

ITEM 9 - Action
January 18, 2006

Approval of a Resolution on Amendments to the
FY 2005-2010 and FY 2006-2011 Transportation Improvement
Programs (TIP) that are Exempt from the Air Quality Conformity
Requirement to Add Funding to the Idea 66 Study as Requested By
the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Staff

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution R11-2006 to amend the FY
2005-2010 and FY 2006-2011 TIPs to include
funding for the next phase of the Idea 66 Study

Issues: None

Background: At the December 21 meeting, the Board
requested that the next phase of the Idea-66
Study, which was included in a December 2 TPB
Steering Committee resolution to amend the FY
2005-2010 TIP, be considered at the January 18
meeting. The Board will be briefed on the next
phase of the Idea 66 Study, and asked to adopt
Resolution R10-2006 to amend the FY 2005-
2010 and FY 2006-2011 TIPs to include funding
for this next phase of the Study.

TPB R11- 2006
January 18, 2006

**NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002**

**RESOLUTION ON AMENDMENTS TO
THE FY 2005-2010 AND FY 2006-2011
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS (TIP)
THAT ARE EXEMPT FROM THE AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY REQUIREMENT
TO ADD FUNDING TO THE IDEA 66 STUDY AS REQUESTED BY
THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (VDOT)**

WHEREAS, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), which is the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington Region, has the responsibility under the provisions of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the Metropolitan Area; and

WHEREAS, on November 17, 2004 the TPB adopted the 2004 Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP) and the FY 2005-2010 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and

WHEREAS, on October 19, 2005 the TPB adopted the 2005 Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP) and the FY 2006-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and

WHEREAS, in the attached letter of January 12, 2006, VDOT has requested amendments to the FY 2005-2010 and FY 2006-2011 TIPs to add \$992,000 from a Federal earmark and \$8,600,000 in Federal obligation authority funds for the next phase of the Idea 66 Study to conduct preliminary engineering and analyses of the spot improvements recommended for westbound I-66 in Arlington and Fairfax Counties as described in the attached materials; and

WHEREAS, this project is exempt from the air quality conformity requirement, as defined in Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations "40 CFR Parts 51 and 93 Transportation Conformity Rule Amendments: Flexibility and Streamlining; Final Rule," issued in the August 15, 1997 *Federal Register*;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD amends the FY 2005-2010 and FY 2006 TIPs to add \$992,000 from a Federal earmark and \$8,600,000 in Federal obligation authority funds for the next phase of the Idea 66 Study to conduct preliminary engineering and analyses of the spot improvements recommended for westbound I-66 in Arlington and Fairfax Counties, as described in the attached materials.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

GREGORY A. WHIRLEY
ACTING COMMISSIONER

14685 Avion Parkway
Chantilly, VA 20151
(703) 383-VDOT (8368)

January 12, 2006

National Capital Region
Transportation Improvement Program Amendment

The Honorable Michael Knapp
Chairman, National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.; Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002-4201

Dear Chairman Knapp:

Following up on the Dec. 21, 2005 actions of the Transportation Planning Board, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is resubmitting its request (attached) amend the FY 2005-2010 and FY 2006-2011 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP). The amendment is to add additional funding for the next phase of a study, Idea 66, which is currently in the FY 2005 and FY 2006 TIPs.

VDOT originally submitted its request for this amendment, along with a few other projects, in November of 2005. The TPB's Steering Committee considered and approved the amendment request at its December 2, 2005 meeting (resolution SR9-2006). The TPB, however, at its December 21, 2005 meeting changed the Steering Committee's approval resolution to exclude approval of the Idea 66 amendment. The TPB advised VDOT to address / clarify the questions raised about the scope of study and agreed to consider the amendment request at its January 18, 2006 meeting.

VDOT had reviewed all the public comments the TPB had received prior to its Dec. 21, 2005 meeting and responded to these in its December 20, 2005 letter to the TPB. VDOT has, since then, worked with several agencies to address additional questions about the project. The revised TIP and CLRP description sheets for the project provide the outline of the work scope envisioned for the study being amended in to the TIPs.

The Honorable Michael Knapp
January 12, 2006
Page Two

VDOT emphasizes that the requested amendment is to initiate the next phase of the ongoing Idea 66 study, which is to further investigate and undertake preliminary engineering of the spot improvements recommended in the earlier phase (feasibility) of the Idea 66 study. The spot improvements that will be analyzed in this phase of the study: (1) will address the safety and operational concerns (including emergency evacuation) previously identified; (2) will be limited to westbound I 66 at specific locations; (3) will not preclude consideration of all multi-modal alternative long term improvements (identified in the earlier phase of Idea 66 study) as part of a long term environmental study; (4) will not preclude implementation of any long term improvement that is selected in the future; (5) will follow all applicable state and federal environmental review processes and (6) will undertake further public outreach activities.

