COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Nicholas Donohue
Chairperson

1221 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 482-5818

Agenda item # 1

RESOLUTION
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

July 22, 2026

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Good**, Seconded By:** Ms. Green

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Airport Access to
the Winchester Regional Airport
Project 1538-034-259 – Frederick County

WHEREAS, § 33.2-1509 of the *Code of Virginia* provides funds to "be expended by the Board for constructing, reconstructing, maintaining or improving access roads within localities to licensed, public-use airports"; and

WHEREAS, Frederick County by formal resolution has requested Airport Access (AIR) Program funds to serve the Winchester Regional Airport, which is located off Coverstone Drive, and said access is estimated to cost approximately $1,350,000; and

WHEREAS, it appears that this request falls within the intent of § 33.2-1509 of the *Code of Virginia* and complies with the provisions of the Commonwealth Transportation Board's Airport Access Fund Policy and the Airport Access Program guide.

NOW, **THEREFORE**, **BE IT RESOLVED,** that $650,000 ($500,000 unmatched and $150,000 matched) of the Economic Development, Airport and Rail Access Fund is allocated to provide adequate access to the Winchester Regional Airport, Project 1538-034-259, contingent upon:

1. All right of way, environmental assessments and remediation, and utility adjustments being provided at no cost to the Commonwealth; and

2. Execution of an appropriate contractual agreement between Frederick County (LOCALITY) and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), to provide for the:

   a. Design, administration, construction and maintenance of this project; and

   b. Payment of all ineligible costs, and of any eligible costs in excess of this allocation, from sources other than those administered by VDOT; and

   c. Provision of the required matching funds, up to $150,000, by the LOCALITY for appropriately documented eligible project costs.

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CTB Decision Brief

Airport Access – Frederick County
Winchester Regional Airport

Issue: Pursuant to §33.2-1509 of the Code of Virginia and the Airport Access Fund Policy of the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), Frederick County has requested funds from the Airport Access Program to assist in constructing road access improvements to serve the Winchester Regional Airport off Coverstone Drive. CTB approval for the allocation of the requested funds by the CTB is sought.

Facts: Section 33.2-1509 of the Code of Virginia authorizes the CTB to expend funds set aside for constructing, reconstructing, maintaining or improving access roads within localities to licensed, public-use airports. The CTB's Airport Access Fund Policy sets forth certain criteria which must be met for projects to be eligible for such funding and directs the Commissioner of Highways to establish administrative procedures to administer to assure adherence to such policy and legislative requirements. The Commissioner established such administrative procedures in the Airport Access Program Guide administered by the Local Assistance Division of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). The Policy stipulates that the governing body of the locality shall provide a resolution in request of Airport Access Program funding prior to the Board's allocation of funds.

The Winchester Regional Airport is a 385-acre licensed, public-use airport located in Frederick County. The Airport serves the Counties of Frederick, Clarke, Shenandoah, and Warren, and the City of Winchester, supports 610 jobs, and averages 63,000 enplanements (takeoffs, landings, and overflights) annually.

Frederick County is requesting funding from the Airport Access Program to assist with the design of turn lanes, a commercial entrance, and median adjustments on Coverstone Drive. The Winchester Regional Airport currently owns a 30-acre undeveloped parcel adjacent to Coverstone Drive. This project will provide access to the 30-acre parcel, allowing the airport to move forward with economic development opportunities that could generate millions of dollars in capital investment and create hundreds of jobs. The 30-acre parcel has the potential to increase airport operations by up to 12%, and new access will improve emergency response times.

Recommendation: VDOT recommends the allocation of $650,000 ($500,000 unmatched and $150,000 matched) from the Economic Development, Airport and Rail Access Fund be approved for design of this project, subject to certain contingencies as set forth in the accompanying resolution.

Action Required by the CTB: The *Code of Virginia* and the CTB's Airport Access Fund Policy specify that the CTB shall approve the allocation of funds for the construction of the access road project. A resolution is provided for formal vote.

Result, if Approved: VDOT and Frederick County will proceed with the Airport Access project.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

Public Comments/Reactions: None