

LENOWISCO PDC

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

Transportation infrastructure continues to play a significant role in the LENOWISCO region's development efforts. LENOWISCO has long promoted the efficient and economical location and design of a balanced transportation system that will ensure the maximum, yet safest, movement of persons and goods throughout the district and beyond. The PDC and its transportation partners continue to actively pursue projects identified in the transportation plans of its localities, the district, the Kingsport Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization, the Bristol VDOT Construction District, and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

1

LENOWISCO RLRTP

The Rural Long Range Transportation Plan (RLRTP) is a document developed as a transportation planning resource for Lee, Wise, and Scott Counties, and the City of Norton, Virginia. The document identifies needs, goals, and recommendations for all traditional modes of transportation.

2

Kingsport MTPO

The Kingsport Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (MTPO) is a federally designated body responsible for transportation planning in the Kingsport urbanized area, which spans parts of Tennessee and parts of Virginia (Scott County).

3

UPWP

Annually, the Kingsport MTPO is required to submit a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). This document illustrates the various transportation planning tasks that the Kingsport MTPO will be involved in and the amount of funding that will be set aside for each task.

4

VDOT Bristol District

The Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) Bristol District includes more than 7,400 miles of roads in 12 counties, fully encompassing the LENOWISCO PDC footprint.

5

LENOWISCO/VDOT Title VI Plan

LENOWISCO PDC created a Title VI Plan to ensure that the PDC adheres and complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The plan details how LENOWISCO PDC will approach transportation-related projects while adhering to the laws as defined by Title VI.

6

Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board

The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) oversees transportation funding, statewide planning, project selection, and other initiatives in Virginia. The CTB typically meets every month, with additional meetings called as needed. All meetings are open to the public.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FUNDING PROGRAMS & ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

1

SMART SCALE is a process that helps Virginia meet its most critical transportation needs using limited tax dollars. It evaluates potential transportation projects based on key factors such as safety, congestion mitigation, accessibility, economic development, and land use and environment.

2

The State of Good Repair (SGR) program provides funding for deficient bridges and pavements owned or maintained by VDOT and/or localities as approved by the CTB.

3

The Six-Year Improvement Plan (SYIP) is a document that outlines planned spending for transportation projects proposed for construction development or study for the next six years. The SYIP is updated annually and is the means by which the CTB meets its statutory obligation under the Code of Virginia to allocate funds to various highway systems, public transit, and other programs.

4

VTrans is Virginia's Statewide Transportation Plan. It is prepared for the CTB by the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIP). VTrans lays out the overarching vision and goals for transportation in the Commonwealth and plans to achieve those goals.

5

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a federal reimbursement program intended to help local sponsors fund community-based projects that expand non-motorized travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by moving the cultural, historical, and environmental aspects of the transportation infrastructure.

6

The Revenue Sharing Program provides funding for localities for the construction and/or improvement of highway systems, with statutory limitations on the amount of state funds authorized per locality and per project. Locality funds are matched with state funds for qualifying projects and project allocations are approved by the CTB.

7

The Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) is guided by VDOT's Strategic Highway Safety Plan and receives federal and state funding to implement safety improvements across the roadway network in Virginia. HSIP requires a data-driven, strategic approach to improving highway safety.

8

The Rural Rustic Roads program is a practical approach to paving Virginia's low-volume roads. It aims to keep traditional rural lane ambience while improving the road surface within the current right-of-way.

LENOWISCO PDC

RELATED RESOURCES & ITEMS OF INTEREST

1

Mountain Empire Older Citizens – Mountain Empire Transit

Mountain Empire Older Citizens' (MEOC) Mountain Empire Transit (MET) provides public transportation across Lee, Scott, and Wise Counties and the City of Norton. They offer two types of service to meet community needs:

- The Demand-Response service provides free curb-to-curb trips scheduled in advance to any destination within the service area.
- The METGo! On-Demand Service offers affordable, app-based rides within two services zones: Wise-Norton and Big Stone Gap-Appalachia.

2

Regional Comprehensive Plans

Localities utilize comprehensive plans as a long-range blueprint for future growth, development, and preservation of the community. A comprehensive plan is a foundational, community-driven plan that provides a framework which establishes long-range visions and goals, guides physical development and land use, promotes orderly and coordinated development, and informs decisions and public investment. Comprehensive plans also touch on transportation aspects of communities, assessing current conditions and indicating potential improvements.

- [Lee County Comprehensive Plan](#)
- [Scott County Comprehensive Plan](#)
- [Wise County Comprehensive Plan](#)
- [City of Norton Comprehensive Plan](#)