

Item 448

Authority: Titles 33.2 and 58.1, Code of Virginia.

E.1. The Department of Rail and Public Transportation, in conjunction with the Transit Capital Project Revenue Advisory Board, shall develop a proposal to be submitted to the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the General Assembly for a statewide prioritization process for the use of funds allocated pursuant to § 33.2-365, or allocated to the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund established pursuant to subdivision A 4 of § 58.1-638. Such prioritization process would be used for the development of a Six-Year Improvement Program for transit capital expenditures to be included in the Program adopted annually by the Commonwealth Transportation Board pursuant to § 33.2-214. The proposal development should be undertaken with input from localities, metropolitan planning organizations, transit authorities, transportation authorities, and other stakeholders.

2. Any prioritization process should be based on an objective and quantifiable analysis. For transit capital projects that establish new transit service or expand existing service, the prioritization process should consider, at a minimum, the following factors relative to the cost of the project or strategy: congestion mitigation, economic development, accessibility, safety, environmental quality, and land use. For state of good repair projects, the prioritization process should consider asset condition and other factors determined to be appropriate by the Department. Such a process for the allocation and distribution of funding would be in addition to the tiered approach established by the Commonwealth Transportation Board for capital purposes based on asset need and anticipated state participation level and revenues and is intended to foster project-specific prioritization within the asset tiers.

3. The Department shall submit its report on the feasibility and proposed content of such a prioritization scheme to the Chairmen of the House and Senate Transportation Committees, the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee not later than August 1, 2017.