Who We Are: Roles & Responsibilities

- We plan, design, construct, operate, and maintain transportation facilities.
- Maintaining the state road network includes potholes, guardrail, paving, bridge repair, and drainage issues.
- We respond to emergencies, including weather, damaged infrastructure and support homeland security initiatives.
- We oversee any work on the state road network.
- We administer or review design and construction in our highway network—whether it’s a developer, our contractors, a locality, a utility or a homeowner. We oversee efforts in all facets to ensure that safety, quality, and sound engineering principles are applied.
- We work with police & fire to clear highways as quickly as possible.
- We operate tolling and oversee operation of Public-Private Partnerships.
- We build, maintain and operate a commuter park-and-ride system.

Regional Coordination and Members

- We collaborate on regional and state planning with local governments, transit providers and regional agencies.
- We work with partners in the General Assembly, localities, NVTA, TPB, DRPT and NVTC.
- VDOT is represented by our District Administrator on the NVTA Board of Directors, and we participate in the Regional Jurisdictions Advisory Coordinating Committee (RJACC) and other committee meetings as needed.
- VDOT has a voting representative on The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB); and participates in many TPB committees including the Steering, State Technical Working Group; Technical; Travel Forecasting; Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC); Long-Range Planning Task Force; Bike and Pedestrian; Metropolitan Washington Air Quality; Climate, Energy and Environment Policy committees; Clean Air Partners; and Commuter Connections.
- VDOT works regularly with the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC); the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments; the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC); Virginia Railway Express (VRE). We also partner with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA). We partner, on a daily basis, with sister department, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation.

Statistics

- NOVA has 760 employees.
- We serve 2.4 million citizens in the Northern Virginia District.
- We are responsible for close to 14,000 lane miles.
- We are responsible for 2,200 bridges and culverts.
- We operate and maintain 1,400 traffic signals.
- We are responsible for approximately 45,000 wheelchair-accessible curb ramps.
Beyond Building & Maintaining Roads

We recognize that road widening alone is not the solution. VDOT works closely with the Department of Rail and Public Transportation to plan, design, construct, operate, and maintain multi-modal transportation facilities. Projects like I-66 and I-395 HOT lanes are generating hundreds of millions of dollars for improved transit services.

CTB policies require Context Sensitive Design and Solutions. The CSS approach seeks a realistic and practical balance between more traditional transportation objectives; such as mobility and safety; and preservation of scenic, aesthetic, historic, and environmental resources, and other community values and needs. VDOT policies require provision of pedestrian and bicycle accommodations as part of transportation projects.

We also take community involvement and public participation seriously. On I-66 alone, we participated in more than 200 public meetings, ranging from homeowners’ yards to hundreds filling high school gyms.

Statutory Requirements

Under Virginia Administrative Code, VDOT is charged with implementing and enforcing the policies and regulations of the Commonwealth Transportation Board. VDOT operates under the overall supervision of the Secretary of Transportation, who is designated as Chairman of the CTB.

The Commissioner is chief executive officer of VDOT and is authorized to perform all acts necessary for constructing, improving, and maintaining the roads comprising the state highway system. VDOT is divided into nine Districts, each headed by a District Administrator. The Northern Virginia District includes Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties, and the cities and towns within their boundaries.

Funding

- VDOT’s FY2018 Budget includes 5.4 billion dollars in revenues. The largest sources are:
  - Federal funds: 20%
  - Motor Vehicle Sales and Use Tax: 17%
  - Sales tax on motor fuels: 15%
  - Retail sales and use tax: 14%
  - Motor Vehicle License Tax: 5%
  - Local: 9%
- 51% of the revenues come from the 4 major sales and use taxes shown above.
- The above revenues include the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Fund
- The Secretary of Transportation, Commissioner and CTB prioritize and allocate funds for our state transportation networks using VTRANS (State Transportation Plan) Smart Scale and the Six Year Improvements Program.
- NoVA District administers the application and evaluation process for Northern Virginia, and we provide technical assistance to guide applicants through the process.
- VDOT passes Federal Congestion Management Air Quality Mitigation (CMAQ) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) through to NVTA member governments and transportation providers.