

Tools and Resources for Successful Project Planning

Ben Mannell, AICP- VDOT Assistant Director of Planning Terrell Hughes, PE- VDOT Assistant Director of Planning Chessa Faulkner, PE- Chesterfield County, Senior Engineer

Project Development and Funding Today

- Funding programs:
 - SMART SCALE
 - Revenue Sharing
 - Highway Safety Improvement Program
 - Regional Surface Transportation Program
 - Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program
 - Transportation Alternatives Program
 - Regional funding
 - State of Good Repair

These programs present opportunities for localities and VDOT to partner







Revenue Sharing

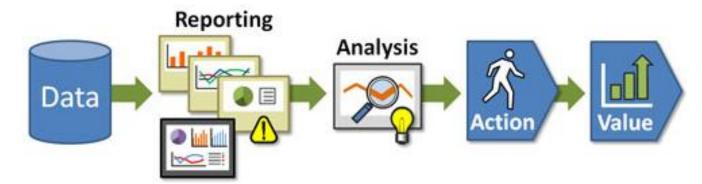






Project Development and Funding Today

- Data-driven and performance based
- Concepts and estimates can become projects and budgets very quickly
- Public engagement and decision-making
- Addressing underlying issues and looking for greatest return on investment





CY2018-2021 VDOT Business Plan

 VDOT has made stakeholder collaboration and public engagement key objectives in improving the project identification process

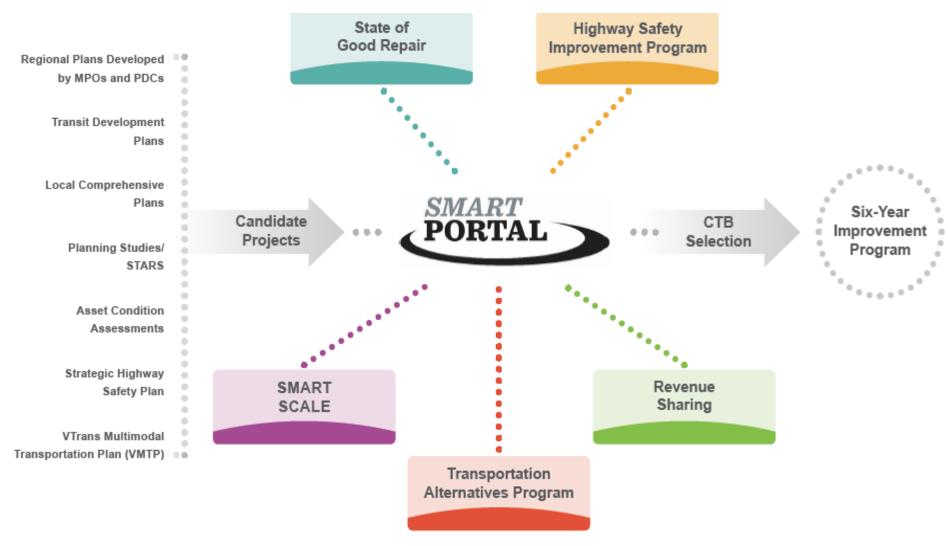


> Improve the project identification process

- 3.1: Review the project identification process and available funding sources to take into account the changes brought by SMART SCALE. The review will identify ways to incorporate the following:
 - Solicit public input first, prior to developing alternatives
 - Work in a collaborative manner with all stakeholders to develop the right alternative early in the project identification process
 - Develop more accurate scopes, schedules and cost estimates before the project is approved
- 3.2: Develop an engagement plan that outlines the services that VDOT can offer to localities to assist in the development of their transportation plans.



Overall Goal: Developing Candidate Projects



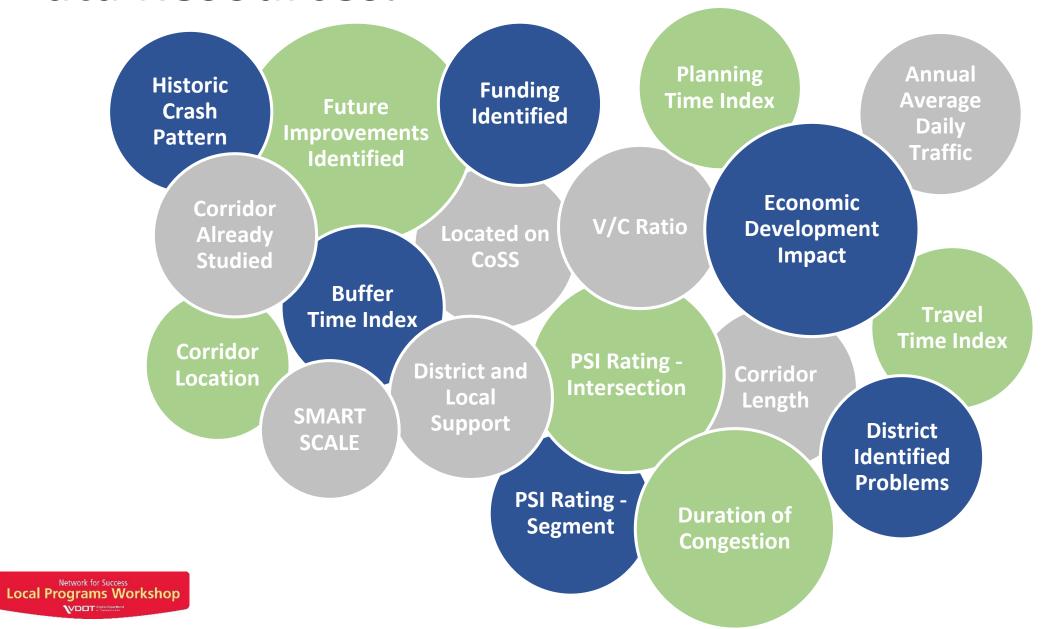


Resources Available to Support Project Development

- Data Sources:
 - Crashes/Potential Safety Improvements (VDOT Crash Data)
 - Capacity/Congestion/Counts (VDOT Traffic Data)
 - Travel Time/Speeds (INRIX)
- Resources
 - Pathways for Planning
 - Virtual Public Involvement
- VDOT Programs
 - Arterial Preservation Program
 - Strategically Targeted, Affordable Roadway Solutions (STARS)
 - Corridor Studies
 - Bicycle and Pedestrian Program / Safe Routes to School
 - Transportation Demand Management Program (Park and Ride)



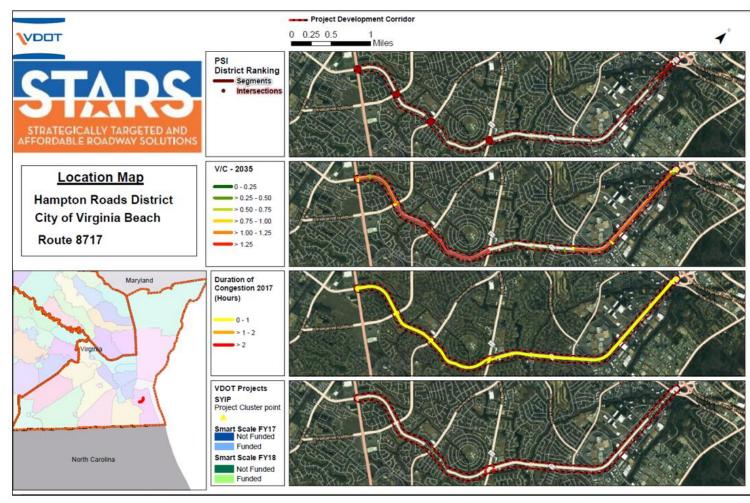
Data Resources:



Data Resources: Supporting Project

Development

- SMART SCALE = Data Driven Process
 - VDOT can provide mapping of key performance metrics
 - Correlating SMART SCALE
 applications to issues is the first step to successful applications
- Using data for other funding programs
 - Not a requirement, but can help
 - Makes applications more defensible





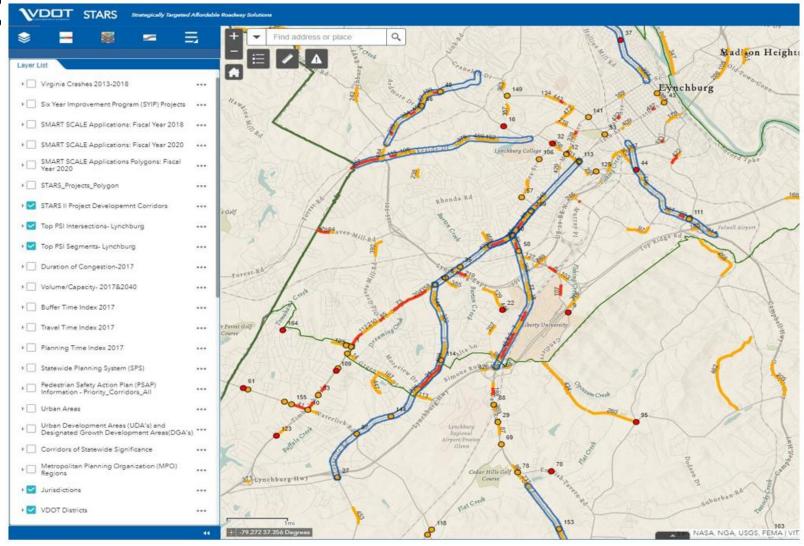
Data Resources: Supporting Project

Development

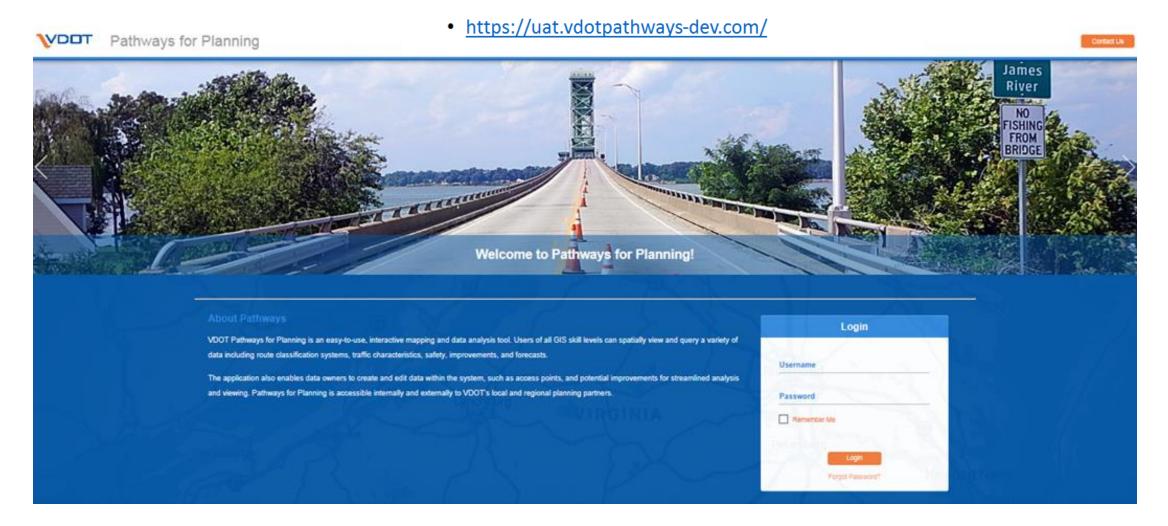
- Information shared at Spring SYIP meetings
- Information is available on ArcGIS Online

Available for download and use at:

 https://www.arcgis.com/ho me/webmap/viewer.html? webmap=2a3bace1b7994f6 6b33a5f5a7f78ca06

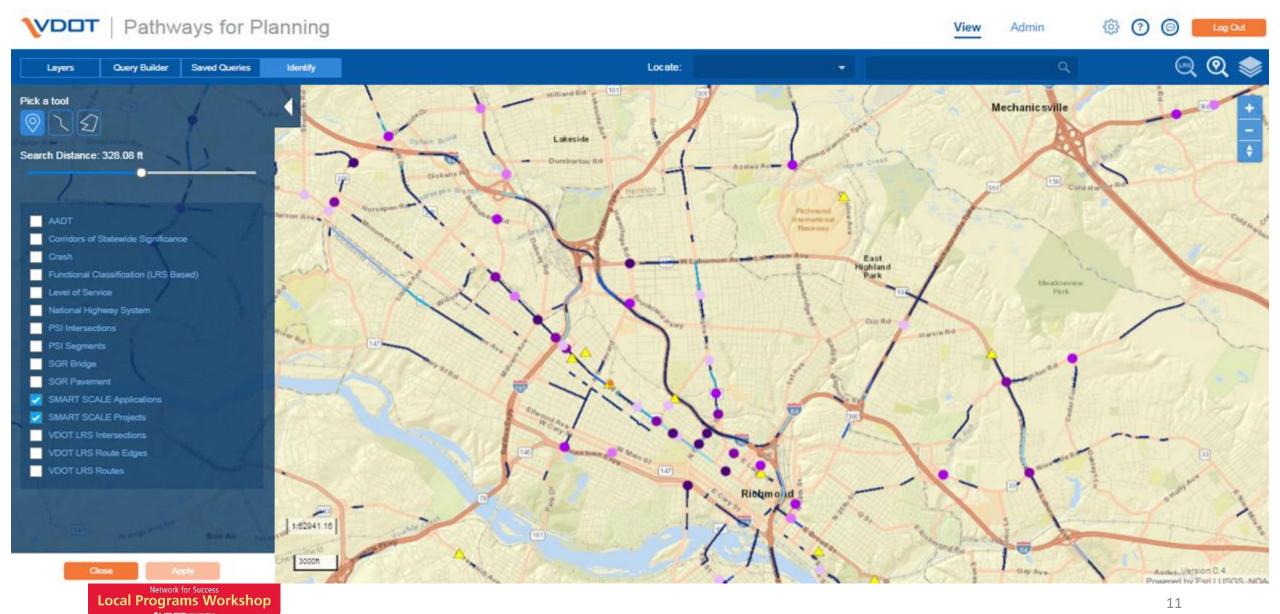


Data Resources: Pathways 4 Planning





Data Resources: Pathways 4 Planning



Data Resources Supporting Project Development

Takeaways:

- VDOT is data rich
- Correlating proposed projects with congestion and safety issues is a key first step
- VDOT can assist localities and regions with the next stepanalyzing the problems and developing solutions



Resource: Public Engagement

- VDOT has adopted a policy requiring public involvement in all planning studies
- Virtual Public involvement capabilities using MetroQuest software
- Working to boost awareness of studies, information and public meetings via social media















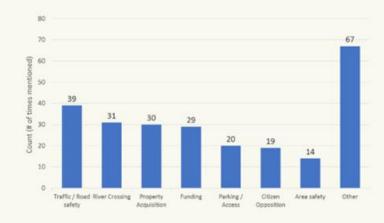
Virtual Public Involvement

Appomattox River Trail to Capital Trail
Study

was the most preferred option. Note: the question did *not* ask respondents to consider costs or ease of implementation when selecting their preferences.

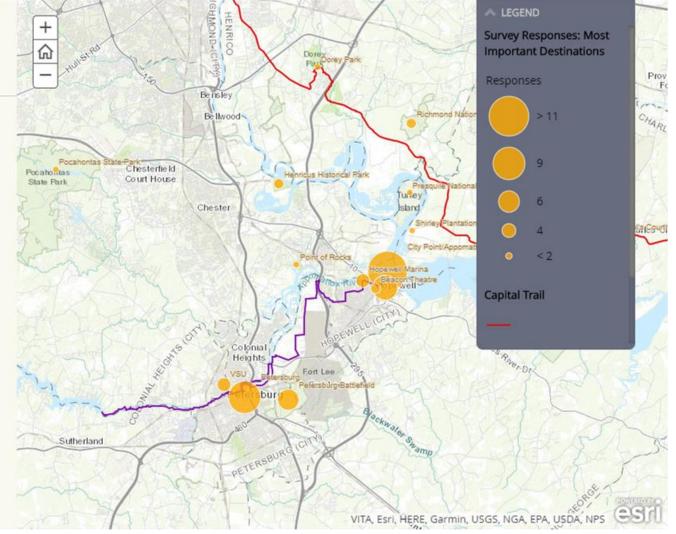
Perceived Barriers

A story map



Spring 2018 - Summary of Input

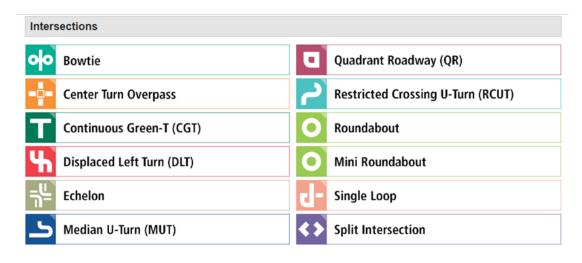
 98% of respondents agree that connecting the Appomattox River Trail and the Virginia Capital Trail would benefit the region

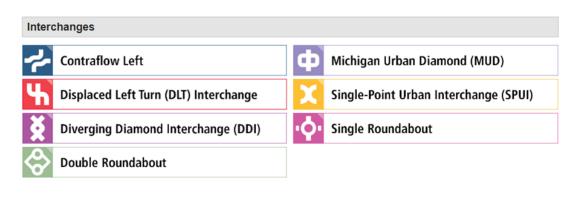




Resource: Innovative Intersections and Interchanges

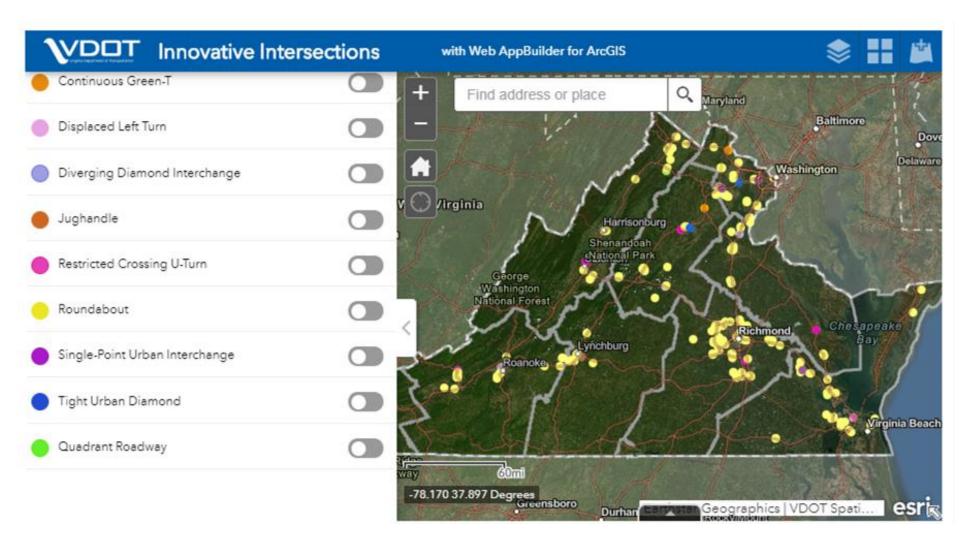
- http://www.virginiadot.org/innovativeintersections/
- Designs that modify vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle movements at conventional intersections to provide new options to reduce delay, increase efficiency and provide safer travel for all road users.







Innovative Intersections Interactive Map

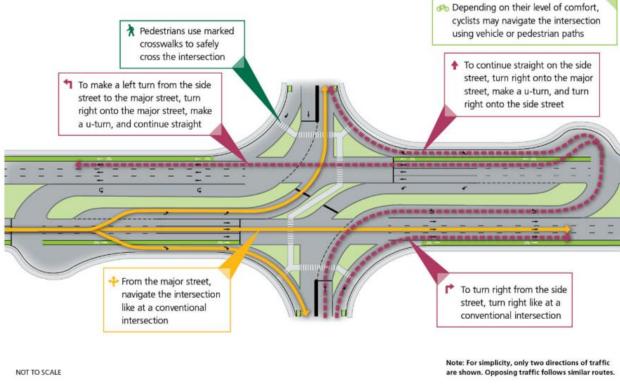




Resources









Program Resources:



- Participation is voluntary and can yield significant benefits:
 - Encourages localities and VDOT to adopt a cooperative approach on access
 - Increases safety, throughput and reduces delay- local economic development goals are integrated into each plan
 - Improvements are identified and captured in plans
 - Documentation available for SMART SCALE, RSTP, TAP, HSIP and other funding program applications
 - Concepts are vetted- looking for greatest ROI
 - Program has a high success rate in getting projects funded

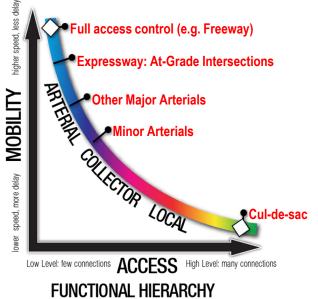


Slow Erosion of Safety and Capacity

- Main street character
- Direct access at site level.
- Difficult to plan and manage access at the site level
- Traffic signal proliferation
- Promote local economy at the expense of safety, capacity and mobility







Why This Matters

- Degradation of safety and capacity
- Forced to "Buy back" capacity
- Limited funding

We need to protect our investments by treating safety and capacity as finite resources

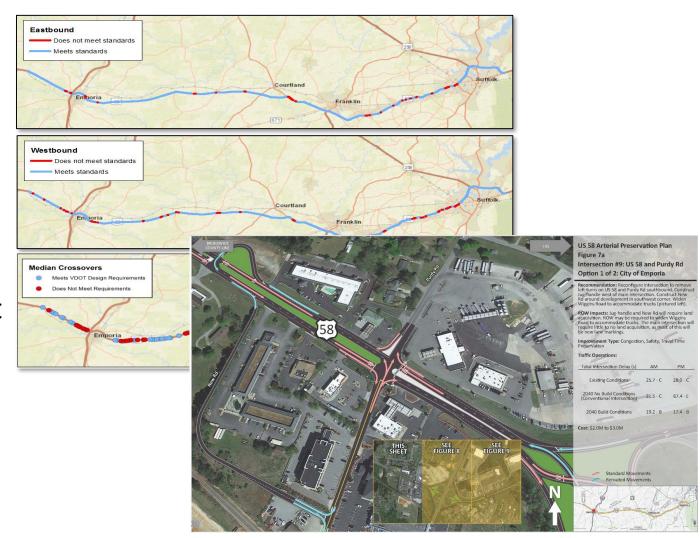






Methodology

- Data Compilation
- Segmentation
 - Step 1: Initial data screening
 - Step 2: Local input refinement
- Traffic Count Data
- Traffic Forecasting
- Alternative Development
- Public Engagement
- Recommendations and Implementation Strategy







Key Components of Every Plan

- Framework Document
- Thorough Public Involvement Process
- Diverse Stakeholder Team
- Focus on "fundable" solutions
- Useful deliverables

Typical Stakeholder Team

- Local Jurisdiction Planning, Public
 Works and Economic Development
 Staff
- VDOT Planning, Traffic Engineering, Land Development, Design and Resident Engineer Staff
- Additional agency representatives such as National Park Service, Transit Agencies, MPO or PDC staff and other relevant stakeholders





Arterial Preservation Program Plans

Completed Plans

- Route 250 and Route 623 in Goochland County
- Route 3 in Spotsylvania County
- Route 106 in New Kent County
- US 301 and Route 207 in King George County and Caroline County
- Route 3 in Orange County

Plans in Development

- US 220 from Cave Spring to North Carolina Border
- US 29 from Route 460 to City of Danville
- US 460 from I-81 to Nottoway County
- US 58 in Brunswick County and Mecklenburg County
- US 58 from City of Emporia to City of Suffolk



Recent Successes





 FY18 and 20 SMART SCALE funding secured on over \$40 M in arterial plan improvements



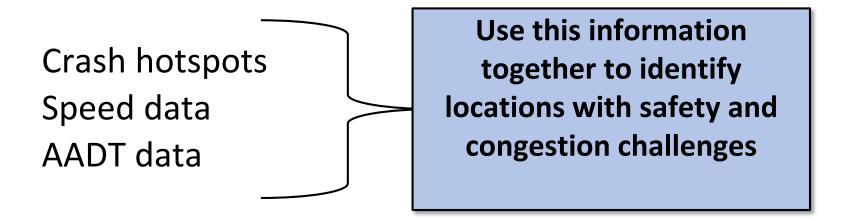
Tools and Resources for Successful Project Planning

Terrell Hughes, PE-VDOT Assistant Director of Planning

Program Resources:



Program to develop solutions to reduce crashes and congestion bottlenecks using a data-driven approach



Overall goal of STARS is to develop solutions that can be programmed in the VDOT Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP)



Project Readiness Challenge

- Before SMART SCALE, projects could receive funding allocations and project details could be developed during PE phase
- Under SMART SCALE, projects need to be adequately planned and developed
- Project details are needed to 1) understand the scope, 2) develop an accurate cost estimate and 3) calculate the expected benefits
- Change to project scope and/or estimate after it is funded could trigger re-evaluation and rescoring
- More complex projects require more thorough planning
- Often Overlooked:

Stormwater Utilities Turn Lanes Intersection Improvements

Pedestrian Accommodations

Access Management Transit Improvements

STARS Bridging the Gap

- Planning linked to operations/ITS, safety and design
- Develop comprehensive, innovative an cost-efficient transportation solutions
- Localities engaged early in the planning process
- Project risks identified
- Readiness improved for project implementation



The STARS Team

VDOT Districts and Residencies

- Coordinate with localities, MPOs, and PDCs
- Submit STARS applications
- Lead STARS projects

VDOT Central Office

- Provides program oversight, data analysis, and application review
- Provide technical support

Consultants

Provide project support

Localities / MPOs /PDCs

Participate as a stakeholder







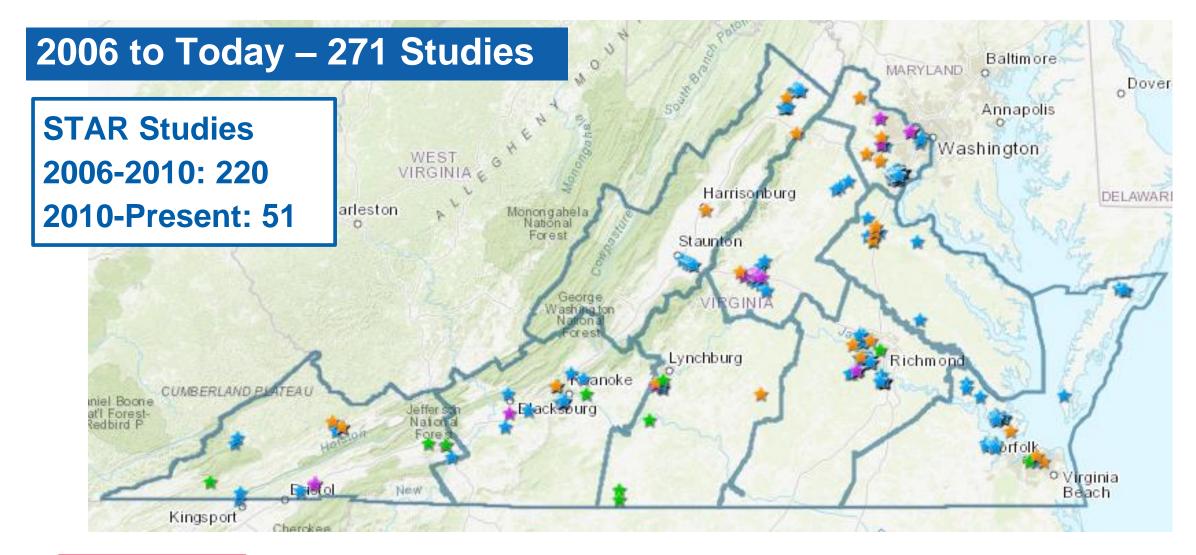






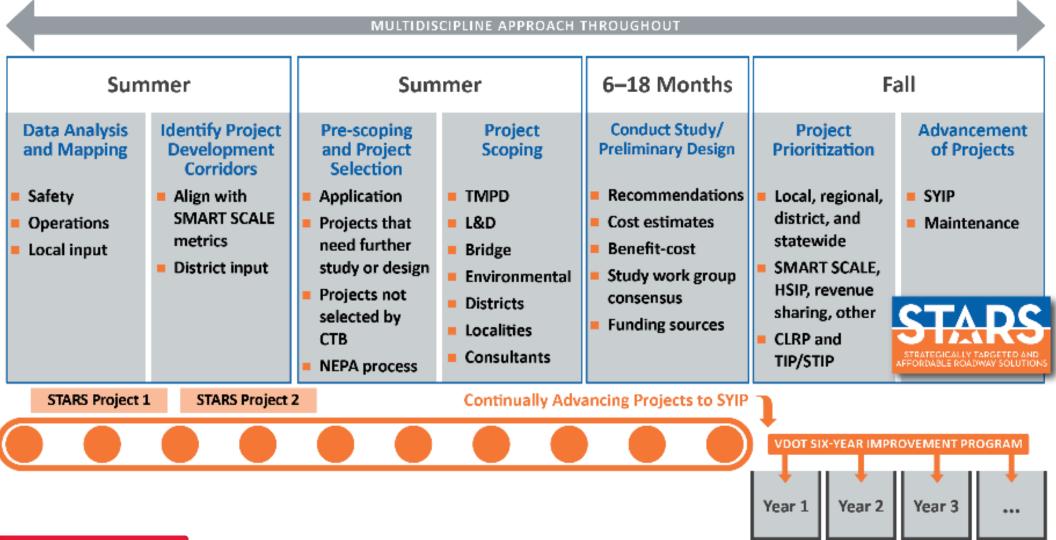


STARS Around Virginia





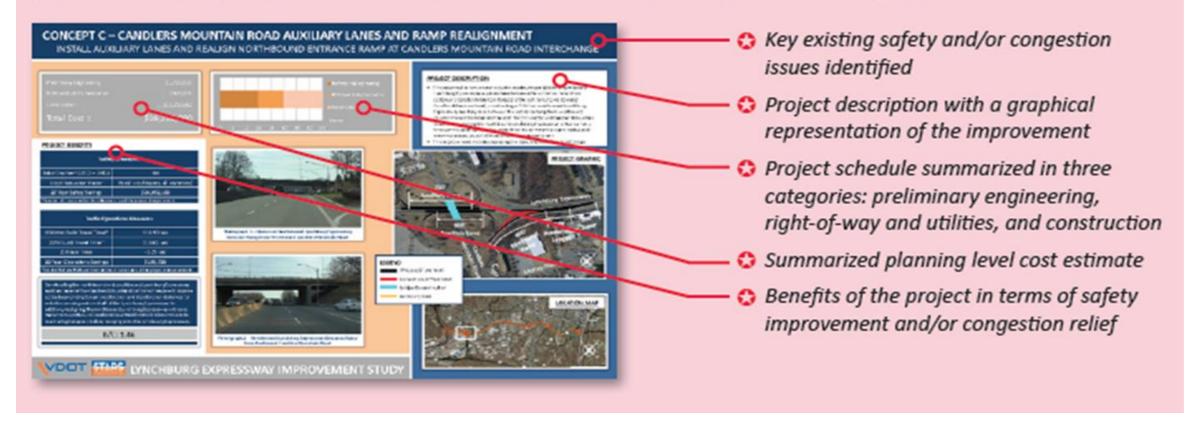
STARS Project Development Cycle



STARS – Conveying Information Concisely

STARS Project Summary Sheets

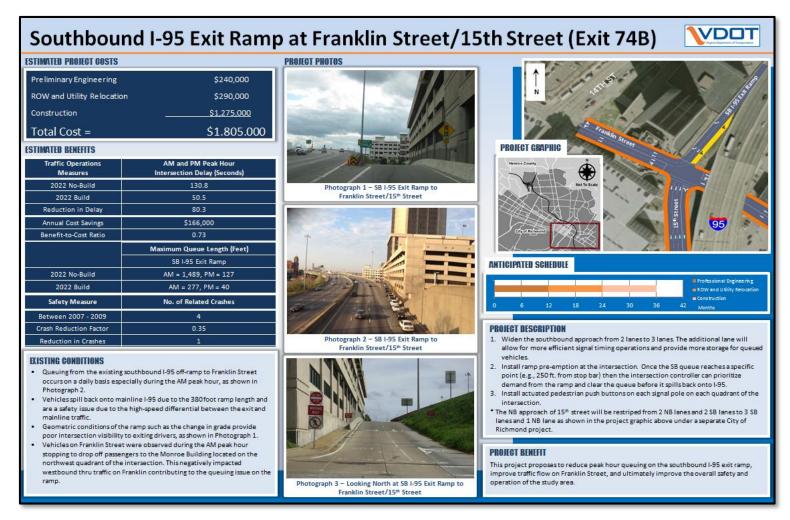
The STARS one-page project summary sheets have proven to be an effective tool for summarizing several important project features, especially those factors that are required in many of the potential funding applications.





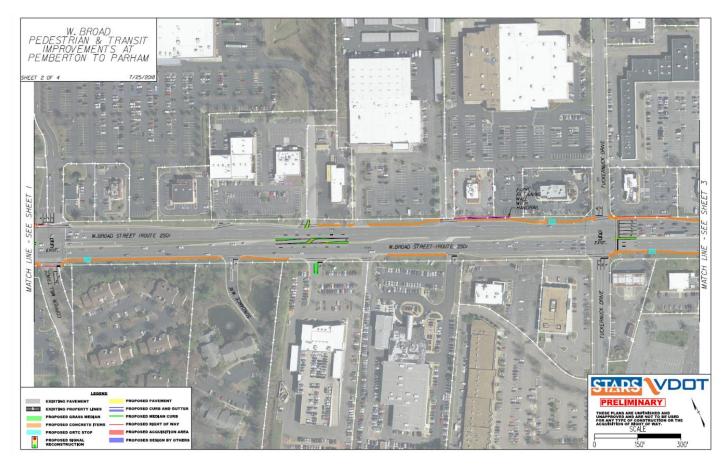
STARS Example 1-95 Southbound Exit 74B

- Adding an additional lane to the I-95 SB off-ramp and restriping 15th Street in the City of Richmond to accommodate the additional lane
- Study coordination between VDOT, City of Richmond, Henrico County, FHWA and GRTC, and RRPDC (PlanRVA)
- Supported successful HB2 (SMART SCALE) funding application



STARS Example West Broad Street Pedestrian and Transit Improvements

- Sidewalk, access management, and bus transit facility improvements along West Broad Street between Pemberton Road and Parham Road in Henrico County
- Study coordination between VDOT, Henrico County, GRTC, and DRPT
- Supported successful SMART SCALE funding application

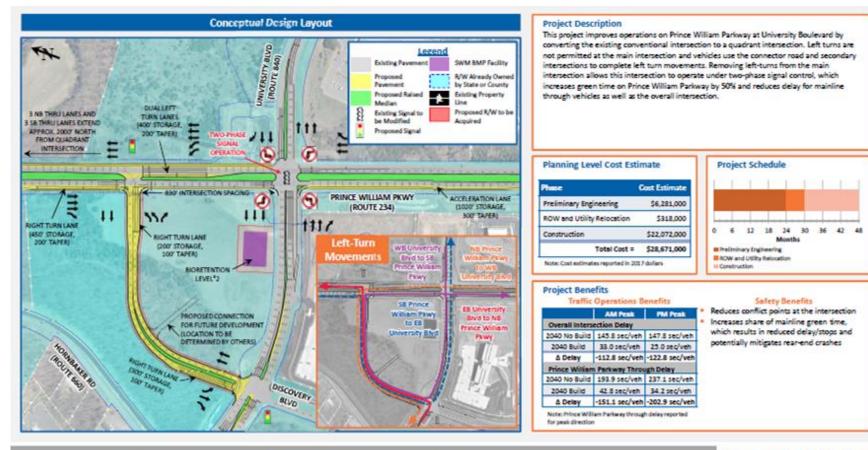


STARS Example

Prince William Parkway at University Boulevard

- Innovative

 Intersections were
 evaluated and selected
 as the preferred
 alternative at multiple
 locations along Prince
 William Parkway
- Study coordination between VDOT and Prince William County
- Supported successful NVTA funding application



