VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2015 SESSION

CHAPTER 676

An Act to amend and reenact § 33.2-358 of the Code of Virginia, relating to allocation of highway funds by the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

[H 2391]

Approved March 27, 2015

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 33.2-358 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 33.2-358. Allocation of funds among highway systems.

A. For the purposes of this section:

"Bridge reconstruction and rehabilitation" means reconstruction and rehabilitation of those bridges identified by the Department as being functionally obsolete or structurally deficient.

"High priority projects" means those projects of regional or statewide significance identified by the Board that reduce congestion, increase safety, create jobs, or increase economic development.

"High-tech infrastructure improvements" means those projects or programs identified by the Board that reduce congestion, improve mobility, improve safety, provide up-to-date travel data, or improve emergency response.

B. The Board shall allocate each year from all funds made available for highway purposes such amount as it deems reasonable and necessary for the maintenance of roads within the Interstate System, the primary state highway system, and the secondary state highway system and for city and town street maintenance payments made pursuant to § 33.2-319 and payments made to counties that have withdrawn or elect to withdraw from the secondary state highway system pursuant to § 33.2-366.

C. After funds are set aside for administrative and general expenses and pursuant to other provisions in this title that provide for the disposition of funds prior to allocation for highway purposes, and after allocation is made pursuant to subsection B, the Board shall allocate an amount determined by the Board not to exceed \$500 million in any given year as follows: (i) 25 percent to bridge reconstruction and rehabilitation; (ii) 25 percent to advancing high priority projects statewide; (iii) 25 percent to reconstructing deteriorated Interstate System, primary state highway system, and municipality maintained primary extension pavements determined to have a Combined Condition Index of less than 60; (iv) 15 percent to projects undertaken pursuant to the Public-Private Transportation Act of 1995 (§ 33.2-1800 et seq.); (v) five percent to paving or improving unpaved highways carrying more than 50 vehicles per day; and (vi) five percent to the Innovation and Technology Transportation Fund established pursuant to § 33.2-1531 for high-tech infrastructure improvements, provided that at the discretion of the Board such percentages of funds may be adjusted in any given year to meet project cash flow needs or when funds cannot be expended due to legal, environmental, or other project management considerations and provided that such allocations shall cease beginning July 1, 2020. After such allocations are made, the Board may allocate each year up to 10 percent of the funds remaining for highway purposes for the undertaking and financing of rail projects that in the Board's determination will result in mitigation of highway congestion. After the foregoing allocations have been made, the Board shall allocate the remaining funds available for highway purposes, exclusive of federal funds for the Interstate System, among the highway systems for construction first pursuant to §§ 33.2-359 and 33.2-360 and then as follows:

1. Forty percent of the remaining funds exclusive of federal-aid matching funds for the Interstate System shall be allocated to the primary state highway system, including the arterial network, and in addition, an amount shall be allocated to the primary state highway system as interstate matching funds as provided in subsection B of § 33.2-361.

2. Thirty percent of the remaining funds exclusive of federal-aid matching funds for the Interstate System shall be allocated to urban highways for state aid pursuant to § 33.2-348.

3. Thirty percent of the remaining funds exclusive of federal-aid matching funds for the Interstate System shall be allocated to the secondary state highway system.

D. In addition, the Board, from funds appropriated for such purpose in the general appropriation act, shall allocate additional funds to the Cities of Newport News, Norfolk, and Portsmouth and the County of Warren in such manner and apportion such funds among such localities as the Board may determine, unless otherwise provided in the general appropriation act. The localities shall use such funds to address highway maintenance and repair needs created by or associated with port operations in those localities.

E. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the General Assembly may, through the general appropriation act, permit the Governor to increase the amounts to be allocated to highway maintenance, highway construction, either or both.

2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on July 1, 2016.