

VDOT



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# I-81 Initiatives



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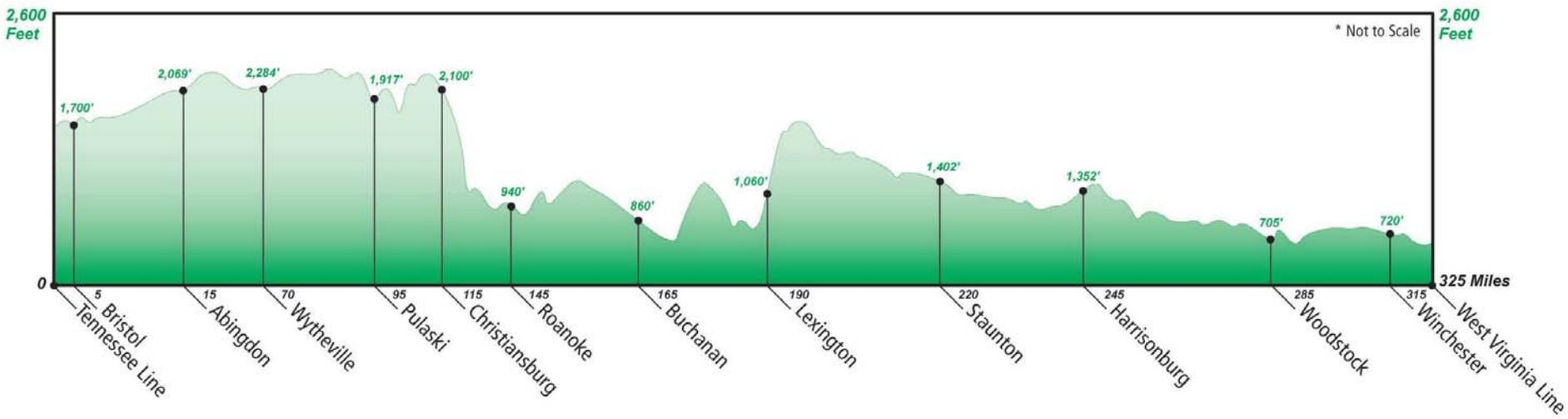


## Current Conditions

- 325 miles; 90 interchanges
- Rolling and mountainous terrain
- Traffic increased from 25,000 vpd in 1990 to 57,000 (near Roanoke) in 2003
- Designed for 15% trucks; now 20%-40%



## The terrain of I-81 in Virginia from Tennessee to West Virginia



## Corridor Improvement Study



- **NEPA**

- In partnership with FHWA, launched study in January 2004

- **Tiered EIS process**

- Tier 1: corridor-wide issues
- Tier 2: site-specific issues

- **Includes highway and rail concepts**

# Corridor Improvement Study

- **Tier 1 decisions**

- **Concepts for highway and rail**

- Number of lanes
- Partial or complete separation of trucks and cars
- Defined segments
- Additional rail capacity

- **Approval to advance I-81 as a toll pilot**

- **Draft Tier 1 EIS and public hearings – Fall 2005**



## Tolling Application

- Tolling is a funding option under consideration
- March 2003 – VDOT submitted tolling application to FHWA under Section 1216(b) of TEA-21
- FHWA granted “conditional provisional acceptance” of VDOT’s application



## Tolling Application

- **Provisional approval will not occur unless supported by Tier 1 environmental study**
- **Some other actions required to obtain approval:**
  - MPO consultations
  - Public involvement plan
  - Basic financial plan
  - Project management plan
  - Pilot study history



## PPTA

Public Private Transportation Act of 1995

- Under PPTA, a *Virginia purchasing law*, VDOT solicited proposals to design, build, maintain and/or operate all or parts of I-81
- March 5, 2004 - Commissioner directed VDOT to begin negotiations with STAR
- I-81 Corridor Improvement Study will help determine what can be built

## PPTA

Public Private Transportation Act of 1995

- **Negotiating a comprehensive agreement**
- **NEPA provides the basis for a decision**





Welcome to the I-81 Corridor in Virginia

About I-81

Corridor Study

Tolling

Smart Travel

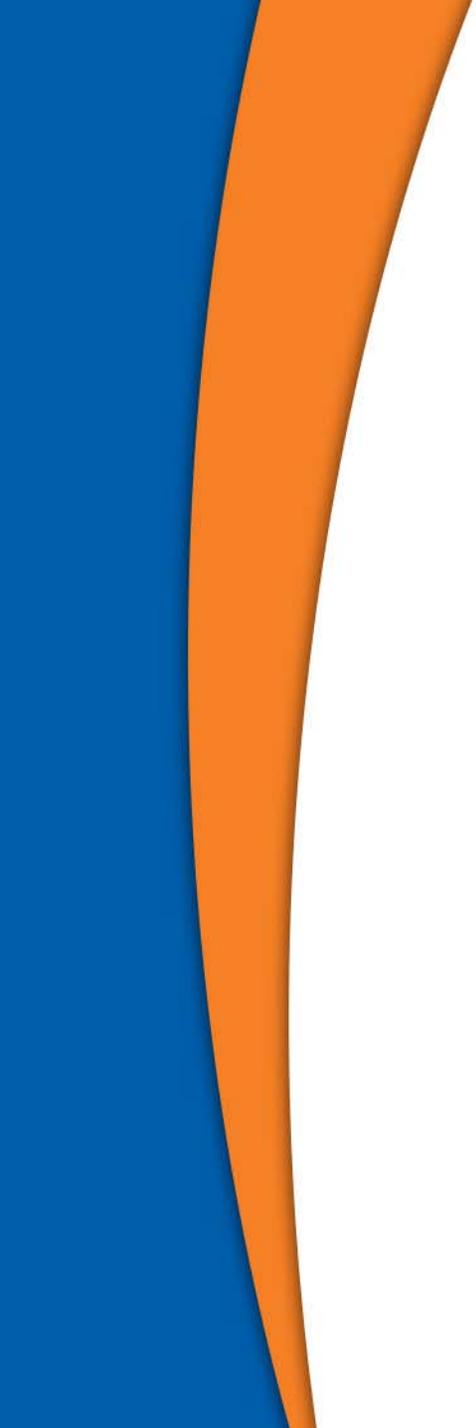
News

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Have questions?  
Get the facts at [www.I-81.org](http://www.I-81.org)

*Thank you.*



VDOT