



Lynchburg District Highlights

DRPT is a state agency that reports to the Secretary of Transportation. Our focus is the movement of people and goods throughout the Commonwealth, and our primary areas of activity are rail, public transportation, and commuter services.

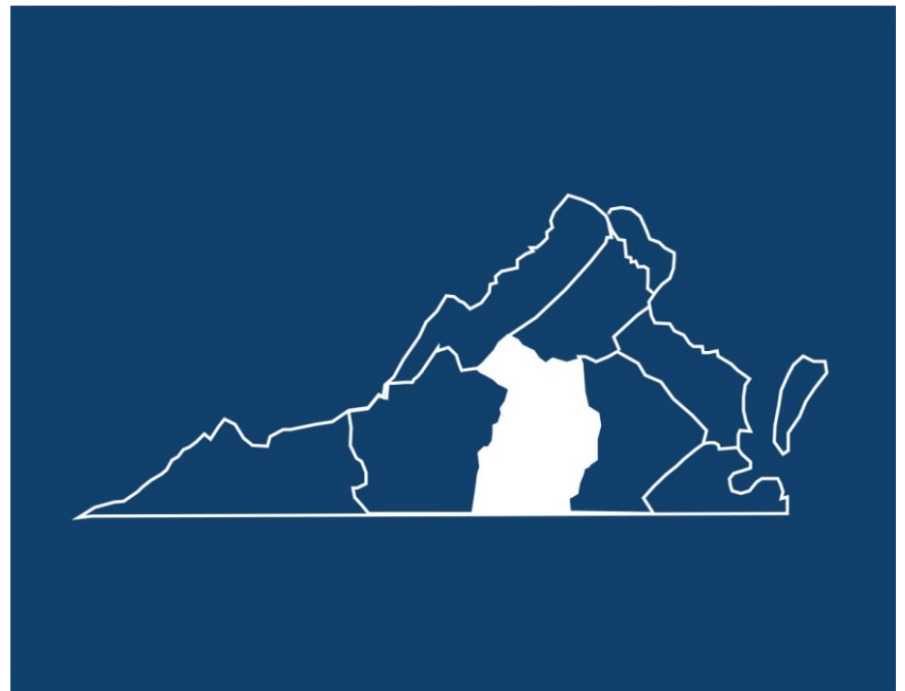
DRPT's mission is to facilitate and improve the mobility of Virginia citizens and to promote the efficient transport of goods and people in a safe, reliable, and cost-effective manner. Below are summaries of ongoing projects and funding allocations that support this mission.

General Funding

DRPT's Six Year Improvement Program (SYIP) for Fiscal Years 2018-2023 allocates \$669.3 million in Fiscal Year 2018. In the Lynchburg District, this funding includes \$8.7 million in transit and \$6.9 million in rail.

Beginning in Fiscal Year 2019, a portion of transit capital program funding will begin to phase out as the ten-year life of Capital Project Revenue bonds expires. The bonds represent over 40% of transit capital program funding. The Virginia General Assembly passed legislation to

establish the Transit Capital Projects Revenue Advisory Board (RAB) in the 2016 Session as recognition of the need to identify new funding sources for transit capital investments. In its final report, the RAB identified a \$130 million annual average funding gap between revenues and needs over the next ten years, suggested potential revenue sources to meet those needs, and made recommendations for a project-based prioritization framework to allocate limited funding. To view the report, please visit www.drpt.virginia.gov.



Fiscal Year 2017 Smart Scale Projects

Lynchburg Central Business District Circulator

The Greater Lynchburg Transit Company (GLTC) runs the free circulator six days a week continuously on fifteen minute intervals between the hours of 10:30 am and 2:30 pm Mondays through Fridays and between 7:00 am and 2:30 pm on Saturdays. Service began on August 23rd.



Danville Transit System

This project will allow the local transit system to purchase two transit buses and construct a bus shelter to service Averett University. Service began on August 23rd.

Public Transportation

Organizations in the Lynchburg District that receive state funding in Fiscal Year 2018 of DRPT's SYIP are:

- Central Virginia Alliance for Community Living, Inc. (Transportation for People with Disabilities, Senior Outings)
- Danville Transit System
- Farmville Area Bus
- Greater Lynchburg Transit Company
- JAUNT
- Lake Country Area Agency on Aging
- Region 2000 Local Government Council
- Town of Altavista
- Town of Blackstone/Blackstone Area Bus System

In the past, DRPT has provided funding to the Greater Lynchburg Transit Company for the construction of its new transit facility that opened in June 2017. 90 percent of the funds for the \$23 million dollars facility came from federal and state sources DRPT provided.

Freight and Passenger Rail

DRPT is Amtrak's state partner, and it supports regional intercity passenger rail service operated by Amtrak to include one round trip per day from Lynchburg. All state supported Amtrak regional intercity passenger rail service travels into the Northeast Corridor and offers a one-seat ride to destinations including Washington DC, Philadelphia, New York, and Boston. In 2017, DRPT and Amtrak will extend this service to Roanoke.

To assist in extending Amtrak service to Roanoke, DRPT has provided funding to several projects in the Lynchburg district that will also aid freight service in the Lynchburg area. These projects include:

- Constructing the Green-Smothers Double-track, a ten-mile second mainline.
- Increasing five railroads tunnel clearances and five roadway bridges near Altavista to allow double stack intermodal traffic to shift to the Altavista Route.
- Upgrading signals and electrifying switches on the Lynchburg Wye at Woodall Road to allow for safer and more efficient movement of trains between Lynchburg and Roanoke.
- Refining network study recommendations for freight traffic improvements along the Altavista route to accommodate additional intermodal traffic shifted to the Altavista route.



Also, in the past, DRPT has included funding in its Six-Year Improvement Program for a number of freight rail improvements that are part of the I-81 Crescent Corridor program. This program endeavors to attract domestic freight from paralleling interstate highways and alleviate truck congestion on major highways including I-81 and Route 29.

DRPT also works closely with the nine shortline railroads that provide local and switching services to industries and ports across the state. In the Lynchburg District, DRPT provided funding in Fiscal Year 2018 to the Buckingham Branch Railroad for several projects.

Virginia State Rail Plan

The Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 tasks states with producing a State Rail Plan to establish policies, priorities and implementation strategies for freight and passenger rail transportation, which enhance rail service in the public interest, and serve as the basis for federal and state rail investments within Virginia.

The State Rail Plan includes both short-term and long-term planning horizons and serves as a unifying vision for advancing passenger and freight rail initiatives in the Commonwealth. DRPT consulted with various industry stakeholders including freight and passenger rail owners and operators, governmental and non-governmental entities (including municipalities and regional planning organizations), the general public, elected officials, and interest groups in in this effort.

The Commonwealth of Virginia will strategically utilize the State Rail Plan to guide policy and funding decisions which will promote safer travel alternatives, reduce environmental impacts, prioritize numerous advancements in the State's rail transportation network and serve as a catalyst for economic development along the Commonwealth's rail corridors.

For more information, go to www.varailplan.org.

If you have any questions or comments about any of these projects, please contact our office:

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