

# Transportation

The Governor's recommended amendments increase nongeneral funds by a net of \$110.0 million and reduce the general fund by \$75.0 million when compared to the original appropriation.

The nongeneral fund change reflects creation of the Priority Transportation Fund (PTF) established by the Virginia Transportation Act (VTA) of 2000. A total of \$173.3 million is deposited in the Fund, \$65.2 million of which is a shift from the construction fund. Major new PTF revenue sources include the electronic fuel tax ("rack tax"), interest, and agency savings.

The general fund reduction of \$75.0 million results from two actions. First, the proposed budget removes the \$70.0 million general fund appropriation to the highway construction program in the VTA. Recommended amendments supplant that sum with bond proceeds from additional Federal Reimbursement Anticipation Notes (FRANs). Second, an amendment eliminates \$5.0 million GF for the private airport assistance program, also established by the VTA. This reduction is shown as executive management savings.

- **Secretary of Transportation**
  - ***Use of General Fund Appropriations for Transportation.*** Eliminates language specifying that general fund appropriations for transportation shall be used in accordance with the VTA and for no other purposes.
  - ***Civil Engineering Internship Program.*** Authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to transfer up to \$375,000 from the Commonwealth Transportation Fund to provide for an internship program for civil engineering students.
- **Department of Aviation**
  - ***Revised Revenue Forecast.*** Reduces local aviation assistance by \$51,400 NGF in FY 2002 to reflect a revised revenue forecast.
- **Department of Motor Vehicles**
  - ***Truck Weigh Program.*** Increases appropriation by \$8.8 million NGF and adds 150.0 FTE positions in FY 2002 to reflect the transfer of the truck weigh program from the Department of Transportation. This action occurred administratively in the current fiscal year.

- **Department of Rail and Public Transportation**
  - **Revised Revenue Forecast.** Increases local mass transit assistance by \$1.3 million NGF in FY 2002 to reflect a revised revenue forecast.
  - **Additional Position.** Recommends an increase of \$118,697 NGF and 1.0 FTE position in FY 2002 for a deputy director position.
  - **Transit Planning.** Recommends an increase of \$94,964 NGF and 1.0 FTE position in FY 2002 to expand transportation planning in Northern Virginia.
  - **Northern Virginia Office.** Recommends \$54,000 NGF in FY 2002 for office space in Northern Virginia.
  - **Office Space.** Recommends \$294,451 NGF in FY 2002 to relocate the central administrative office from the VDOT Annex Building to outside rental space.
  - **Administrative and Business Administration.** Recommends \$56,562 NGF and 1.0 FTE position in FY 2002 for administrative and financial reporting efforts.
  - **Uniform Rates for Formula Assistance.** Recommends a uniform rate of 80 percent for participation in the various formula assistance programs.
  - **Hold Harmless Provision for Formula Assistance.** Recommends that the Commonwealth Transportation Board may hold harmless from a loss of state formula assistance any transit system that maintains service levels with no increase in operating expenses.
  
- **Department of Transportation**
  - **General Fund Reduction and FRAN Increase.** Reduces general fund appropriation by \$70.0 million in FY 2002 and supplants with additional Federal Reimbursement Anticipation Notes.
  - **Language on Expanded Use of FRANs for Construction Projects.** Authorizes the expanded use of Federal Reimbursement Anticipation Notes for all projects, including those supported from the general fund in the VTA.
  - **Private Airport Assistance Program.** Eliminates \$5.0 million GF for the private airport assistance program, which was established by the VTA. This reduction is shown as executive management savings.

- **Truck Weigh Program.** Decreases appropriation by \$8.8 million NGF and removes 150.0 FTE positions in FY 2002 to reflect transfer of the truck weigh program to the Department of Motor Vehicles. This action occurred administratively in the current fiscal year.
- **Priority Transportation Fund.** Increases appropriation by \$173.3 million NGF in FY 2002 by establishing the Priority Transportation Fund as a separate activity, pursuant to the VTA. Additional nongeneral funds identified for the fund include the "rack tax" and interest earnings.
- **Highway Construction and Operations.** Reduces appropriations by \$65.1 million NGF in FY 2002 to reflect a revised revenue forecast and establishment of the Priority Transportation Fund.
- **Transfer Functions to Department of Treasury.** Reduces appropriation by \$199,100 NGF and 4.0 FTE positions in FY 2001 and \$242,263 NGF and 4.0 FTE positions in FY 2002 to reflect a transfer to the Department of Treasury of bond issuance financial advisory and analysis functions.
- **Language on Use of Funds for Administration and Operations.** Eliminates language that restricts allocation of additional funding for VDOT administration and operations without approval of 2001 General Assembly.
- **Study of Northern Virginia District Space Needs.** Directs VDOT to study the long-term space needs for the administrative office of the Northern Virginia District and report to the Governor by October 1, 2001.
- **Reverse Bidding and Electronic Procurement.** Directs VDOT to develop and implement a system for purchasing goods and services that uses reverse bidding and electronic procurement. In reverse bidding, VDOT will tell vendors what goods and services they need and what price they are willing to pay. Vendors then can "bid" on the job at the pre-established price.
- **Construction Audit Function.** Directs VDOT to establish a construction audit function to review construction projects for contract compliance, funded by savings generated through its activities.
- **Virginia Port Authority**
  - **Revised Revenue Forecast.** Increases revenues for port operations by \$501,800 NGF in FY 2002 to reflect a revised revenue forecast.