

Mount Rogers Planning District Commission





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MOUNT ROGERS REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Mount Rogers 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 Mount Rogers 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 State-wide 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.



future perspectives...



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PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

Formed in 1969, the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission (MRPDC) 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 MRPDC serves more than 190,000 citizens living in the counties of Bland, Carroll, Grayson, Smyth, Washington, and Wythe, and the independent cities of Bristol and Galax. Primary industries include manufacturing, retail trade, and education services.

The planning district lies in two physiographic provinces, the Blue Ridge and the Ridge and Valley. Major arteries of transportation include Interstates 81 and 77 and Routes 11, 21, 52, and 58.

As a regional planning agency, the MRPDC is currently focused on a number of community projects, largely related to providing technical assistance to area jurisdictions in economic and community development, public management and administration, and cartography. Transportation-specific initiatives include development of the rural Regional Long-Range Transportation Plan, provision of transportation elements for local Comprehensive Plans, technical assistance to localities, participation in special VDOT planning initiatives, and other assistance as requested. Planning issues include road capacity and safety monitoring and expansion of multimodal options (transit, rail, bicycle, and pedestrian) as they relate to land use, economic development, and environmental conservation.

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

Paul Hurley, Chairman

Larry K. Bartlett, Vice-Chairman

Brenda Thompson, Treasurer



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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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Darrel Johnson	VDOT Central Office	Darrel.Johnson@VDOT.Virginia.gov	804-371-8868

Please visit the VDOT website to find additional information regarding this and other important transportation initiatives in your area.
www.virginiadot.org

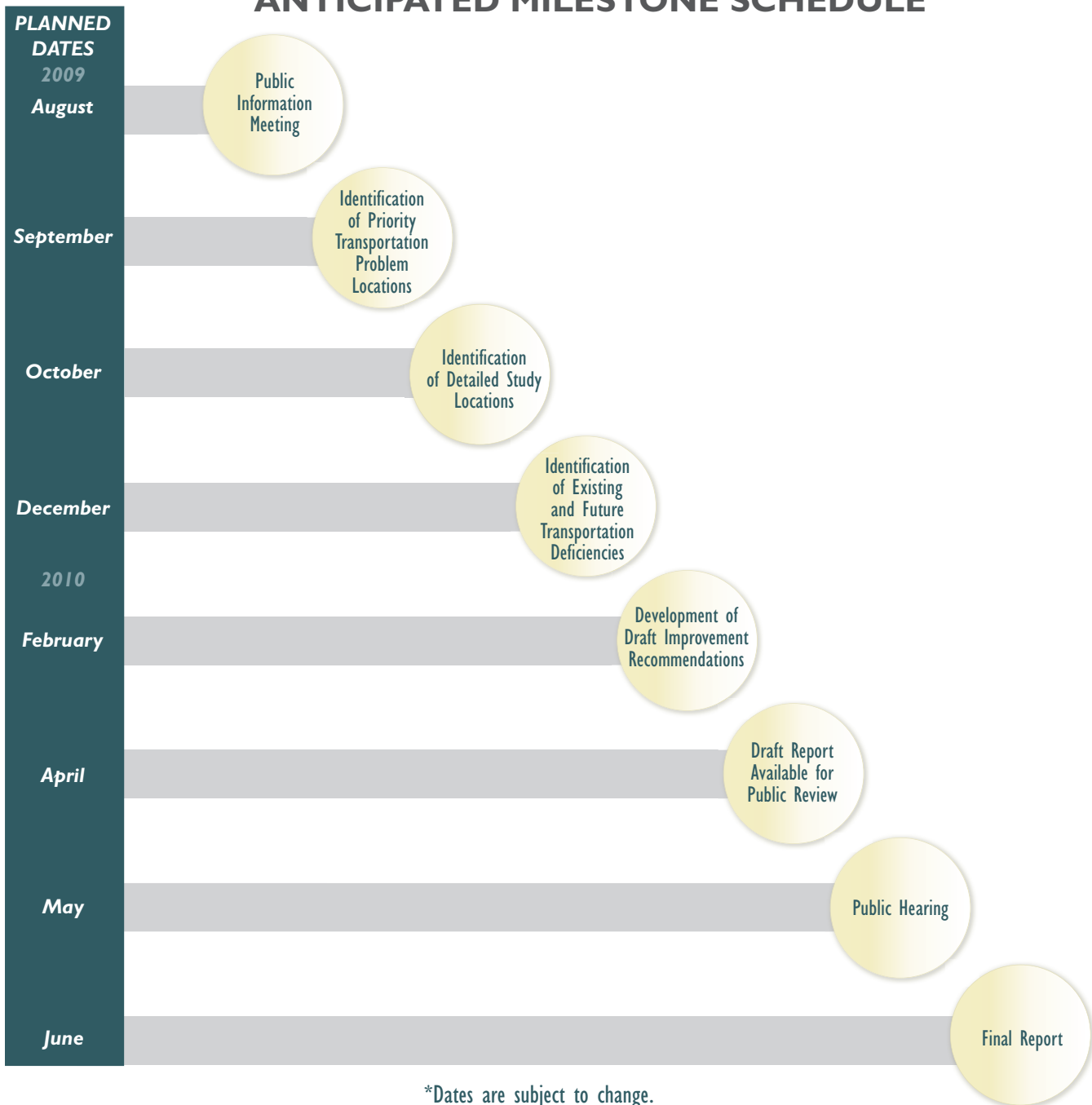
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Mount Rogers Planning District Commission		www.mrpdc.org	





ANTICIPATED MILESTONE SCHEDULE



*Dates are subject to change.

