

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 15.2-2222.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to state and local*
3 *transportation planning.*

4
5 Approved

[H 728]

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

7 **1. That § 15.2-2222.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 **§ 15.2-2222.1. Coordination of state and local transportation planning.**

9 A. 1. Prior to adoption of any comprehensive plan pursuant to § 15.2-2223, any part of a
10 comprehensive plan pursuant to § 15.2-2228, or any amendment to any comprehensive plan as described
11 in § 15.2-2229, the locality shall submit such plan or amendment to the Department of Transportation
12 for review and comment if the plan or amendment will substantially affect transportation on
13 state-controlled highways as defined by regulations promulgated by the Department. The Department's
14 comments on the proposed plan or amendment shall relate to plans and capacities for construction of
15 transportation facilities affected by the proposal.

16 2. If the submitting locality is located within Planning District 8, the Department of Transportation
17 shall also determine the extent to which the proposed plan or amendment will increase traffic congestion
18 or, to the extent feasible, reduce the mobility of citizens in the event of a homeland security emergency
19 and shall include such information as part of its comments on the proposed plan or amendment. *Such*
20 *information shall be provided concurrently to the submitting locality and the Northern Virginia*
21 *Transportation Authority.* Further, to the extent that such information is readily available, the
22 Department shall also include in its comments an assessment of the measures and estimate of the costs
23 necessary to mitigate or ameliorate the congestion or reduction in mobility attributable to the proposed
24 plan or amendment.

25 3. Within 30 days of receipt of such proposed plan or amendment, the Department may request, and
26 the locality shall agree to, a meeting between the Department and the local planning commission or
27 other agent to discuss the plan or amendment, which discussions shall continue as long as the
28 participants may deem them useful. The Department shall make written comments within 90 days after
29 receipt of the plan or amendment, or by such later deadline as may be agreed to by the parties in the
30 discussions.

31 B. Upon submission to, or initiation by, a locality of a proposed rezoning under § 15.2-2286,
32 15.2-2297, 15.2-2298, or 15.2-2303, the locality shall submit the proposal to the Department of
33 Transportation within 10 business days of receipt thereof if the proposal will substantially affect
34 transportation on state-controlled highways. Such application shall include a traffic impact statement if
35 required by local ordinance or pursuant to regulations promulgated by the Department. Within 45 days
36 of its receipt of such traffic impact statement, the Department shall either (i) provide written comment
37 on the proposed rezoning to the locality or (ii) schedule a meeting, to be held within 60 days of its
38 receipt of the proposal, with the local planning commission or other agent and the rezoning applicant to
39 discuss potential modifications to the proposal to address any concerns or deficiencies. The Department's
40 comments on the proposed rezoning shall be based upon the comprehensive plan, regulations and
41 guidelines of the Department, engineering and design considerations, any adopted regional or statewide
42 plans and short and long term traffic impacts on and off site. The Department shall complete its initial
43 review of the rezoning proposal within 45 days, and its final review within 120 days, after it receives
44 the rezoning proposal from the locality. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this subsection,
45 such review by the Department shall be of a more limited nature and scope in cases of rezoning a
46 property consistent with a local comprehensive plan that has already been reviewed by the Department
47 as provided in this section.

48 C. If a locality has not received written comments within the timeframes specified in subsection B,
49 the locality may assume that the Department has no comments.

50 D. The review requirements set forth in this section shall be supplemental to, and shall not affect,
51 any requirement for review by the Department of Transportation or the locality under any other
52 provision of law. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prohibit any additional consultations
53 concerning land development or transportation facilities that may occur between the Department and
54 localities as a result of existing or future administrative practice or procedure, or by mutual agreement.

55 E. The Department shall impose fees and charges for the review of applications, plans and plats
56 pursuant to subsections A and B, and such fees and charges shall not exceed \$1,000 for each review.

57 However, no fee shall be charged to a locality or other public agency. Furthermore, no fee shall be
58 charged by the Department to a citizens' organization or neighborhood association that proposes
59 comprehensive plan amendments through its local planning commission or local governing body.