



Virginia Transit Equity & Modernization Study

September 14, 2021

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Outline

- Study Overview
- Study Development Process
- Topic Areas
- Questions

Study Overview

How did we get here?

HJ 542 (2021)

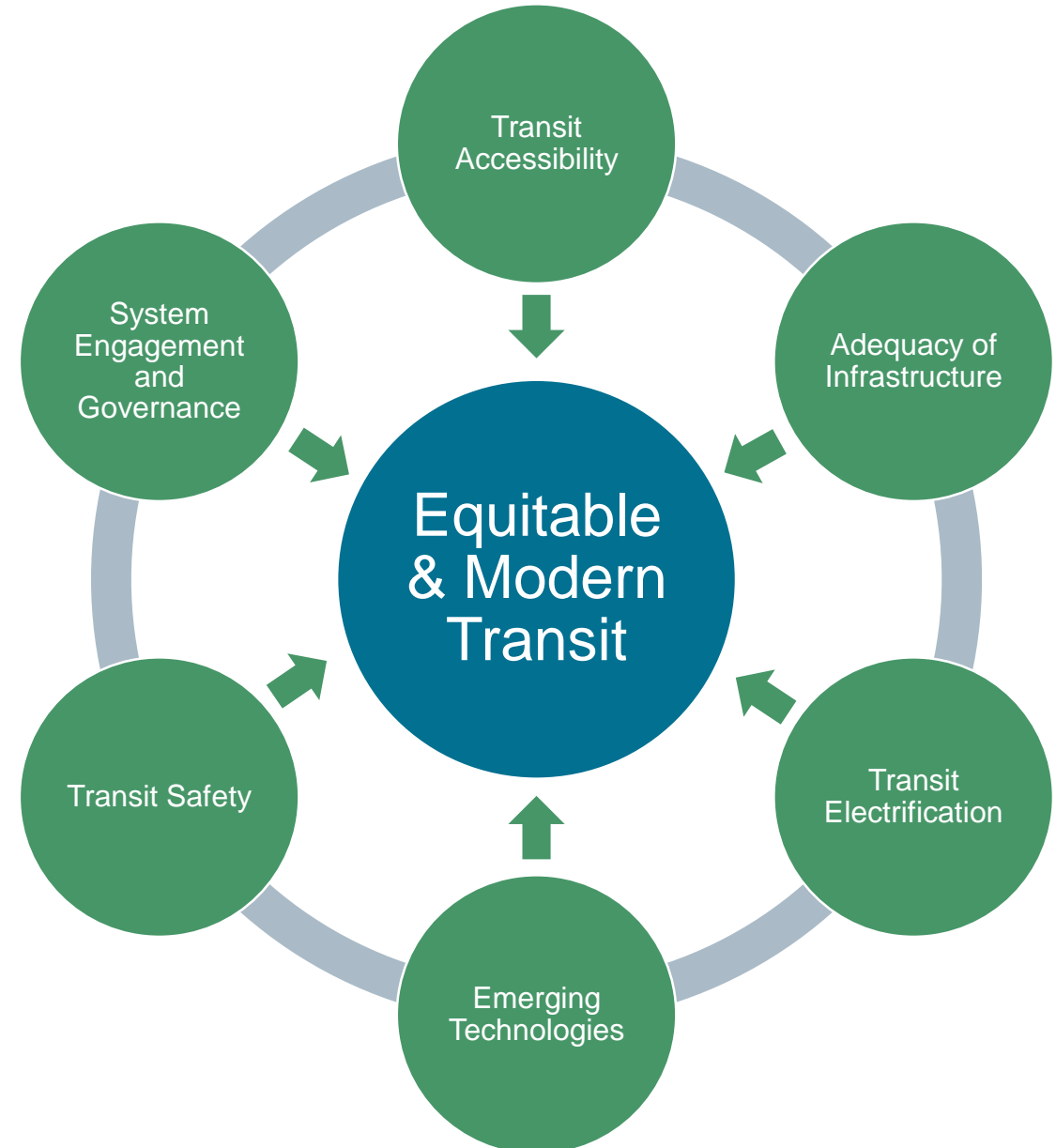
- DRPT to complete a needs assessment focusing on the equitable delivery of transit services and modernization of transit in the Commonwealth
- Emphasis on transit services and engagement opportunities for underserved and underrepresented communities



Study Overview

How did we get here?

- In addition to “equity” and “modernization” the resolution requires DRPT to explore a wide variety of topics
- Key deliverables
 - December 2021: Interim Report
 - August 2022: Final Report



Study Overview

What will this study accomplish?

- ✓ Will identify transit agency, rider, and stakeholder needs
- ✓ Will develop an action plan to address those needs

What will this study not accomplish?

- ✗ Will not be an asset inventory
- ✗ Will not single-out transit agencies for poor performance, conditions, etc.

Study Development Process

- Project Administrator: DRPT
- Prime Consultant: Kimley Horn & Associates
- Sub-consultants:

Powerful Pathways

Sharpe & Company

WBA Research

Virginia Navigator

Connetics Transportation Group

IBI Group

Center for Transportation and the Environment

Interactive Elements Inc.

Virginia Transit Association

Trillium

Study Development Process



Study Development Process

Data Collection

- TDPs & TSPs
- Public Participation Plans
- Title VI Plans
- GIS/GTFS data
- Bus stop amenities data
- Capital Improvement Programs/Plans
- Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans (PTASP)
- TransAM data and other fleet data
- Transit Asset Management (TAM) plans
- NTD data
- Census data
- ADA accessibility data
- Emergency preparedness procedures
- Employee safety training manuals
- COVID-19 strategies and cleaning protocols
- DRPT Multimodal System Design Guidelines

Study Development Process

Needs and Opportunities Assessment

Transit agency and public engagement activities will inform the development of a needs and opportunities assessment

Transit Agency Engagement Activities	Public Engagement Activities
Transit Agency Survey	Study Website
Transit Equity Committee (TEC)	Stakeholder Meetings
Four (4) Technical Working Groups (TWGs)	Virtual Transit Equity & Modernization Forum
Transit Equity Training	Transit Rider Focus Groups
Transit Agency Outreach Kit	Comment Database
Transit Agency Interviews	Board Briefings

Study Development Process

Action Plan

- Findings from the Needs and Opportunities Assessment will inform the development of a Study Action Plan
- The Study Action Plan will include recommendations and implementation strategies that address barriers by topic area
- The plan will describe specific actions, next steps, coordination required, timeline for implementation and responsible agencies.

- **IMPORTANT:** We anticipate that the Study Action Plan will advise changes to DRPT funding programs and policies, and the development of future plans.

Study Development Process

Final Report

- Due to General Assembly in August 2022
- Summary of the study process and findings, including an executive summary

Questions that we want answered:

What will it take to make the Commonwealth's transit networks equitable and modern?

What can DRPT and other partners do to achieve this goal?

Topic Areas

Four (4) Technical Working Groups (TWGs) will focus on the following topics:

Accessibility &
Adequacy of
Infrastructure

Emerging
Technologies
&
Electrification

Transit Safety

System
Engagement &
Governance

Questions?

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