

# 2015 VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION

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# 2015 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

The General Assembly adjourned its most recent session on February 27, 2015. The following transportation related measures were passed during the 2015 session:

- **HB 1510** – Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission
- **HB 1886** – Public-Private Transportation Act; finding of public interest
- **HB 1887** – Transportation funding; formula, reporting, and allocations
- **SB 847** – Interstate Transportation Compact
- **HB 1355** – Use of photo-monitoring systems to enforce traffic light signals; appeals
- **HB 1402** – Highway maintenance payments
- **SB 1443** – Comprehensive plan; sea-level rise

# HB 1510

## Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC)

- Provides that population estimates used in the HRTAC voting structure shall be projections made by the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service of the University of Virginia.
- Currently, the population estimates from the most recent decennial census are used until the fifth year following each census, after which population projections made by the Center are used.

Source: <http://lis.virginia.gov/lis.htm>

# HB 1886

## Public-Private Transportation Act; finding of public interest

- Establishes the requirements for a finding of public interest
  - Requires such a finding prior to an initiation of procurement
  - Establishes the Transportation Public-Private Partnership Steering Committee
  - Requires certification of the finding prior to the execution of a comprehensive agreement
  - Requires the public-private partnership guidelines to incorporate the finding.
  - Requires VDOT to establish:
    - A process for identifying high-risk projects
    - Procurement processes and guidelines for such projects to ensure that the public interest is protected.

Source: <http://lis.virginia.gov/lis.htm>

# HB 1887

## Transportation funding; formula, reporting, and allocations

- HB 1887 does not include new revenues for transportation.
- Replaces the current allocation formula (40-30-30) for construction projects with the following beginning in 2021:
  - **45 %** to rebuild deteriorated pavement and bridges within the state's interstate and primary highway system (includes routes and bridges maintained by cities and towns).
  - **27.5 %** for projects (including rail and transit) that reduce congestion along statewide corridors and within regional networks.
  - **27.5 %** for construction district grants to fund projects that address needs identified in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan.
- All proposed projects will be scored and ranked by a new prioritization process currently under development and scheduled to be adopted by the CTB in June. (The HB2 Statewide Prioritization Process)

# HB 1887 (CONT.)

## Transportation funding; formula, reporting, and allocations

- Removes the Executive Director of the Virginia Port Authority from the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)
- Makes members of the CTB subject to removal by the Governor for cause.
- Updates that the annual report from the Commissioner of Highways to the Governor be submitted to the CTB and JLARC as well.
- Reallocates accruals to the Transportation Trust Fund and the Highway Maintenance and Operating Fund.
- Removes the definition of “grants” from the Virginia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (VTIB).
- Allows the CTB to make transfers from the Toll Facilities Revolving Account to the VTIB.
- Authorizes the Department of Rail and Public Transportation to enter into agreements not to exceed 20 years under the Public-Private Transportation Act.

# SB 847

## – Interstate Transportation Compact

- Creates the Interstate Transportation Compact to develop and plan interstate transportation projects.
- The bill establishes the Interstate Transportation Compact Commission.
- Shall include a five-member delegation from Virginia, meet at least twice annually, and annually report on its activities to the Governor and the legislature of each signatory state.
- Such compact shall not become effective until enacted by at least one other signatory state.

Source: <http://lis.virginia.gov/lis.htm>

# HB 1400/SB 800: BUDGET BILL

## Amendment to Chapter 3, 2014 Special Session/Acts of Assembly

– “...moneys deposited into the Hampton Roads Transportation Fund shall be transferred to the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission for use in accordance with § 33.2-2611, Code of Virginia, which use may include as a source of funds for administrative expenses of the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission.”



# PASSAGE OF TRANSPORTATION RELATED BILLS

- **HB 1355 – Use of photo-monitoring systems to enforce traffic light signals; appeals**
  - Provides an appeals process to the circuit court in a civil proceeding for motor vehicle operator violations of ordinances related to photo monitoring systems at traffic lights.
- **HB 1402 – Highway maintenance payments**
  - Provides that cities and towns will not have highway maintenance funds from the Commonwealth reduced from the conversion of moving lane miles of highways to two way bicycle travel lanes.
- **SB 1443 – Comprehensive plan; sea-level rise**
  - Provides that any locality included in the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission shall incorporate strategies to combat sea level rise and recurrent flooding into their comprehensive plan.

# NEXT STEPS/RESOURCES/QUESTIONS?

- **Governor: Governor's Action Deadline is Midnight, Monday, March 30, 2015**
- **2015 GA Legislative Tracking Table is available at:**  
[http://www.hrtpo.org/uploads/docs/2015GA\\_BillsSummary021115.pdf](http://www.hrtpo.org/uploads/docs/2015GA_BillsSummary021115.pdf)
- **State of Virginia Legislative Information System:**  
<http://lis.virginia.gov/lis.htm>

Questions?