
VDOT
Virginia Department of Transportation

# OVERVIEW OF 2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

KEY BILLS AND BUDGET ITEMS IMPACTING VDOT

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As of April 11, 2025

# THE 2025 SESSION AT A GLANCE

- Prefiling began July 15, 2024 and ended January 8, 2025
- Short session - convened January 8th and adjourned February 22nd
- Approximately 3,100 bills/resolutions were introduced/reviewed
- VDOT tracked approximately 228 bills (95 direct and 133 indirect)
- The House/Senate passed ~1989 and defeated ~1458 legislative items (includes items carried over from prior session)
- Reconvened Session was April 2nd
- Final Disposition of bills noted—several, including the budget, await Governor's action post-reconvened session.

# VDOT AGENCY BILLS

- **SB 1082— Signed by Governor**
  **Commonwealth Transportation Special Structures Program Revenue Bond Act of 2025**
  - Authorizes the CTB to issue revenue bonds: "Commonwealth of Virginia Special Structures Program Revenue Bonds"
  - Aggregate principal amount cannot exceed $1 billion total or $200 million in any single fiscal year
  - Issuance to begin in 2028

- **HB 2503/SB 1173—Signed by Governor**
  **Virginia coordinate systems; federal updates**
  - Updates several references in Code to the Virginia Coordinate System of 2022 (last update 1983) and aligns state law with federal changes with respect to measurement standards
  - The bill replaces the U.S. survey foot (conversion factor) with the international foot (conversion factor)
  - Effective when ODU certifies to Code Commission issuance of 2022 State Plane Coordinate System by NOAA—expected in 2025 or 2026

- **SB 1340—Signed by Governor**
  **Commissioner of Highways; repeals redundant/obsolete reporting requirements**
  - Removes requirement for reporting on the ITTF in the VDOT biennial report (ITTF report still retained as stand-alone annual report)
  - Removes reporting requirements for certain information/statistics related to performance or payment bonds, waivers, and self-bonding program enrollment--all tied to a Code provision repealed in 2022

# Key Bills Impacting Highways/Rights of Way

## Eminent domain

- **HB 1690– Signed by Governor**
  **Documents to be provided to landowner for acquisitions**
  - Requires a report be provided to landowner showing all matters that affect the current ownership, existing liens, encumbrances, and other matters affecting title as of the date of the title report.

- **SB 1158-- Governor's Amendment Approved**
  **Condemnation proceedings**
  - Makes various changes to provisions governing eminent domain, primarily relating to procedures and documentation in condemnation proceedings and the transfer of a defeasible title by certificate Amendment:
  - Changes to title-related documentation provided to landowners apply only to offers to take/damage property made on or after 1/1/26.

## Naming Bills

- **HB 1793 Captain Matthew "Chevy" Chiaverotti Memorial Bridge—Signed by Governor**
  - Designates bridge on I-264 over Rosemont Road in VA. Beach.
- **HB 1853/SB 1428 Deputy Hunter D. Reedy Memorial Bridge — Signed by Governor**
  - Designate bridge on Adwolfe Road and U.S. Route 11/State Route 660 over Interstate 81 in Smyth County.

# Key Bills Impacting Highways/Rights of Way, cont'd

## License Plate Readers

- **HB 2724– Governor's Amendment not approved—bill returned to Governor**
  **Use of automatic license plate recognition systems**
  - Would impose new compliance and reporting requirements for local and state police use of Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPRS). A land use permit would be required in order for ALPRS to be installed on VDOT Right of Way.
  - Language calls for CTB regulations to address permits—will be exempt from the Administrative Process Act.

## Regional Highway Program

- **HB 2466-- Vetoed by Governor**
  **Hampton Roads Interstate Highway Corridor Improvement Program and Fund; Hampton Roads Highway Coastal Resilience Program and Fund; Planning District 23-- Would have established under HRTAC:**
  - Corridor program for planning, developing, financing, building, constructing, acquiring, controlling, or otherwise making infrastructure and safety improvements to, or maintaining the infrastructure of, (i) new or existing highway corridors connected to, surrounding, or paralleling interstate highways in Planning District 23 and (ii) new or existing highways, bridges, and tunnels that are components of three-digit interstate highways in Planning District 23.
  - Coastal Resilience program for development, delivery, maintenance of infrastructure at risk due to recurrent and coastal flooding in PD23
  - No funding mechanism

# Key Bills Impacting Highway Safety/Law Enforcement

- **HB 2475 Use of safety belts - Signed by Governor**
  - Requires all adult passengers to wear a seat belt when vehicle is in motion
- **HB 2074 Portable changeable message signs; certain vehicles - Signed by Governor**
  - Authorizes certain towing, traffic management, and highway maintenance vehicles to use/display portable changeable message signs without prior authorization from VDOT, if use complies with state/federal law
  - Purpose is to allow AAA and others to display “move over” and safety-related signage during towing, etc.
- **HB 2096 Intelligent Speed Assistance Program established; penalty. Governor’s Amendment Approved**
  - Establishes the Intelligent Speed Assistance Program to be administered by the Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program—involves use of technology to prevent speeding in vehicles owned by enrollees.
  - The bill authorizes enrollment in such Program as an alternative to suspending a person's driver's license upon such person's conviction of certain speed-related offenses.
- **HB 2718 Photo speed monitoring devices; school crossing zones – Governor’s Amendment Approved**
  - Requires recorded images produced by a photo speed monitoring device placed in a school crossing zone to depict or confirm a portable sign or tilt-over sign is in position and is blinking or otherwise activated
- **SB 1233 Pedestrian crossing & stop sign violation monitoring systems; speed safety cameras-Vetoed by Governor**
  - Would have authorized state/local law-enforcement agencies to place/operate pedestrian crossing and stop sign violation monitoring systems in school crossing zones, highway work zones, and high-risk speed corridors. Would have made other changes to photo-speed enforcement provisions.

# KEY STUDIES

- **HB 2627 –Study of Autonomous Driving Systems--Signed by Governor**
  - Autonomous driving systems work group to be established to study issues/issue report (led by Sec of Transportation in consultation with Sect of Public Safety) – due 11/1/26

- **HB2724-- Use of automatic license plate recognition systems—Governor's Amendment not approved—bill returned to Governor**
  - VDOT to provide the Virginia State Crime Commission with data on the number of applications for a land use permit for the installation of an automatic license plate recognition system by or on behalf of a law-enforcement agency, and the number of such permits issued for specified periods, broken down by each individual law-enforcement agency.

- **SJ 263 --Surry County; VDOT to study need for constructing bridge to James City County or Charles City County**
  - VDOT to study the need and options for constructing a bridge from Surry County to James City County or Charles City County– due at start of 2027 session

- **HB 1615—Transportation infrastructure and projects; noise analysis—"Passed by with a letter"**
  - Letter requests VDOT to study issues surrounding requests for retrofit soundwalls not associated with a project.

# KEY BUDGET ITEMS—GOVERNOR ACTION PENDING on BUDGET

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| 441 #C.9 | Adjustment to Supplemental Toll Relief for certain users of ERC facilities |
| 441 #D.1,2 | Elimination of Tolls on Coleman Bridge January 1/1/2026 and TFRA payback “forgiveness” |
| 441 #1.c. | VDOT/DRPT to examine ways to minimize or eliminate, when practical, tolling for transit vehicles.—Governor Amendment to remove passed by |


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