



Report of the Subcommittee on
Transportation

(Senate Bill 800, As Introduced)

Senate Finance Committee
Virginia General Assembly

February 7, 1999

Mr. Chairmen:

The Transportation Subcommittee has been meeting over the course of the past year to consider the transportation policies of the Commonwealth.

The transportation policies we considered focused on two major issues: 1) funding for the Northern Virginia Transportation District Program and the Route 58 Corridor Development Fund; and 2) funding for major transit capital projects.

Funding for Northern Virginia and Route 58. Pursuant to passage of Senate Bill 1189, which authorizes \$104.3 million in new bonds for both the Route 58 Corridor Development Fund and the Northern Virginia Transportation District Fund, the subcommittee recommends using general funds to cover the anticipated debt service requirements in this biennium. Since it is projected that only one semiannual debt service payment will be needed for each program in FY 2000, and only about 60 percent of the projects will be ready for Northern Virginia, we are proposing additional appropriations of \$4.0 million GF for Route 58 and \$2.35 GF for Northern Virginia. It is our intent that appropriate funding sources to cover future annual debt service needs for these bonds will be proposed by the Governor and provided in subsequent appropriation acts.

Funding for Major Transit Capital Projects. Currently, it is very difficult to find sources of funding for major transit capital projects. Therefore, the subcommittee recommends that \$5.0 million in funds previously earmarked for a new transit performance incentive fund be diverted to the High Priority Transit Project Fund, pursuant to passage of SB 1256. These funds can be used to issue debt, match federal funds, or provide grants for major transit capital initiatives. In addition, the subcommittee is proposing to restore language inadvertently deleted last year that allows localities to designate secondary or urban road funds for transit projects. Also, the subcommittee is proposing to add language that would allow the Commonwealth Transportation Board to use primary highway construction district funds for major regional transit projects, at the request of the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

The subcommittee also recommends providing funds from a variety of transit-related sources for an expansion of the Greater Richmond Transit Companies' routes. We are also recommending an additional \$1.9 million for the proposed Norfolk-Virginia Beach transit system, contingent upon an affirmative local referendum.

Other Policy Considerations. For VDOT, the subcommittee recommends that priority consideration be given to providing road and rail industrial access funds in newly created Enterprise Zones serving economically-disadvantage areas.

For airports, we are recommending that the Secretary of Transportation and the Aviation Board identify funds to capitalize the Virginia Airports Revolving Fund, pursuant to passage of SB 1203.

For the Department of Motor Vehicles, we are recommending that license agents that electronically process and deliver their information be compensated at a greater level than those that continue to manually file information with DMV.

We hope, Mr. Chairmen, that it will be the pleasure of the Committee to adopt these and the other amendments in this report.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Honorable William C. Wampler, Jr., Chairman

The Honorable Walter A. Stosch

The Honorable Charles R. Hawkins

The Honorable Kenneth W. Stolle

The Honorable Charles J. Colgan

The Honorable Janet D. Howell

The Honorable Richard L. Saslaw

Transportation Subcommittee Amendments

<u>Number</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>NGF Cost</u>	<u>GF Cost</u>
16 #6s	JLARC	JLARC to study fiscal impact of ports on localities	language	
514 #1s	Sec of T	CTB to consider localities in HOV changes	language	
514 #2s	Sec of T	Study mass transit allocation formula	language	
514 #3s	Sec of T	Maglev for VA Beach	language	
519 #3s	Aviation	VA Airports Revolving Fund	language	
520 #1s	VDOT	VDOT positions	language	
523 #1s	VDOT	Bridge over Rivanna to Fluvanna Historical Society	language	
523 #3s	VDOT	Soundwall on I-495	language	
523 #4s	VDOT	Traffic calming study for Georgetown Pike	language	
523 #5s	VDOT	Study of New River Valley Link Road	language	
523 #6s	VDOT	Coalfields Expressway	language	
523 #10s	VDOT	Industrial Road Access priority for EZ Program	language	
523 #11 s	VDOT	Soundwall on I-64	language	
523 #12s	VDOT	"Enhancement" funds for Mendota Trail	language	
523 #13 s	VDOT	Use of secondary, urban, and primary highway funds	language	
523 #14s	VDOT	"Enhancement" funds for Georgetown Pike Trail	language	
523 #20s	VDOT	Additional RT. 58 funding pursuant to bond		4,000,000
523 #19s	VDOT	Additional NVTD program funding pursuant to bond		2,350,000
523 #17s	VDOT	"Enhancement" funds - Walton Park Sidewalk Project	language	
523 #18s	VDOT	"Enhancement" funds - Courthouse Square Powhatan	language	
534 #1s	DRPT	GRTC route expansion	2,000,000	
534 #3s	DRPT	Norfolk-VA Beach light rail	language	
534 #5s	DRPT	Performance grants to High Priority Transit Capital	language	
535 #1s	DRPT	Industrial Rail Access for EZ Program	language	
538 #1s	DMV	DMV automated license agents compensation	language	
C-145.10	DMV	Clintwood leased facility option	language	
C-145.20	DMV	Clintwood capital replacement project	<u>500,000</u>	
Total			2,500,000	6,350,000