
VIRGINIA STATE BUDGET

2016 Session

Budget Bill - HB29 (Chapter 732)

Bill Order » Office of Transportation » Item 443

Department of Transportation

Item 443	First Year - FY2015	Second Year - FY2016
Ground Transportation Planning and Research (60200)	\$67,936,320	\$68,490,623 \$67,615,730
Ground Transportation System Planning (60201)	\$51,771,702	\$53,153,011 \$53,064,943
Ground Transportation System Research (60202)	\$12,533,845	\$11,881,427 \$10,879,867
Ground Transportation Program Management and Direction (60204)	\$3,630,773	\$3,456,185 \$3,670,920
Fund Sources:		
Commonwealth Transportation	\$67,936,320	\$68,490,623 \$67,615,730

Authority: Title 33.2, Code of Virginia.

A. Included in the amount for ground transportation system planning and research is no less than \$4,500,000 the first year and no less than \$4,500,000 the second year from the highway share of the Transportation Trust Fund for the planning and evaluation of options to address transportation needs.

B. In addition, the Commonwealth Transportation Board may approve the expenditures of up to \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year from the highway share of the Transportation Trust Fund for the completion of advance activities, prior to the initiation of an individual project's design along existing highway corridors, to determine short-term and long-term improvements to the corridor. Such activities shall consider safety, access management, alternative modes, operations, and infrastructure improvements. Such funds shall be used for, but are not limited to, the completion of activities prior to the initiation of an individual project's design or to benefit identification of needs throughout the state or the prioritization of those needs. For federally eligible activities, the activity or item shall be included in the Commonwealth Transportation Board's annual update of the Six-Year Improvement program so that (i) appropriate federal funds may be allocated and reimbursed for the activities and (ii) all requirements of the federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program can be achieved.

C.1. The Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment shall recommend to the Commonwealth Transportation Board all allocations of such funds in this paragraph. The planning and evaluation may be conducted or managed by the Department of Transportation, Department of Rail and Public Transportation, or another qualified entity selected and/or approved by the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

2. The office shall work directly with affected Metropolitan Planning Organizations to develop and implement quantifiable and achievable goals relating to congestion reduction and safety, transit and HOV usage, job/housing ratios, job and housing access to transit and pedestrian facilities, air quality, and/or per-capita vehicle miles traveled pursuant to Chapters 670 and 690 of the 2009 Acts of Assembly.

3. For allocation of funds under Paragraph 1, the office may give a higher priority for planning grants to (i) regional

organizations to analyze various land development scenarios for their long range transportation plans, (ii) local governments to revise their comprehensive plans and other applicable local ordinances to designate urban development areas pursuant to Chapter 896 of the 2007 Acts of Assembly and incorporate the principles included in such act, and (iii) local governments, regional organizations, transit agencies and other appropriate entities to develop plans for transit oriented development and the expansion of transit service. Such analyses, plans, and ordinances shall be shared with the regional planning district commission or metropolitan planning organization and the department.

D. Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 729 and Chapter 733 of the 2012 Acts of Assembly, the Commonwealth Transportation Board shall not reallocate any funds from projects on roadways controlled by any county that has withdrawn or elects to withdraw from the secondary system of state highways, nor from any roadway controlled by a city or town as part of the state's urban roadway system, based on a determination of nonconformity with the Commonwealth Transportation Board's Statewide Transportation Plan or the Six-Year Improvement Program. In jurisdictions that maintain roadways within their boundaries, the provisions of § [33.2-214](#) shall apply only to highways controlled by the Department of Transportation.

E. The prioritization process developed under subsection B of Chapter 726 of the 2014 Virginia Acts of Assembly shall not apply to use of funds provided in this item from the federal apportionments in the State Planning and Research Program.