The details of the TIP amendment request follow:

- Add in FY 06 of the FY 2005-2010 TIP, \$992,000 from a Federal earmark (TEA-21) for the spot improvements phase of the Idea-66 study.
- Add in FY 06 of the FY 2005-2010 and FY 2006-2011 TIPs, \$8.6M in Federal obligation authority funds for the spot improvements phase of the Idea 66 study.


The spot improvements phase of the Idea 66 study is limited to further analysis and preliminary engineering of the various spot improvements recommended for westbound I 66 by the earlier feasibility phase of the Idea 66 study. The activities VDOT plans to undertake with the additional funding include: (1) complete traffic analysis documenting existing operational problems at selected location in westbound I 66; (2) examine the improvements using the State Environmental Review Process to identify any potential environmental concerns; (3) scope the overall spot improvement study, (4) conduct further public outreach activities; (5) develop a master plan for traffic signing; (6) examine sight distance issues related to the horizontal and vertical alignments; (7) undertake preliminary engineering for lengthening the merge areas of the Fairfax Drive and Washington Blvd. on-ramps, (8) address the lane balance deficiencies between Route 29 and Glebe Road; (9) review the design requirements for provision of enforcement areas and a continuous shoulder, and (10) examining any right of way concerns as related to the implementation of spot improvements.

Since the above amendment is for a study and is exempt from conformity analysis, VDOT believes the amendment will not adversely affect the air quality conformity analyses performed and approved by the FHWA and FTA for either of the two TIPs.

The Honorable Michael Knapp
January 12, 2006
Page Three

Please call Jo Anne Sorenson at (703) 383-2461, if you need further information. Upon approval of this amendment, please furnish copies of the approval to Ms. Sorenson and to Mr. Ben Mannell in VDOT's Transportation and Mobility Planning Division. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

 *Assl. Dist. Engr.*
for

Dennis C. Morrison
District Administrator
Northern Virginia District

attachments

Table 1

Background Information on NoVA Projects Proposed for Amendment into the FY-05 TIP

Proposed for TPB
January 18, 2006

Facility / Project:	Idea-66 Study
Jurisdiction:	Arlington & Fairfax Counties
Limits / Location:	Rosslyn Tunnel to Dulles Airport Access Highway.
Project Description:	Conduct further preliminary engineering and analyses of the various spot improvements recommended, for westbound I 66, by the earlier phase (feasibility) of the Idea 66 study. The additional funding will allow the study team to access federal funds (including earmark) and undertake the following activities: (1) complete traffic analysis documenting existing operational problems at selected location in westbound I 66; (2) examine the improvements using the State Environmental Review Process to identify any potential environmental concerns; (3) scope the overall spot improvement study, (4) conduct further public outreach activities; (5) develop a master plan for traffic signing; (6) examine sight distance issues related to the horizontal and vertical alignments; (7) undertake preliminary engineering for lengthening the merge areas of the Fairfax Drive and Washington Blvd. on-ramps, (8) address the lane balance deficiencies between Route 29 and Glebe Road; (9) review the design requirements for provision of enforcement areas and a continuous shoulder, and (10) examining any right of way concerns as related to the implementation of spot improvements.
Agency Project ID:	56996, 78826, 78827, 78828
Agency Project Number	0066-96A-112, 0066-000-113, 0066-000-114, 0066-96A-113
New CLRP Description Sheet required?	No. Covered by existing CLRP description sheet.
New TIP Description Sheet required?	Yes. Existing TIP description sheet modified to reflect additional funding & project scope.
Reason(s) for Amendment:	Undertake the next phase of activities recommended during the earlier phase of Idea 66 study and subsequently approved by the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB).

Conformity Status:

Obtain access to Federal earmark funds programmed by the CTB.
Exempt. Listed in Table 2 of 40 CFR §93.126 as an activity that is "... exempt from the requirement that a conformity determination be made."

Financial Implications:

Adds \$992 K in federal earmark funds in FY 06.
Adds \$8.6M in federal obligation authority funds in FY 06.

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
CAPITAL COSTS (in \$1,000)**

PROPOSED TIP AMENDMENT - 1/18/2006

FY 2005-2010

Changes to existing entries are noted in **bold**.

Agency Project ID	Facility, Location, Description	Phase	FY04 TIP Entry	Carry Over	Annual Element FY 05	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08	FY 09	FY 10	Program Total FY 05-10	Funding Source	Funding Shares Fed/st/lo
VDOT INTERSTATE													
56996	Facility: Idea 66 From: Rosslyn To: Dulles Airport Access Road	P.E.	0	0	1,243	992	0	0	0	0	\$2,235	Federal Earmark	100%
		ROW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
		Const	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Jurisdiction: Arlington & Fairfax Counties,		Improve mobility westbound in the I-66 corridor between Rosslyn and the Dulles Airport Access Road. Begin PE - Initiate SERP, scoping, context sensitive design, signing master plan, & sight distance evaluation.											
78826	Facility: Idea-66	P.E.	0	0	0	8,600	0	0	0	0	\$8,600	Federal	100%
78827	From: Rosslyn	ROW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Obligation	
78828	To: Dulles Airport Access Road (DAAR)	Const	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Authority	
Jurisdiction: Arlington & Fairfax Counties,		Begin PE - Initiate SERP, scoping, context sensitive design, signing master plan, & sight distance evaluation.											

