

Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission





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THOMAS JEFFERSON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC) are partnering to evaluate the rural transportation system in the region and to recommend a range of transportation improvements that best satisfy existing and future transportation needs. This partnership will result in a regional plan that identifies needs based upon goals and objectives established by the region and the State. Improving the transportation system remains vital to improving the quality of life and continued economic growth and prosperity in Virginia. Local benefits include: identification of transportation deficiencies and recommendations of remedies, assist with comprehensive plan updates, traffic impact studies-Ch.527, programming of transportation improvements, effects of land use and development. Providing for the effective, safe and efficient movement of people and goods is a basic goal of all transportation programs in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

2035 STATE HIGHWAY PLAN

Once completed, the regional transportation plan will be incorporated into Virginia's 2035 State Highway Plan. The statewide highway plan is developed by VDOT to identify needs and recommend solutions for the Commonwealth's Interstate and primary highway systems. The regional transportation plans serve as the building blocks for the State Highway Plan and are being developed in cooperation with planning districts commissions throughout the Commonwealth. The plans will complement the transportation plans that currently exist for metropolitan areas of Virginia.

MOVING FORWARD

The Thomas Jefferson PDC's UNJAM (United Jefferson Area Mobility Plan) and the 2035 State Highway Plan will be key tools for identifying and understanding the magnitude of the Region's and Virginia's transportation needs, and establish a foundation for making critical funding decisions for future highway projects.

These plans will provide real and tangible solutions to issues such as safety, capacity, structures and geometric deficiencies and will serve as key resources to determine future projects for implementation. The plans will address important regional issues such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, transit operations, intermodal connectors and park and ride lots, all significant elements in creating a comprehensive transportation network for the future.

Once completed, the 2035 State Highway Plan will serve as a key component to VTrans2035, Virginia's State-wide Long-Range Multimodal Transportation Plan. VTrans2035 will rely heavily on the findings of the State Highway Plan to ensure other modes of travel, including rail, transit, aviation and shipping seamlessly blend into the highway network to form one single, integrated network.



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The Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC) serves the localities in Planning District 10, which include the City of Charlottesville and the Counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson. It also serves the towns of Scottsville, Palmyra, Fork Union, Ruckersville, Standardsville, Mineral, Louisa and Lovingston. Created in 1972, the TJPDC is directed by a twelve member board, consisting of two representatives appointed by each local governing board, more than half of whom are local elected officials. (There is a 13th member, the PDC Executive Director, who is non-voting.) The Commissioners meet monthly to discuss the activities and direction of the TJPDC.

The mission of a Planning District Commissions is to promote the efficient development of the physical, social, and economic policies of all districts within the Commonwealth by assisting local governments to plan for the future. The TJPDC encourages and facilitates regional solutions to problems of area-wide significance. This cooperation recognizes regional opportunities and the importance of regional influences in planning and implementing public policies and services. The guiding principles of the Planning District Commission, adopted in 1998 as the Sustainability Accords, are as follows:

- Encourage and maintain strong ties between the region's urban and rural areas
- Strive for a size and distribute the human population in ways that preserve vital resources
- Retain the natural habitat
- Ensure water quality and quantity are sufficient to support people and ecosystems
- Optimize the use and re-use of developed land and promote clustering
- Promote appropriate scale for land uses
- Retain farm and forest land
- Develop attractive and economical transportation alternatives
- Conserve energy
- Provide educational and employment opportunities
- Increase individual participation in neighborhoods and communities



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CONTACT LIST

Providing the most current up to date information to the media and the public is very important to VDOT. To get additional information and have your questions answered regarding this important planning process please address your questions or comments to the key team members listed below.

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Please visit the VDOT website to find additional information regarding this and other important transportation initiatives in your area.
www.virginiadot.org

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ANTICIPATED MILESTONE SCHEDULE

