



STARS AND PROJECT PIPELINE STUDIES

MPO Tech

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VDOT Studies: Location Selection

- **Two study programs**
 - Project Pipeline (Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment)
 - STARS (Transportation and Mobility Planning Division)
- **Managed centrally**
 - OIPI and TMPD coordinate study location selection with VDOT districts
 - Study locations have to be approved by OIPI/CTB or TMPD
- **Locations identified throughout the entire Planning District**
- **Support future funding applications**
 - Studies will develop recommendations on improvements that can be submitted for future SMART SCALE, Revenue Sharing, or other funding program applications

	STARS Program Guidelines	Project Pipeline Program Guidelines
Administration	Transportation & Mobility Planning Division (TMPD)	Office of Intermodal Planning & Investment (OIPI)
Purpose	Provide a continuous stream of transportation improvement recommendations eligible for programming/funding	Performance-based planning program to identify cost-effective solutions to multimodal transportation needs
Project Goals	Identify multi-modal solutions that improve safety and reduce congestion	Identify multi-modal solutions that address CTB-adopted VTrans needs
Suggested Study Work Group Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VDOT District & CO Planning • Local/Regional Stakeholders • Location & Design Engineers • Residency Engineers • Transit Operators • Traffic Operations • Environmental 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local/Regional Stakeholders • Design Engineers • District Subject Matter Experts • Residency Engineers • Transit Operators • Communications Staff • Local Law Enforcement/EMS Personnel
Program Cycle	Ongoing, but initiated every two years	Biennial
Study Process/ Phasing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Framework Phase <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kickoff and Diagnosis 2. Study Phase <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Collection & Public Feedback • Alternatives Evaluation • Preferred Alternatives Selection 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kickoff, Diagnosis, and Preliminary Alternatives 2. Alternatives Evaluation, Public Feedback, and Preferred Alternative Selection 3. Preferred Alternative Development, Risk Assessment, and Investment Strategy + Application

	STARS Program Guidelines	Project Pipeline Program Guidelines
Administration	Transportation & Mobility Planning (TMPD)	Modal Planning & Investment (OPI)
Purpose	Provide a continuous stream of transportation improvement programming/funding	Performance-based planning program to identify modal transportation needs
Project Goals	Identify multi-modal solutions that address safety and reduce congestion	Identify multi-modal solutions that address CTB-
Suggested Study Work Group Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VDOT District & CO Planning Local/Regional Stakeholders Location & Design Engineers Residency Engineers Transit Operators Traffic Operations Environmental 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local/Regional Stakeholders Design Engineers Letter Experts ers staff Local Law Enforcement/EMS Personnel
Program Cycle	Ongoing, but initiated every two years	Biennial
Study Process/ Phasing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Framework Phase <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kickoff Study Phase <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Alternatives Preferred Alternatives Selection 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Kickoff, Diagnosis, and Preliminary Alternatives Feedback, and ent, Risk Strategy + Application

Administered statewide

Identify implementable multi-modal improvements

Address identified statewide priorities

Requires collaboration among stakeholder organizations and disciplines

Follows standard transportation study processes that incorporate data analysis and public engagement to support decision-making

Framework Phase

- **Identify Study Working Group (SWG) members**
- **Clarify the project goals**
- **Agree on the technical analysis to be conducted**
- **Determine public engagement needs**

Study Phase

- **Technical Analyses**
 - Crash review
 - Operational review
 - Forecasting
 - Alternatives development
 - Alternatives selection
- **Public Engagement**
 - **Minimum:**
 - Identification of needs
 - Advanced alternatives preferences
 - **Additional engagement can be included in scope if needed**

Roles and Responsibilities

- **TMPD VDOT/OIPI Staff**

- Provide general program oversight
- Administer contracts with consultants
- Approve study scopes
- Attend SWG meetings as able

- **VDOT District Staff**

- Serve as project manager
- Coordinate stakeholder working group meetings with consultants
- Review and approve study documentation (calibration memos, growth rate memos, final reports, etc)
- Review and approve public information materials
- Review and approve concepts provided by consultants
- Attend check-in meetings with consultants
- Provide materials to support study analyses (Traffic Impact Analyses, signal timing plans, etc.)

SWG Roles and Responsibilities

- **Non-VDOT Members:**
 - **Be involved and participate in the study work group meetings**
 - Typically 4-6 meetings over the course of a study
 - Usually a mixture of in-person and virtual
 - **Review study materials and provide comments**
 - **Assist in sharing of public meeting notifications and dissemination of public information materials**
 - **Review concepts provided by consultants**
 - **Provide any approved plans, including TIA's, previous studies not on applicable websites, or other proposed or planned ideas that may impact the development of recommendations**
 - **Share information and report decisions from local governing groups and elected officials**
 - **Submit grant applications**

Next Steps

- **Finalize study location preferences**
- **Submit requests to TMPD/OIPI**
- **Receive Notice to Proceed with Framework Phase**
- **Studies kick-off in fall**