Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission

2035
RURAL LONG RANGE
TRANSPORTATION PLAN

VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

Last Updated April 2011

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CENTRAL SHENANDOAH REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission 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. 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 Central Shenandoah Regional Transportation Plan and the 2035 State Highway Plan will be key tools for identifying and understanding the magnitude of 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, 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 Statewide 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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PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

Formed in 1969, the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission (CSPDC) is one of 21 Planning District Commissions (PDCs) in the Commonwealth of Virginia, which bring together elected officials and citizens to identify needs and potential solutions for a variety of public policy and infrastructure projects in their communities, including transportation initiatives.

Specifically, the CSPDC serves more than 272,000 citizens living in a geographic area of 3,439 square miles, which includes the cities of Buena Vista, Harrisonburg, Lexington, Staunton, and Waynesboro, and the counties of Augusta, Bath, Highland, Rockbridge, and Rockingham. Central Shenandoah is the Commonwealth's largest PDC geographically speaking, and the fifth largest in terms of population.

The Central Shenandoah region is bounded on the east by the Blue Ridge Mountains and on the west by the Allegheny Mountains and the West Virginia border. It is bisected by I-81 on the north-south axis and by I-64 on the east-west axis. The counties and cities in the region comprise a regional labor market covering a number of industries, ranging from tourism to education and from manufacturing to retail.

As a regional planning agency, the CSPDC is currently focused on a number of community projects, where it conducts studies and planning activities for a number of disciplines, including regional corrections facilities, water supply planning, local land use codes review and revisions, transportation planning, bicycle and greenway planning, and strategic planning and facilitation. Specific transportation-related projects include the oversight of the Route 11 corridor study and participation in VDOT's Rural Transportation Planning Program, an initiative aimed at creating regional transportation plans in rural areas that compliment those in the metropolitan planning areas of the state.

Mission

To help communities and agencies within the Central Shenandoah Valley work together by providing high quality planning technical assistance and facilitation services that addresses local, regional, and state needs in an innovative, timely, and cooperative manner.

Leadership

Tracy Pyles, Jr., Chairman
Larry Tolley, Secretary
Nancy Dowdy, Vice Chairman
William "Billy" Vaughn, Treasurer
Nathaniel Burress
Jerry Rexrode
A.W. "Buster" Lewis

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CONTACT LIST

Providing the most current 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.

Virginia Department of Transportation

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Sandy Myers	VDOT Staunton District Public Affairs	Sandy.Myers@VDOT.Virginia.gov	540-332-9201
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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

Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission

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Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission		www.cspdc.org	

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future perspectives...

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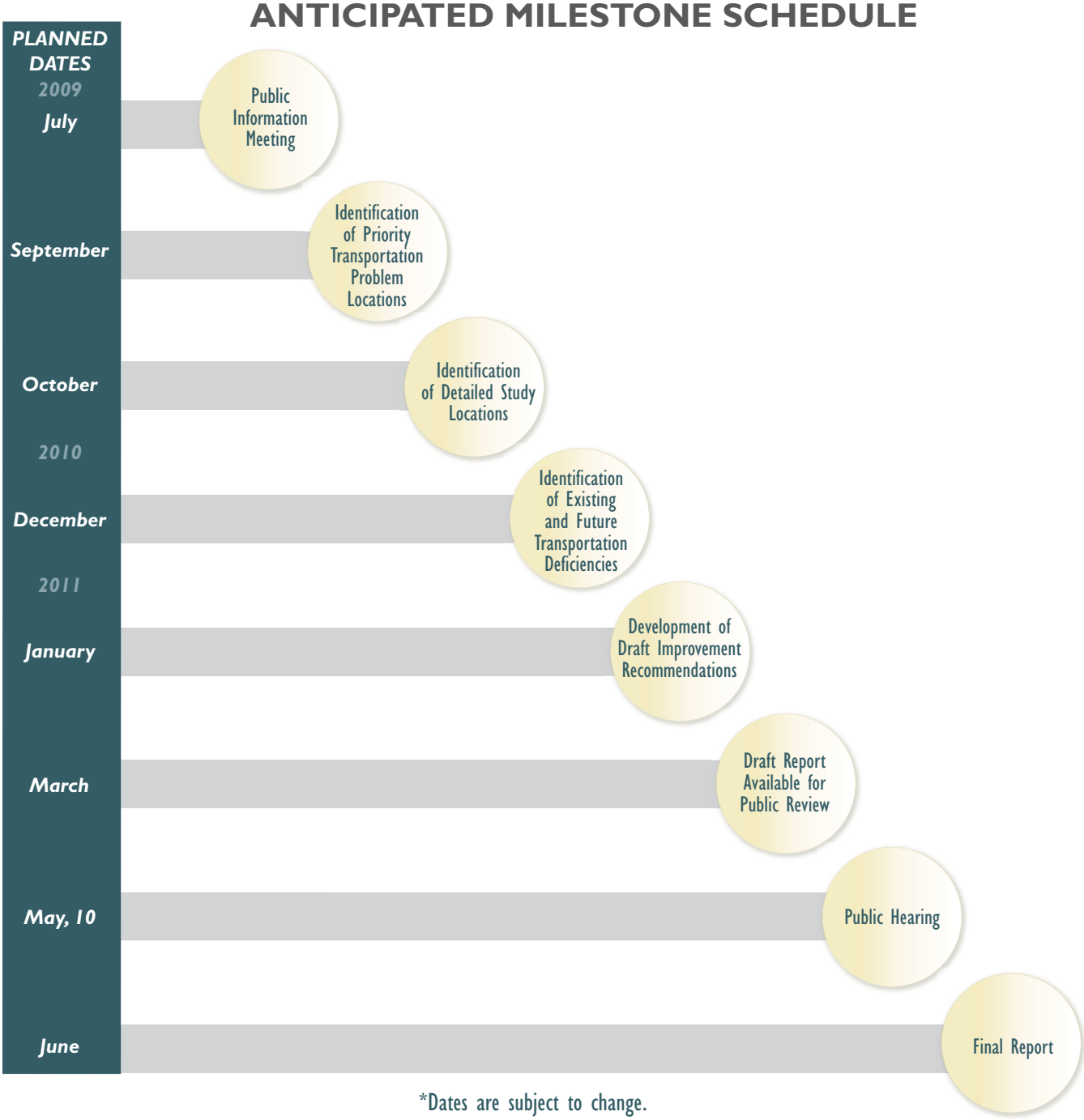
ANTICIPATED MILESTONE SCHEDULE



*Dates are subject to change.

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