PRINCE WILLIAM PARKWAY INTERSECTION ALTERNATIVES STUDY







STARS Example Route 11 (Valley Pike / Valley Avenue)

- Access management measures, bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, and intersection improvements
- Study coordination between VDOT, Frederick County, City of Winchester, and WinFred MPO
- Supported successful SMART SCALE funding application

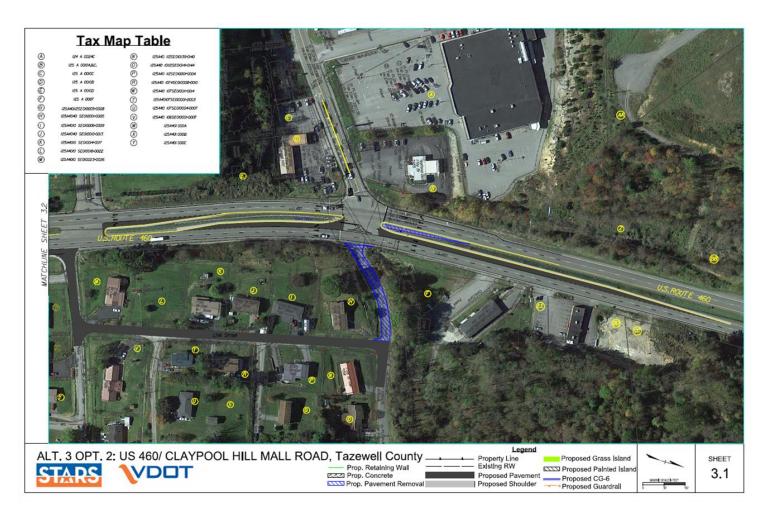




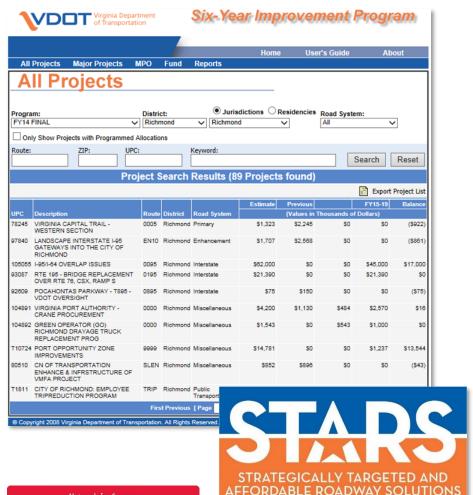


STARS Example US 460 / Claypool Hill Mall Road

- Intersection improvements and access management improvements
- Study coordination between VDOT, Tazewell County, and Town of Richlands
- Supported successful SMART SCALE funding application



Why are Arterial Preservation and STARS Important to Project Delivery?



- Data driven process
- Prepares a source of current data
- Develops solutions that can be funded in the SYIP
 - SMART SCALE, HSIP, CMAQ, RSTP, Revenue Sharing
- Improves accuracy of cost estimates and schedules



Program Resource: Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Program

- Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) Bicycle and Pedestrian Program has provided planning assistance to state and local transportation planners since it was established in the late 1970s.
- At VDOT, the program plays a leadership role in advancing bicycle and pedestrian accommodations throughout Virginia.
- http://www.virginiadot.org/programs/bikeped/default.asp
- Contact: John Bolecek
 - 804.371.4869
 - john.bolecek@vdot.virginia.gov





Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Resources

Technical Assistance

- Bicycle and pedestrian studies
- Grant application assistance
- Studies and realignments of the U.S. Bicycle Route system
- Bicycle and pedestrian counts on sidewalks, paths, and bike lanes (counter loaner program)
- Mapping and GIS analysis
- General Technical Assistance

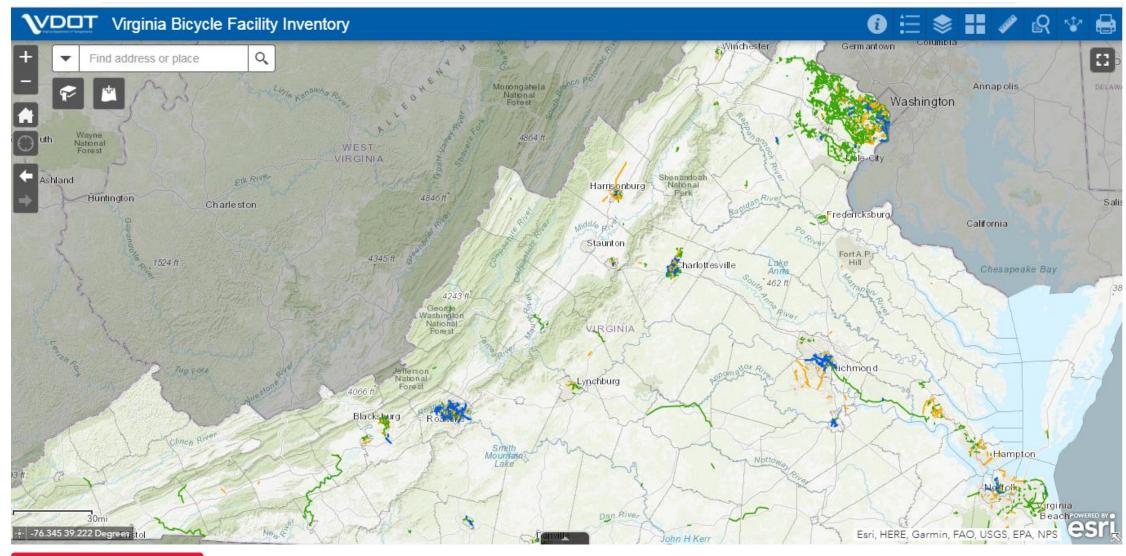
Resources

- Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- VDOT Active Transportation Newsletter
- Bicycle facility inventory in all localities





