

# Luray

## Introduction

The Luray 2020 Transportation Plan was developed in a joint effort with the Virginia Department of Transportation, the Town of Luray, and Page County. The study area for this plan includes the Town limits and the urbanizing portions of Page County immediately surrounding the Town. This plan was developed with involvement from local government officials, as well as input from the general public at key milestones in the development of the plan.

## Purpose and Scope of the Study

Continued growth and development in the Luray area will result in increased demands on the area's transportation system. This study was initiated to develop a comprehensive set of transportation solutions that will accommodate projected travel demands to the year 2020. The study has examined roadway, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian transportation needs and addressed the interaction of the roadway system with truck, rail, and air travel.

This transportation plan included the integration of existing and proposed transportation facilities, coordination of and consistency with land use plans adopted by the involved jurisdictions, identification of transportation deficiencies and needs, and recommendations to satisfy these deficiencies and needs. It is hoped that this study will assist local officials in planning for future transportation needs in the Luray area and lead to local actions to implement the recommendations included in this study.

## Recommended Roadway Improvements

The existing arterial and collector roadway system in the Luray study area does not have sufficient capacity to accommodate area travel demands in the year 2020. A range of potential improvements were developed to address existing and future deficiencies identified for improving the quality and safety of traffic operations that included capacity improvement to existing facilities, the reconstruction of existing facilities, and the construction of new facilities on new location. The roadway improvements recommended for the Luray area include:

1. Widening existing facilities;
2. Construction of new facilities; and
3. Modification of geometry and traffic control at key intersections.

The recommended improvements are shown on the map on the reverse side of this document. More detailed information on the recommendations are included in the Table of Recommended Improvements and in the technical report.

It was the responsibility of this study is to evaluate transportation needs on arterial and collector roadways, as included in VDOT's functional classification system. Local street improvements or extensions have been included in this plan as recommendations only when they are needed to ensure an acceptable traffic operations on the arterial and collector street system.

With the anticipated increase in rail service by Norfolk Southern railroad, there is a need to consider the provision of alternative east-west circulation routes within the town to help reduce the impact of increased rail service on local traffic patterns. Both alternative roadways identified in this study would help to reduce rail/vehicular conflicts at two downtown at-grade crossing locations (Main Street and Luray Avenue) and provide alternative grade-separated travel routes.

## Other Modes of Transportation

**Transit:** The Town of Luray currently has no transit service. Relatively low population densities in the study area even by 2020 would not result in economically viable transit service. A 110-space park and ride parking lot is located on Broad Street just south of the Route 211 Bypass interchange. This lot is used for ridesharing and appears to be adequate to serve both current and future travel needs. The Lord Fairfax Planning District Commission operates the TRIPS Rideshare program within the Northern Shenandoah Valley region. This is a carpool matching service for trips into Northern Virginia and the Washington D.C. region.

**Bicycle Facilities:** The Town of Luray currently has no bicycle paths or trails. The town is currently developing a greenways plan. The development of a Town or area bicycle plan and the incorporation of bicycle-friendly accommodations within transportation and utility improvements are recommended.

**Pedestrian Facilities:** Sidewalks are provided within downtown Luray on Main Street. The extension and improvement to this sidewalk network should be considered when local roadway improvements and new local roadway connections are constructed.

**Truck, Rail, and Air Transportation:** The study roadway improvements recommendations will increase access and safety for goods movement by truck on the roadway system and will provide improved access and safety between the roadway system and regional rail, interstate bus, and airport facilities.

## Citizen Participation

An Advisory Committee was formed for this study, comprised of town and county officials, representatives from VDOT's Luray Residency and Transportation Planning Division offices, and interested citizens. The Advisory Committee was an important mechanism for information exchange and to bring local interests together to reach consensus. Four advisory committee meetings were held at major project milestones and provided the forum for direct citizen input. A public information meeting on the draft plan was held in order to solicit citizen comments.

