STARS

STRATEGICALLY TARGETED AND AFFORDABLE ROADWAY SOLUTIONS

The objective of the **STARS (Strategically Targeted Affordable Roadway Solutions) Program** is to develop comprehensive and innovative transportation solutions to relieve congestion bottlenecks and solve critical traffic and safety challenges throughout the Commonwealth.

The program, which is led by the VDOT Transportation and Mobility Planning Division, brings together planners, traffic engineers, safety engineers, roadway design engineers, and maintenance specialists with local stakeholders to jointly identify cost-effective measures aimed at improving safety and reducing congestion. This multidisciplinary approach, from a project's inception through completion, helps to:

- Develop innovative, cost-effective solutions
- Evaluate potential solutions more thoroughly
- Identify potential project risks and costs
- Build stakeholder consensus
- Improve readiness for project implementation

STARS Application Process

Starting in 2016, STARS will transition to an annual process.

- Coordinate with VDOT District Planner
- **Contact Samuel W. Hayes, P.E.**
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http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/stars_ii.asp

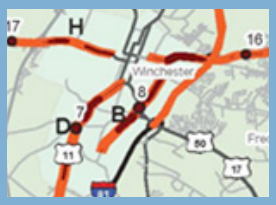
VDOT

Steps in STARS Project Programming:

1 Data analysis and mapping

GIS layers are assembled into one GIS map pack to help planners and engineers identify potential corridors for STARS project development.

2 Identify project development corridors



Corridors are identified based on data analysis and district input.

3 Project studies/design solutions

A study/preliminary design is conducted to identify benefits, risks, costs, and schedule.

4 Funding applications

Projects are submitted for a variety of funding applications, including:

- RSTP/CMAQ
- Revenue Sharing
- House Bill 2 (HB2)
- Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)
- TAP

5 Project enters the Six-Year Improvement Program

The STARS project development process was created to provide a continuous pipeline of projects prepared for implementation. Selected projects are advanced into VDOT's Six-Year Improvement Program.

STARS Project Development Cycle

The STARS project development process provides a continuous pipeline of projects prepared for implementation. Many elements of this process are on an annual cycle; however, the conduct study and design phase will follow an appropriate schedule based on the nature and complexity of each STARS project.

Advancement of STARS projects will be tracked as a measure of performance.

MULTIDISCIPLINE APPROACH THROUGHOUT

Occurs Annually: Summer		*Occurs Annually: Summer*		*6–18 Months to Complete*	*Occurs Annually: Fall*	
Data Analysis and Mapping	**Identify Project Development Corridors**	**Pre-scoping and Project Selection**	**Project Scoping**	**Conduct Study/ Preliminary Design**	**Project Prioritization**	**Advancement of Projects**
■ Safety ■ Operations ■ Local input	■ Align with HB2 metrics ■ District input	■ Application ■ Projects that need further study or design ■ Projects not selected by CTB ■ NEPA process	■ TMPD ■ L&D ■ Environmental ■ District ■ Locality ■ Consultant	■ Recommendations ■ Cost estimates ■ Benefit-cost ■ Study work group consensus ■ Funding sources ■ Project support	■ Local, regional, district, and statewide ■ HB2, HSIP, revenue sharing, other ■ CLRP and TIP/STIP	■ SYIP ■ Maintenance

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Continually Advancing Projects

VDOT SIX-YEAR IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | ...

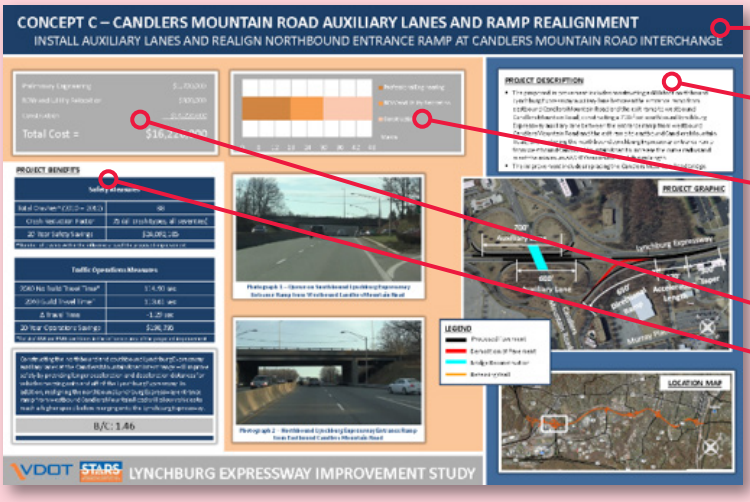
DISTRICT: Leads project process

CENTRAL OFFICE: Provides program oversight, data analysis, and application review

CONSULTANT: Provides project support

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.



- *Key existing safety and/or congestion issues identified*
- *Project description with a graphical representation of the improvement*
- *Project schedule summarized in three categories: preliminary engineering, right-of-way and utilities, and construction*
- *Summarized planning level cost estimate*
- *Benefits of the project in terms of safety improvement and/or congestion relief*