

AA. UPDATED HRTPO GUIDANCE ON SMART SCALE

Virginia's SMART SCALE is about investing limited tax dollars in the right projects that meet the most critical transportation needs in Virginia. In the SMART SCALE prioritization process, transportation projects are scored based on an objective, outcome-based process that is transparent to the public and allows decision-makers to be held accountable to taxpayers. The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) uses the project score information resulting from SMART SCALE to help select the right projects for funding.

Using lessons learned information from the first two rounds of SMART SCALE, potential improvements to the application in-take, screening, validation, evaluation, documentation, and training aspects of the process were identified and recommendations were presented to the CTB for consideration. Based on those recommendations, the CTB approved a number of changes and an updated ***SMART SCALE Technical Guide*** reflecting those changes was approved by the CTB in November 2017.

In July 2015, the HRTPO Board approved the first version of ***HRTPO Guidance on SMART SCALE***. The document provides information on the process used by the HRTPO to determine when to provide a resolution of support for applicable projects to be submitted under SMART SCALE and whether to submit project applications in response to requests by other entities. The HRTPO Guidance document has been updated to account for the changes to the process approved by the CTB and documented in the updated ***SMART SCALE Technical Guide***. Upon approval by the HRTPO Board, the updated ***HRTPO Guidance on SMART SCALE*** (enclosed) will be made available on the HRTPO website.

Complete information on SMART SCALE, including the updated Policy and Technical Guides, may be accessed on the SMART SCALE website at:

www.vasmartscale.org/default.asp.

Enclosure 17-AA: *HRTPO Guidance on SMART SCALE*

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the updated ***HRTPO Guidance on SMART SCALE*** document.