COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Nicholas Donohue
Chairperson

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Agenda item # 14

RESOLUTION
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

July 22, 2026

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Good**, Seconded By:** Mr. Payne

Action: Motion Carried

Title: SMART SCALE Project Budget Increase for South Main St. Corridor Safety – Southern Section (UPC 124006) in the City of Harrisonburg

WHEREAS, the Board's SMART SCALE Project Prioritization Process last approved December 4, 2023 and as revised January 16, 2024, provides that a project that has been selected for funding must be re-scored and the funding decision reevaluated if there are significant changes to either the scope or cost of the project, such that the anticipated benefits relative to funding requested would have substantially changed; and

WHEREAS, the Board's SMART SCALE Project Prioritization Process further provides that if an estimate increases prior to project advertisement or contract award that exceeds the following thresholds, and the applicant is not covering the increased cost with other funds, Board action is required to approve the budget increase:

i. Total Cost Estimate <$5 million: 20% increase in funding requested
ii. Total Cost Estimate $5 million to $10 million: $1 million or greater increase in funding requested
iii. Total Cost Estimate > $10 million: 10% increase in funding requested; $5 million maximum increase in funding requested; and

WHEREAS, section 33.2-214 requires projects funded wholly or partially with funds from the State of Good Repair Program pursuant to section 33.2-369, the High Priority Projects Program pursuant to section 33.2-370, the Highway Construction District Grant Programs pursuant to section 33.2-371, the Interstate Operations and Enhancement Program pursuant to

section 33.2-372, or capital projects funded through the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program pursuant to section 33.2-373 in the Six-Year Improvement Program to be fully funded within the six-year horizon of the Six-Year Improvement Program; and

WHEREAS, the South Main St. Corridor Safety – Southern Section (UPC 124006) project (the Project) was submitted for consideration by the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization and selected for $6,165,499 in funding through the High Priority Projects Program in the fifth round of the prioritization process pursuant to section 33.2-214.1; and

WHEREAS, at application, the Project had a total cost of $6,165,499; and

WHEREAS, the Project demonstrated benefits related to safety, economic development, accessibility, environment, congestion mitigation, and land use and received a score of 8.95 resulting in a rank of 7 out of 19 projects selected for funding in the Staunton District; and

WHEREAS, at is meeting on February 18, 2025 the Board approved a SMART SCALE budget increase of $1,000,000 (HPP previous within threshold increase) for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Project is being administered locally and is part of a bundle of City of Harrisonburg administered projects scheduled for advertisement in May 2028 including improvements near I-81 Exit 243; and

WHEREAS, the Project has thus far incurred expenditures of approximately $470,233 and is expected to start the right of way acquisition and utilities relocation phase of project development in August 2026; and

WHEREAS, since the Project was selected for funding through SMART SCALE, the Project has experienced increased costs across all phases as the design has been refined in preparation for initiating the right of way acquisition and utility relocations phase of project development; and

WHEREAS, cost increases can be attributed to increased design costs based on stormwater management and additional hydraulic design, additional right of way costs due to design refinements and increased property value assessments since the time of project selection, and increased construction costs due to updates to hydraulic design, utilities, and earthwork costs which increased based on updated analysis related to geotechnical impacts; and

WHEREAS, the Project's cost estimate is currently $12,012,113 resulting in a shortfall of $4,846,614; and

WHEREAS, at is meeting on June 16, 2026, the Board was briefed on the proposed SMART SCALE budget increase for the Project; and

WHEREAS, VDOT recommends Board approval of a SMART SCALE budget increase of $4,846,614 using surplus High Priority Projects Program funds (UPC -21770); and

WHEREAS, taking into consideration the proposed SMART SCALE budget increase, the Project was re-scored resulting in a revised score of 4.59 and a reduction in rank from 7 out 19 to 16 out of 19.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Commonwealth Transportation Board, that the SMART SCALE budget increase for the Project of $4,846,614 using surplus High Priority Projects Program funds (UPC -21770), is approved.

####

CTB Decision Brief
SMART SCALE Project Budget Increase for the South Main St. Corridor Safety – Southern Section (UPC 124006) in the City of Harrisonburg

Issue: The South Main St. Corridor Safety – Southern Section (UPC 124006) (the "Project") was screened in for meeting a VTrans need and selected for funding. For reasons stated herein, the Department is recommending a budget increase pursuant to the Policy for Implementation of the SMART SCALE Project Prioritization Process last approved by the Board December 4, 2023, and as revised January 16, 2024 (the "Policy").

Facts: The Board's SMART SCALE Prioritization Process, last approved December 4, 2023 and as revised January 16, 2024, provides that a project that has been selected for funding must be re-scored and the funding decision reevaluated if there are significant changes to either the scope or cost of the project, such that the anticipated benefits relative to funding requested would have substantially changed.

Item VI.2 of the Board's SMART SCALE Prioritization Process states that if an estimate increases prior to project advertisement or contract award that exceeds the following thresholds, and the applicant is not covering the increased cost with other funds, Board action is required to approve the budget increase:

i. Total Cost Estimate <$5 million: 20% increase in funding requested
ii. Total Cost Estimate $5 million to $10 million: $1 million or greater increase in funding requested
iii. Total Cost Estimate > $10 million: 10% increase in funding requested; $5 million maximum increase in funding requested

The Project was submitted for consideration by the Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO for $6,165,499 in funding through the High Priority Projects Program in the fifth round of the Commonwealth Transportation Board's (Board) SMART SCALE Prioritization Process.

The Project demonstrated benefits primarily related to safety, economic development, accessibility, and environment and received a score of 8.95 resulting in a rank of 7 out of 19 projects selected for funding in the Staunton District.

On February 18, 2025, the Board approved a SMART SCALE budget increase of $1,000,000 (HPP previous within threshold increase) due to increased costs identified during the scoping phase of the project.

The Project is locally administered and is expected to start right of way acquisition in August 2026. Thus far, the Project has incurred an estimated $470,233 in expenditures.

The Project is part of a bundle of City of Harrisonburg administered projects scheduled for advertisement in May 2028 including improvements near I-81 Exit 243.

The Project has experienced increased costs across all phases and can be attributed to increased design costs based on stormwater management and additional hydraulic design, additional right

of way due to design refinements and increased property value assessments since the time of project selection, and increased construction costs due to updates to hydraulic design, utilities, and earthwork costs which increased based on updated analysis related to geotechnical impacts.

The Project's cost estimate is currently $12,012,113, resulting in a shortfall of $4,846,614.

Taking into consideration the proposed SMART SCALE budget increase, the Project was re-scored resulting in a revised score of 4.59 and a reduction in rank from 7/19 to 16/19.

On June 16th, 2026, VDOT fully briefed the Board on this matter and recommends Board approval of a SMART SCALE budget increase of $4,846,614 using surplus High Priority Projects Program funds (UPC -21770).

Recommendation: Approval of a SMART SCALE budget increase of $4,846,614 using surplus High Priority Projects Program funds (UPC -21770).

Action Required by CTB: The CTB will be presented with a resolution for a formal vote to approve the SMART SCALE budget increase.

Result, if Approved: If approved, funds will be transferred so that the project can advance.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

Public Comments/Reactions: None