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
CAPITAL COSTS (in \$1,000)**

PROPOSED TIP AMENDMENT - 1/18/2006

FY 2006-2011

Changes to existing entries are noted in **bold**.

Agency Project ID	Facility, Location, Description	Phase	FY04 TIP Entry	Carry Over	Annual Element FY 05	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08	FY 09	FY 10	Program Total FY 05-10	Funding Source	Funding Shares Fed/st/lo
VDOT INTERSTATE													
78826	Facility: Idea-66	P.E.	0	0	0	8,600	0	0	0	0	\$8,600	Federal	100%
78827	From: Rosslyn	ROW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Obligation	
78828	To: Dulles Airport Access Road (DAAR)	Const	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Authority	
Jurisdiction: Arlington & Fairfax Counties,		Begin PE - Initiate SERP, scoping, context sensitive design, signing master plan, & sight distance evaluation.											

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Proposed Project or Action Description Form
FY 2005-2010

1. Agency: **VDOT**

Last Modified On: **1/12/2006**

2. Location and Jurisdiction

Facility: **Idea-66 Study (Spot Improvements Phase)**
From/At: **Dulles Airport Access Highway**
To: **Rosslyn Tunnel**
Jurisdiction: **Arlington and Fairfax Counties**

3. Description of project or action:

Conduct further analysis and preliminary engineering of the various spot improvements recommended, for westbound I 66, by the earlier feasibility phase of the Idea 66 study. The activities VDOT plans to undertake with the additional funding include: (1) complete traffic analysis documenting existing operational problems at selected location in westbound I 66; (2) examine the improvements using the State Environmental Review Process to identify any potential environmental concerns; (3) scope the overall spot improvement study, (4) conduct further public outreach activities; (5) develop a master plan for traffic signing; (6) examine sight distance issues related to the horizontal and vertical alignments; (7) undertake preliminary engineering for lengthening the merge areas of the Fairfax Drive and Washington Blvd. on-ramps, (8) address the lane balance deficiencies between Route 29 and Glebe Road; (9) review the design requirements for provision of enforcement areas and a continuous shoulder, and (10) examining any right of way concerns as related to the implementation of spot improvements.

Bicycle/pedestrian accommodations included.

4. Project Status

Existing Study – New phases

5. Environmental Review

Proposed categorical exclusion

6. Funding and Schedule Information

Date of completion or implementation: **2007**

Source	FY	Amount (x \$1,000)	Phase	% Fed/State/Loc
TEA 21 Earmark Funds.	2006	992	PE	100

7. Cost and schedule remarks:

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Proposed Project or Action Description Form
FY 2006-2011

1. Agency: **VDOT**

Last Modified On: **1/12/2006**

2. Location and Jurisdiction

Facility: **Idea-66 Study (Spot Improvements Phase)**
From/At: **Dulles Airport Access Highway**
To: **Rosslyn Tunnel**
Jurisdiction: **Arlington and Fairfax Counties**

3. Description of project or action:

Conduct further analysis and preliminary engineering of the various spot improvements recommended, for westbound I 66, by the earlier feasibility phase of the Idea 66 study. The activities VDOT plans to undertake with the additional funding include: (1) complete traffic analysis documenting existing operational problems at selected location in westbound I 66; (2) examine the improvements using the State Environmental Review Process to identify any potential environmental concerns; (3) scope the overall spot improvement study, (4) conduct further public outreach activities; (5) develop a master plan for traffic signing; (6) examine sight distance issues related to the horizontal and vertical alignments; (7) undertake preliminary engineering for lengthening the merge areas of the Fairfax Drive and Washington Blvd. on-ramps, (8) address the lane balance deficiencies between Route 29 and Glebe Road; (9) review the design requirements for provision of enforcement areas and a continuous shoulder, and (10) examining any right of way concerns as related to the implementation of spot improvements.

Bicycle/pedestrian accommodations included.

4. Project Status

Existing Study – New phases

5. Environmental Review

Proposed categorical exclusion

6. Funding and Schedule Information

Date of completion or implementation: **2007**

Source	FY	Amount (x \$1,000)	Phase	% Fed/State/Loc
Add'l Fed'l Obligation Authority	2006	8,600	PE	100

7. Cost and schedule remarks: