VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2002 SESSION

CHAPTER 639

An Act to amend and reenact § 33.1-23.03 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Statewide Transportation Plan; preparation to stress statewide perspective.

[H 771]

Approved April 6, 2002

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 33.1-23.03 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 33.1-23.03. Board to develop and update Statewide Transportation Plan.

The Commonwealth Transportation Board shall conduct a comprehensive review of statewide transportation needs in a Statewide Transportation Plan setting forth an inventory of all construction needs for all systems, and based upon this inventory, establishing goals, objectives, and priorities covering a twenty-year planning horizon, in accordance with federal transportation planning requirements. This plan shall embrace all modes of transportation and include technological initiatives. This Statewide Transportation Plan shall be updated as needed, but no less than once every five years. The plan will provide consideration of projects and policies affecting all transportation modes and promote economic development, intermodal connectivity, environmental quality, accessibility for people and freight, and transportation safety. Each such plan shall be summarized in a public document and made available to the general public upon presentation to the Governor and General Assembly.

It is the intent of the General Assembly that this plan assess transportation needs and assign priorities to projects on a statewide basis, avoiding the production of a plan which is an aggregation of local, district, regional, or modal plans.

2. That the first phase of the plan prepared in accordance with the provisions of this act shall be presented on December 1, 2002, and shall include: the vision, goals, and objectives of the plan; criteria for establishing priorities; identification of major needs; a public involvement plan; a summary of public involvement to date; an interagency coordination plan; an evaluation and recommendation for selection of a highway needs-assessment tool; and a status report on the modal needs assessments. The second phase of the plan shall be presented on December 1, 2003, and include: a status report on the existing transportation system; a status report on the modal needs assessments; and consideration of policies affecting all transportation modes, including technology, economic development, intermodal connectivity, environmental quality, accessibility for people and freight, transportation safety, and revenue sources and availability. The third phase of the plan shall be presented on July 1, 2005, and include: an inventory and prioritization of statewide multimodal transportation needs; an assessment of intermodal connectivity and accessibility; a summary of public involvement activities and comments; and a final report.