Statewide Bicycle Facility Inventory Interactive Map





Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Program

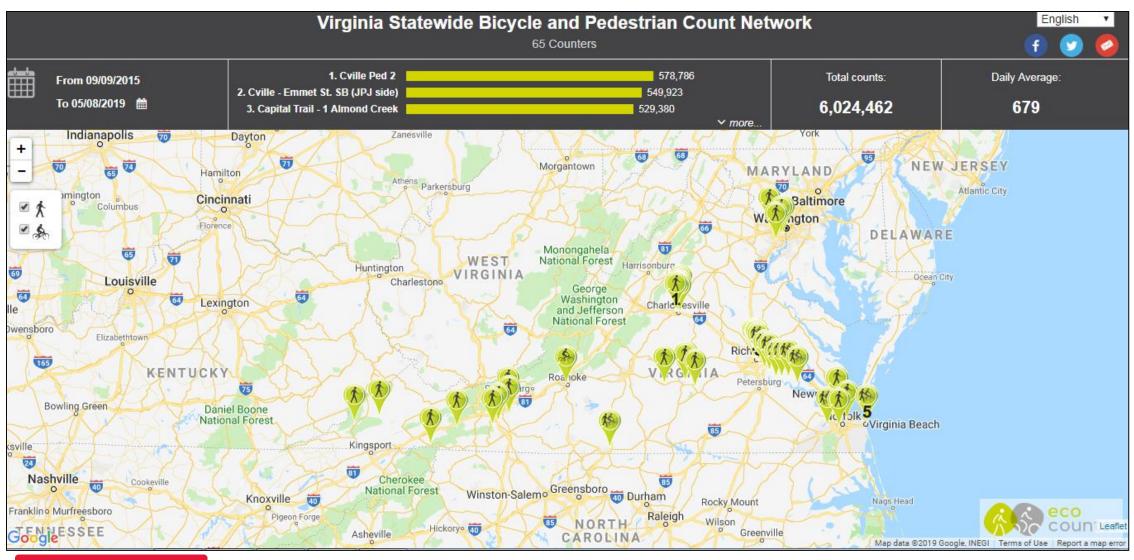




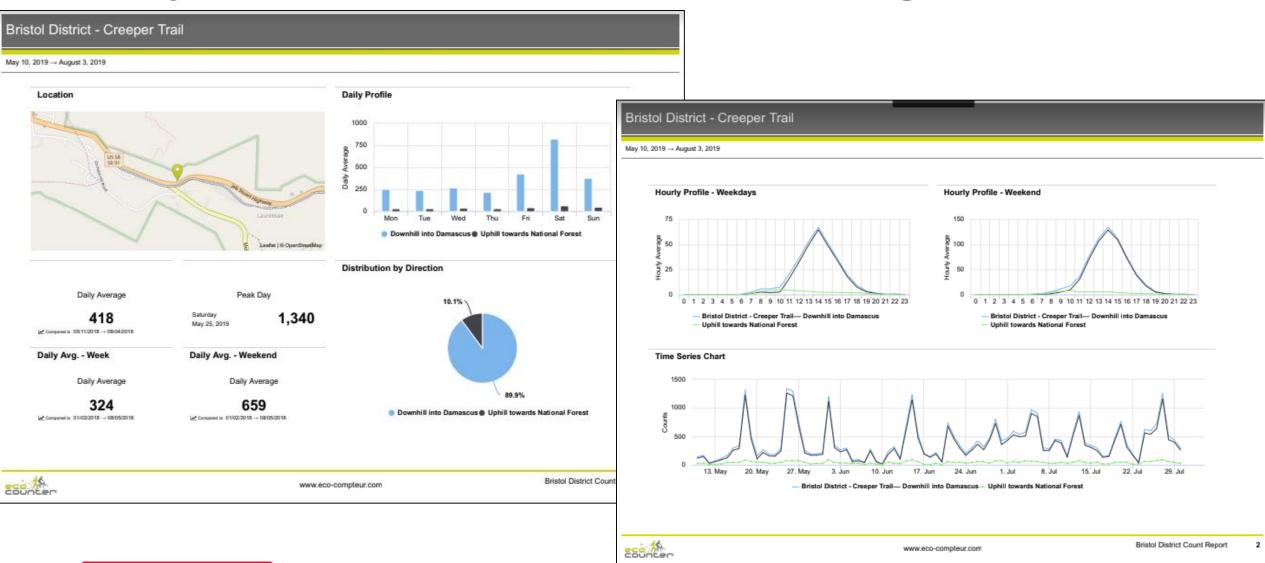




Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Program



Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Program



Program Resource: Transportation Demand Management Program

- Goal: Increase use of mode-sharing, park & ride lots, transit, carpooling and vanpooling
- VDOT/DRPT coordination on a variety of solutions outside of traditional operational and capacity improvements.
- https://www.virginiadot.org/travel/parkride/faqs.asp
- Contact: Olivia Mobayed
 - 804.786.3092
 - <u>olivia.mobayed@vdot.virginia.gov</u>



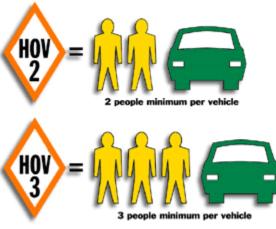


Transportation Demand Management

- Focus Areas
 - Park & Ride Lots
 - High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes
 - Slugging
 - Innovation / Technology
- VDOT/DRPT Coordination
 - Ridesharing
 - Vanpooling
 - Transit
 - Commuter Bus Services
 - Rail / Light-Rail









Park & Ride Resources

Technical Assistance

- Lot site identification assistance
- Grant application assistance
- Demand estimation (in development)
- Leasing/agreement guidance (in development)
- General Technical Assistance

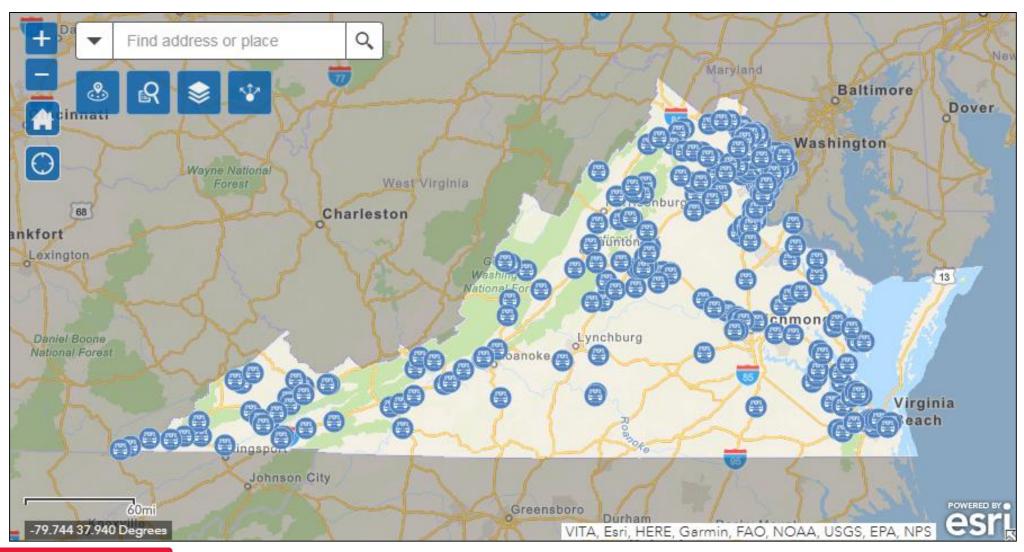
Resources

- Park & Ride Design Guidelines
- Park and Ride Investment Strategies
- Lot and amenity inventory data/existing conditions/photos
- Historical Lot occupancy and usage data





Park & Ride Lot Interactive Map





Park & Ride Design Guidelines







Program Resource: Safe Routes to School Program

- The purpose of SRTS is to:
 - Enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school
 - Make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age
 - Facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution near schools
- http://www.virginiadot.org/programs/ted Rt2 school pro.asp
- Contact: Kathy Graham, SRTS Coordinator
 - 804.786.4198
 - katherine.graham@vdot.virginia.gov





Safe Routes to School Resources

Technical Assistance

- SRTS Program Manager
- Three Local Technical Assistance Coordinators (LTAC)
 - Assist local communities, VDOT Districts, and Statewide SRTS program

Grants

- Quick Start Mini-Grants
- Walkabout Mini-Grants
- Non-infrastructure Grants

Events

- Walk to School day and Bike to School Day coordination
- Crossing Guard Appreciation Day









Mini-Grants



Quick Start Mini-Grants

- Grants up to \$1000, offered six times per year
- Elementary or middle schools
 - Adult-supervised elementary or middle school groups or clubs
 - Adult-supervised high school groups/clubs that wish to partner with a nearby elementary or middle school
 - Faculty, staff, or parent volunteers at elementary or middle schools
 - Local governments and/or Tribal governments
 - Community-based or private non-profit organizations

Walkabout Mini-Grants

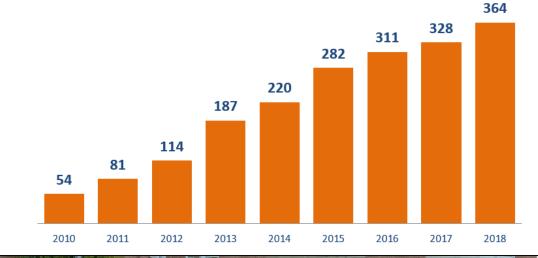
- Grant amounts vary; offered two times per year
- Provides hands-on walking and bicycling infrastructure assessment and written Walkabout Report coordinated by the Local Technical Assistance Coordinator
- Schools (public and private) and school divisions
 - Local governments (cities, counties, or towns)
 - Regional and state agencies working on behalf of a school or schools
 - Non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations working on behalf of a school or schools



Walk to School Day

Bon Air Elementary School

Registered iWalk Events in Virginia





Stuart Elementary School

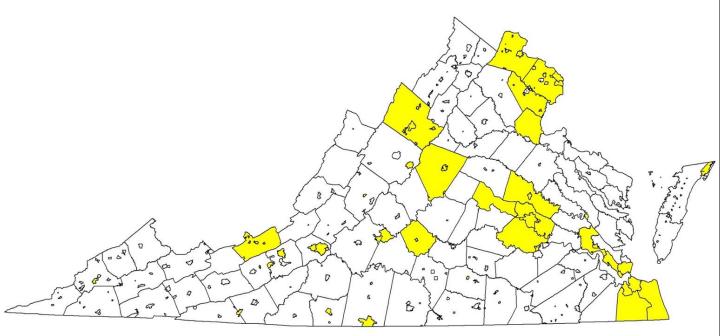


Safe Routes to School Program Non-Infrastructure Grants

- \$5,000-\$100,000; one time per year in the spring; minimum of three schools
- 100% funding for first 3 years and then 80/20% split
- Fund education, encouragement, evaluation and enforcement programs and/or SRTS Coordinator to work within a local jurisdiction or school division
- Schools (public and private) and school divisions
- Local governments (cities, counties, or towns)
- Regional and state agencies
- Non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations



Virginia Safe Routes to School Non-Infrastructure Grant Recipients



Organization	Number of Schools	Grant Award	Local Match
Alexandria City PS	16	\$66,460	\$16,615
Arlington County PS	31	\$76,600	\$19,150
Chesterfield County PS	11	\$55,350	\$13,838
City of Charlottesville	10	\$74,500	\$18,625
City of Chesapeake PS	38	\$58,000	\$14,500
City of Galax	3	\$17,110	\$4,278
City of Hampton	10	\$67,000	\$O
City of Newport News PS	25	\$82,000	\$20,500
City of Norfolk PS	41	\$87,000	\$21,750
City of Portsmouth PS	12	\$34,500	\$8,625
City of Waynesboro PS	5	\$38,500	\$O
City of Williamsburg/ James City County	7	\$38,000	\$9,500
Fairfax County PS	169	\$75,777	\$18,944
Greater Richmond F4K	7	\$40,000	\$10,000
Loudoun County PS	22	\$68,600	\$17,150
Prince William County PS	30	\$53,800	\$13,450
Rockingham County PS	19	\$38,000	\$9,500
Sentara RMH (Harrisonburg)	8	\$27,815	\$6,954
	464	\$999,012	\$223,379





Tools and Resources for Successful Project Planning

Chessa Faulkner, PE- Chesterfield County, Senior Engineer

Studies = Funding

- Project Readiness
 - Produce data driven and consensus based recommendations
 - Queue of projects ready for funding
 - Supporting analysis and documentation
- Critical Scope/Application Items
 - Project purpose and need
 - Sketch
 - Estimate
 - Public Involvement
- Ask for Support
 - VDOT (CO, District, Residency)
 - DRPT
 - Regional MPO (Richmond, Tri-Cities)
 - Consultants



