC (Richmond) provided fare-free transit systemwide for the first week of the Pulse service in 2018

Demonstrated potential benefits of fare-free transit service

Ridership	Free Week (6/24/18)	Third Week (7/8/18)	Percent Difference
System Wide	226,469	151,027	50% +
Pulse	56,952	29,407	94% +
Other Routes	169,517	121,620	39% +

Next Steps

- **Review final guidance from Federal Highway Administration**
- **Coordinate with General Assembly, local governments, and other stakeholders**
- **Develop recommended allocations**
- **Board action**