## Local Government Actions/Plan Adoption

The Luray Town Council approved the transportation plan by resolution on December 13, 1999. Page County did not take action on the plan at this time.

## Additional Information

More details on the development of the Luray 2020 Area Transportation Study and the study recommendations are included in the Luray Area Transportation Study Technical Report. This document is available in local government offices. It is also available in the Virginia Department of Transportation's Luray Residency and the Transportation Planning Division in Richmond, Virginia.

Table of Recommended Improvements

Route Name	Description	Limits	Length (Miles)	Year 2020 ADT	Proposed Typical Section*	Proposed ROW Width (feet)	Remarks
211/211 Bus	Main Street Install new traffic signal and add Eastbound right-turn lane	at intersection with Route 211 Bypass	-	-	-	-	Signal is subject to signal warrant study. Turn lane to provide 200 foot-long deceleration lane with a 200 foot-long taper
211 Bus	Main Street Improve intersection geometry	at intersection with Bixlers Ferry Road	-	-	-	-	
340 Bus/211 Bus	Main Street and Broad Street intersection Prohibition or peak period restriction of on-street parking	On all four approaches of the intersection	-	-	-	-	Improve storage capacity of through travel lanes
211	Main Street Add turn lanes	at intersection with Collins Avenue	-	-	-	-	
340	Route 340 Add southbound left-turn lane	at intersection with Collins Avenue	-	-	-	-	200 foot-long deceleration lane with a 200 foot-long taper
340	Route 340 Improve and widen Route 340	Route 211 Bypass to Route 654	4.4	10,250	R4D	116	Recommendation from the Route 340 location study
340 Bus	Virginia Avenue Replacement of bridge and approaches over Hawksbill Creek	-	0.1	8,750	-	-	Programmed project-bridge replacement Project will retain 2-lane roadway
	New Connector Roadway New roadway alignment	Route 647 to Route 211	0.3	-	U2	60	Provides connection between Route 647 and Route 211 through new signal
	Southwestern Connector Roadway New roadway alignment	Route 644 to Leaksville Road	0.8	-	R2	60	Provides relief to Main Street/Route 211 Bypass intersection
	Southwestern Connector Roadway New roadway alignment	Leaksville Road to Route 340 Business	0.99	-	R2	60	Provides relief to Main Street/Broad Street intersection
	Southeastern Connector Roadway New roadway alignment	Route 340 Business to Fairview Road	1.73	-	U2/R2	60	Provides connection to Luray recreation park and east side residential areas
	Northeastern Connector Roadway New roadway alignment	at Mechanic Street to Collins Avenue	0.64	-	U2	60	Provides a grade-separated travel alternative to Main Street
	New Industrial Access Road New roadway alignment	Collins Avenue to Stoney Brook Lane	0.5	-	U2	60	Provides a second access point for the Luray industrial park
616	Leaksville Road Roadway improvement	SCL Luray to Main Street		1,950	R2	60	
	Court Street Roadway improvement	SCL Luray to Court Street Extension		1,250	U2/R2	60	
	Mechanic Street Roadway improvement	Lee Street to Hawksbill Street		3,800	U2	60	
	Reservoir Avenue Widen Reservoir Avenue approach to two lanes	at intersection with Main Street	-	-	-	-	
	Reservoir Avenue Roadway improvement	Main Street to Fairview Road		6,250	U2	60	
	Fairview Road Roadway improvement	Reservoir Avenue to ECL Luray		1,150	U2/R2	60	

\*R2 - Rural two-lane roadway with standard shoulders and ditches.  
 U2 - Urban two-lane roadway with curb and gutter, with sidewalks on one or both sides of the street.  
 R4D - Rural four-lane divided highway with grass median, standard Shoulders, and ditches and protected turn lanes at crossovers.

This report is prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and the Virginia Department of Transportation. The contents of this report reflect the views of the consultant who is responsible for the facts and the accuracy of the data presented herein. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the Federal Highway Administration or the Virginia Department of Transportation. This report does not constitute a standard, specification or regulation.