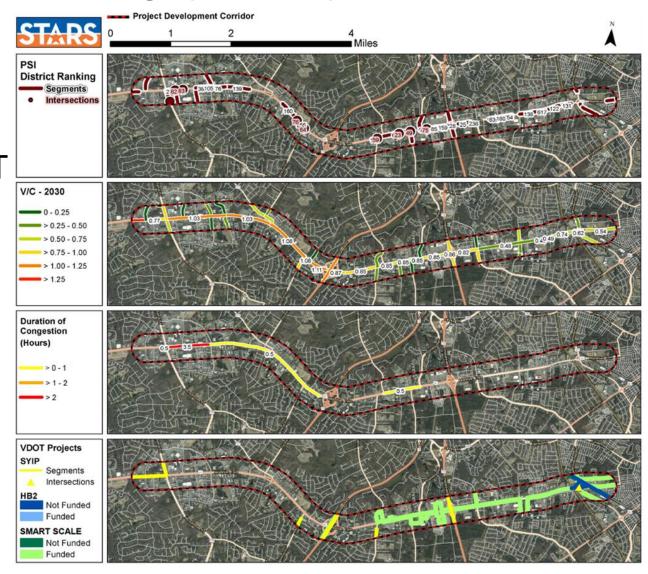
Types of Studies

- VDOT Central Office
 - STARS
 - Arterial Management Plan
- Richmond District
 - Safety studies
 - Alternatives analysis
 - Speed studies, signal justification, etc.
- Chesterfield County
 - County investment
 - SS Round III, ~\$100K
 - Leverage staff expertise
 - Local plans
 - Convey priorities & public support
 - Comprehensive, SAP, Thoroughfare, Bikeways and Trails

- Transit
 - DRPT RT 1 Transit Demo Grant
 - GRTC 4 SS applications
- MPO
 - SS Round III 5 of 10 applications
 - Funded studies, \$1M, RSTP
 - Road Diet Study
 - Countywide Sidewalk Plan
 - Interchange Modification Report
- Regional/Statewide Efforts
 - Stay engaged
 - I-95 Corridor Improvement Plan
 - PNR Investment Strategy
 - VTRANS update

STARS - RT 60 Corridor Study (West)

- Project Development Corridors
 - Safety
 - Operations
 - Funded/Unfunded projects
- Submit study request thru VDOT
- Complete
 - RT 60 Corridor Study (West)
- On-Going
 - RT 60 Corridor Study (East)
 - Powhite/RT 150 Interchange Study
 - RT 288 (US 1 to I-95) Corridor Study
 - RT 1 Bike/Ped Study

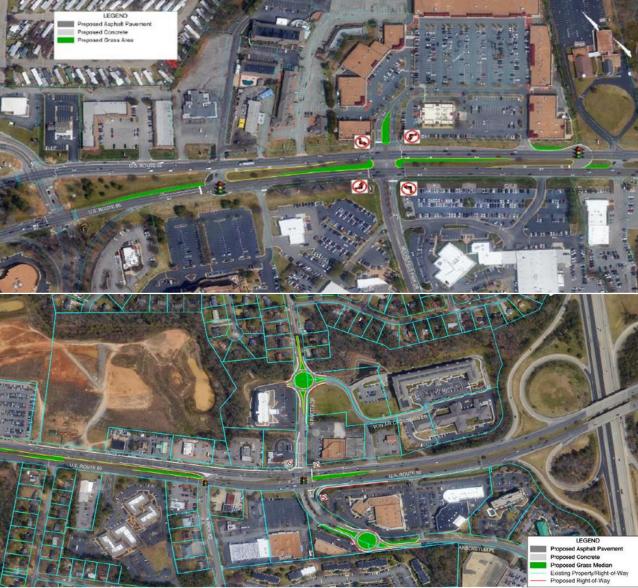




STARS - RT 60 Corridor Study (West)

- Quadrant Intersection, \$31M
- SS Round III application



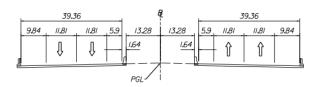


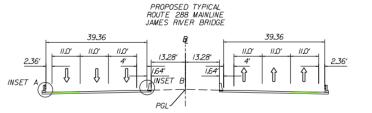


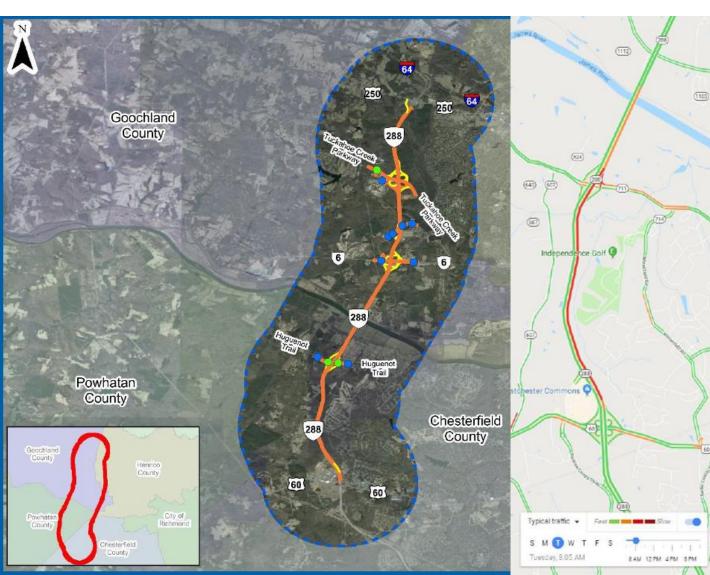
STARS - RT 288 Corridor Improvement Study

- Cross-jurisdictional solutions
 - Goochland, Powhatan, Chesterfield
- Hard-Shoulder Running, \$20.9M









STARS - US 360/RT 288 Interchange Area Study

- STARs Pilot (2011)
 - US 360 Corridor 8 Hot-Spots
 - US 360 at RT 288 Interchange
 - Limited study area -> needed further study
- STARs Interchange Area Study (2016)
 - Masterplan of improvements, 10 projects, +\$300M
 - Smart Scale Round II
 - SB to WB Ramp + PNR Lot, *Funded* \$14.5M
 - Bailey Bridge Connector, *Funded* \$23M
- Smart Scale Round III
 - Superstreets (West)
 - Superstreets (East)
 - RT 288 at BBC Interchange (MPO)
- Interchange Justification Report (2018)

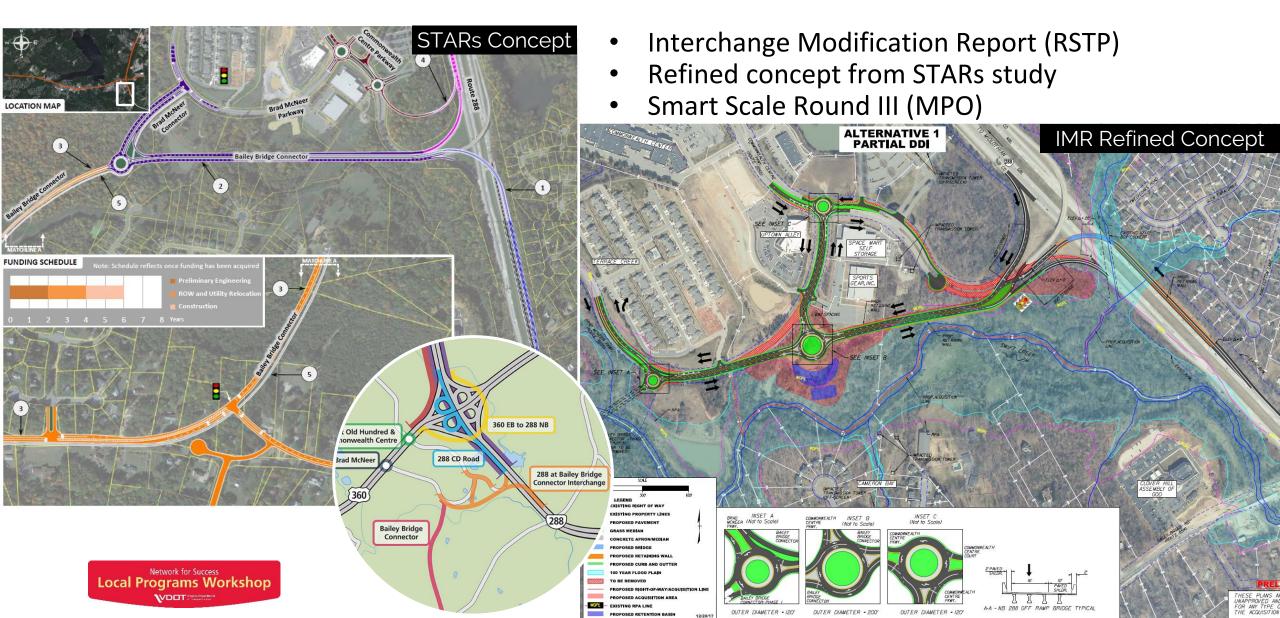




STARS - US 360/RT 288 Interchange Area Study



STARS - US 360/RT 288 Interchange Area Study



RT 60 at Woolridge Road Intersection Study



Coordinated w/VDOT Richmond District RCUT, Funded \$13.2M, SS Round IV Alternative Intersection Analysis at Route 60 and Woolridge Road Chesterfield County, VA Draft Report

