The Martinsville Southern Connector Study is a first step toward identifying future improvements to the U.S. Route 220 corridor. This is a separate study from the Environmental Impact Statement that was prepared for the overall Interstate 73 (I-73) corridor that included portions of Henry County. The Martinsville Southern Connector Study will focus specifically on identifying and addressing transportation needs within the U.S. Route 220 study area. Should any future transportation improvements from the Martinsville Southern Connector Study be implemented along the U.S. Route 220 corridor, they could be considered for incorporation into the overall I-73 corridor. However, this would require a separate evaluation and analysis of I-73.

**WHAT’S NEW**

This month’s newsletter is being sent out earlier than usual to provide advanced notice for VDOT’s next Citizen Information Meeting for the Martinsville Southern Connector Study, which is scheduled to be held on **Wednesday, January 23, 2019, from 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.** at Drewry Mason Elementary School in the gymnasium. In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will be held on January 30. If a decision is made to postpone the meeting, VDOT will notify this mailing list of the change.

Information to be presented at this meeting includes the Purpose and Need Statement, which sets the goals for the study, and the alignment options under consideration. The public is invited to review and comment on these alignment options before, during, or after the meeting. Materials will be available on the study web site two weeks before the meeting and comments will be accepted from that time until **February 2, 2019**. This meeting is another opportunity for the public to stay involved in the Martinsville Southern Connector Study. Please continue to check the study website for updates on this meeting, including meeting displays and an online comment form.

**Stay Involved**

To stay informed about the upcoming meeting and to review meeting materials, please visit the study web site: [www.virginiadot.org/martinsvilleconnector](http://www.virginiadot.org/martinsvilleconnector). If you know of others who are interested in the study, encourage them to visit the website and sign-up for the monthly newsletter.