JMT Project Number: 17-0127-116

VDOT Central Region Traffic Engineering Contract - Task Order 116

Virginia Department of Transportation, Richmond District Traffic Engineering

Roundabout Feasibility Study

- VDOT Richmond District
- Safety and congestion issues
- HSIP Application, B/C ratio < 1.0
- Priority for the County -> submitted application for RSTP

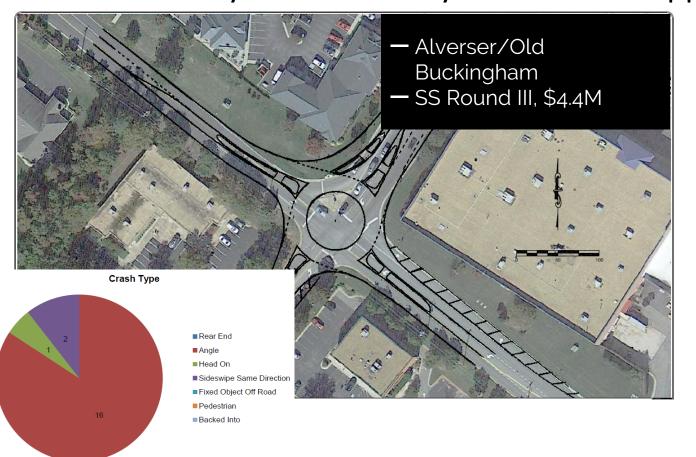




Table 4-1: Crash Summary by Collision Type

Collision Type	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total	%
Rear End	0	0	0	0	1	_1 _	3%
Angle	0	2	4	6	8	20	65%
Head On	1	0	0	1	0	2	6%
Sideswipe - Opposite Direction	0	1	0	0	0	1	3%
Fixed Object - Off Road	0	0	0	1	0	1	3%
Left Turn	1	2	1	1	1	6	19%
Total Crashes	2	5	5	9	10	31	100%

Hopkins Road at Chippenham Parkway

Revitalization & other area improvements

County On-Call Consultant – Study

VDOT Richmond District

Involved in the study

Provided TMCs (saved ~\$20,000)

Diverging Diamond Interchange

• Estimate - \$24.4M

IMR (Funded, \$500K, RSTP)





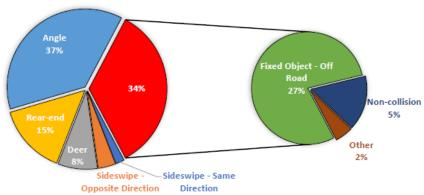
Corridor Safety Study

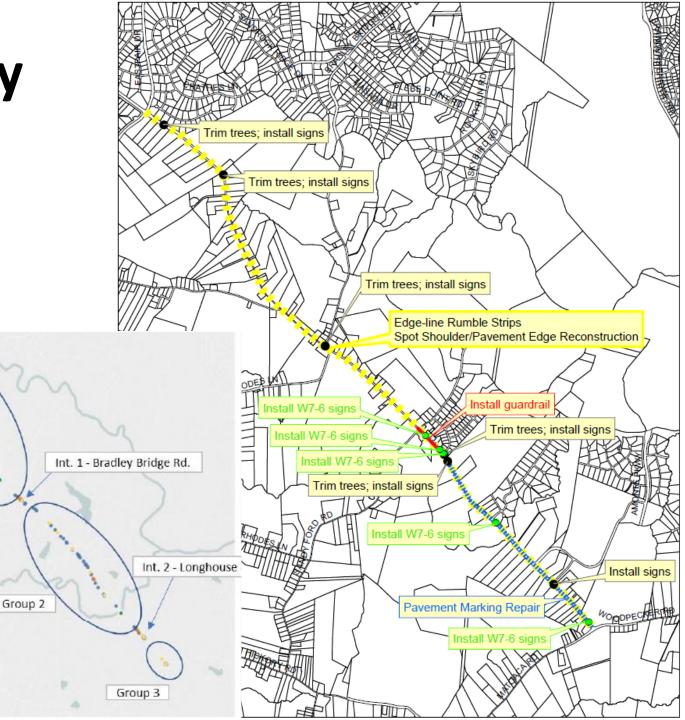
- Woodpecker Road
 - Cattail Road to Matoaca Road
- VDOT Richmond District
- Low-Cost Safety Improvements

Group 1

• **Funded** \$390,000, RSTP



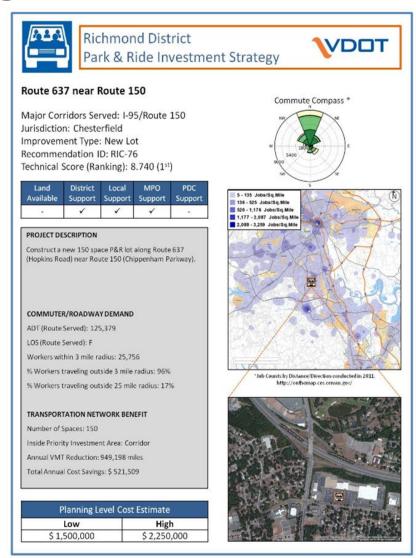




Transportation Demand Management

- VDOT Park & Ride Investment Strategy
 - Leveraged recommendation from statewide effort
 - Modified County owned property and added sidewalk
 - MPO currently conducting regional PNR study
- Look to include PNR opportunities with other projects
 - Funded \$2.9M, Smart Scale

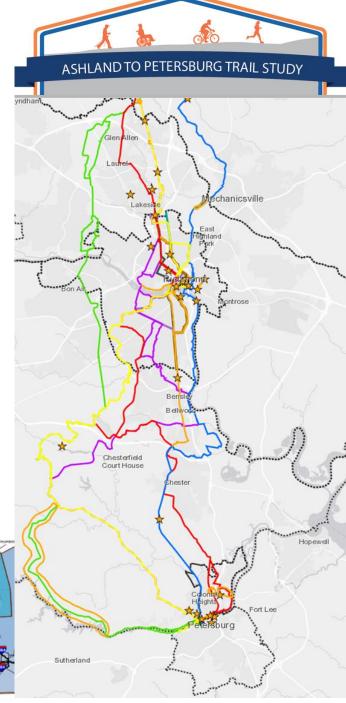




Regional / Statewide Studies

- Stay engaged in regional efforts
- Potential projects identified
 - Application for funding or further study
- Richmond MPO
 - Transit Vision Plan Phase II
 - PNR Investment Strategy
 - Commerce Corridor Study
- OIPI/DRPT/VDOT

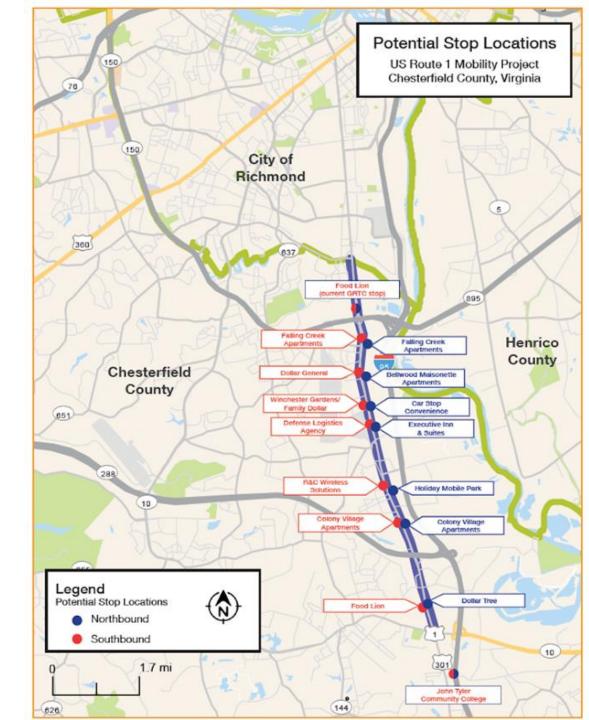




Route 1 Transit Service

- Momentum
 - Community interest
 - Corridor bike/ped projects
 - Northern Jeff Davis SAP (2018)
- DRPT
 - Technical Support Corridor Screening
 - Evaluation of Transit Service Options
 - Consultation on application questions
- County
 - Transit Marketing Assessment Survey
- Transit Demonstration Project
 - \$2 M over 2 years
 - 8 mile corridor, 9 stops
 - New service Spring 2020
- Smart Scale Round IV Application





Takeaways

- Constantly conduct studies to identify solutions
- Understand Funding Application Requirements
 - Sketch
 - Estimate
 - Public involvement
 - Smart Scale meet VTRAN need
 - Keep up with process/policy changes -> CTB meetings
- Consider internal workload commitment
 - Transportation, Planning, Consultants, Inter-Agency support
- Timeline
 - Spring start early, initiate study
 - Recommendations by November
 - Account for Board of Supervisor approval of applications
- Build Relationships

