

Albemarle County First Tier Transportation Priorities FY 2018- Update

This document presents the list of Albemarle County's First Tier Transportation Priorities for FY 18. This list was approved by the Board of Supervisors at their August 2017 meeting. The methodology for prioritizing all county transportation projects involved a qualitative assessment based on factors similar to the State's Smart Scale Process but also accounting for other County Strategic Goals. The list began with the previously approved Transportation Priorities List from 2016 and initial recommendations for a total of 50 projects previously identified through the Master, Comprehensive, and Long Range Planning processes.

The prioritization process rated projects based on each of the five factors as described below:

- **Safety** – Based on the VDOT Culpeper District's Potential for Safety Improvements (PSI) rankings on intersections and road segments to determine if a project would improve safety and also accounted for local reports of safety issues if not identified in the PSI rankings and concerns related to emergency access from Albemarle County Fire and Rescue;
- **Congestion** – Based on Level of Service measures from VDOT State Planning System (SPS) data, local reports of congestion issues, results of previous impact assessments and other planning studies projects. These were rated on their ability to improve throughput or reduce delay on a congested corridor;
- **Economic Development** – Based on the location of a project and the relative level of ongoing or future economic development in the vicinity, or the projects ability to enhance access to freight intensive industries, intermodal facilities, or its location on a freight route. Locations of target development sites nearby were also considered as are a projects ability to attract new economic development;
- **Accessibility** – Based on an assessment of employment density using the US Census LEHD data, existing congestion levels, density of disadvantaged populations with accessibility needs and the ability of a project to improve accessibility. Projects that included transit or other multi-modal features were rated high in this measure;
- **Land Use** – Assesses projects ability to promote multi-modal or infill development, support ongoing residential development, or supporting development located within a special planning area

Each project was ranked from Low to High for each of these factors and then all projects were ranked in priority based on those qualitative assessments.

The following FY 18 Tier 1 County Transportation Priorities displays the projects qualitative score in each of the categories and the overall rank of the top 20 projects that make up the 1st Tier of projects in the County. Further, the list provides a recommendation on advancing the project using the most applicable grant or other funding type.

2018 RANK	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE/ DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS	RECOMMENDATION
1	Rt 20/US 250 Intersection improvement	Safety/ operational/ capacity improvements at Rt 20/US 250 intersection	Previously ranked at #6 for Primary and Interstate Projects, this had included improvements on Rt 20 to Elks Drive but many of those improvements were made through other developments. This was part of the Free Bridge project denied funding in 2017.	Top priority 2018 Smart Scale application

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2	Northtown Trail - From downtown C'ville to UVA Research Park	Construct unbuilt sections of multi-use trail between new Berkmar Drive extended and Belvedere development. Provides important "arterial" network route for commuter bike and ped.	Previously ranked at #4 for Bicycle and Pedestrian projects, many sections of this trail have been completed through other projects.	Segment of the Northtown Trail along Berkmar from the recently constructed bridge south to Rio Road was a Revenue Sharing application in 2017. Awaiting word on the funding. Segment on US 29 from recently constructed Shared Use Path to Carrsbrook Drive is
3	Transit-Focused US 29 and US 29 BRT/Express - between Downtown C'ville and Hollymead/Piney Mtn.	Reshape US 29 to focus on BRT service, land use types, and infrastructure. Implement improved transit service in the corridor.	Previously ranked at #6 for Transit projects a 29 Express Commuter route is running and the proposed Regional Transit Partnership is currently being formed and the update to the Transit Development Plan is beginning.	Continue to work on the Hydraulic and Rio Small Area Plans to identify specific projects.
4	Pedestrian Improvements on US 250 East - between Free Bridge and State Farm Blvd	Crosswalks, pedestrian signals, associated sidewalks/ramps/safety islands. Evaluate grade separation options	Previously ranked at #1 For Bicycle and Pedestrian projects one crossing of US 250, at State Farm Blvd, has been constructed.	NIFI project moving forward to improve pedestrian connection at Free Bridge. Pantops Master Plan and Rivanna River Corridor Plan both underway and should identify additional future projects.
5	Pedestrian Crossings of US 29 North - between City limits and Timberwood Blvd.	Grade separated and at grade bike/ped options; associated pedestrian signals, sidewalks/ramps/safety islands.	Previously ranked at #2 for Bike and Pedestrian improvements two crossings have recently been completed at Hollymead and Rio.	Continue to work on the Hydraulic and Rio Small Area Plans to identify specific projects.

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6	Berkmar to Lewis & Clark Connector - From Hollymead Town Center to Airport Road and from Innovation Dr. to Lewis & Clark Dr.	New Roadway to continue Berkmar Dr. to Airport Rd and connect Innovation Dr. to Lewis and Clark Drive in UVA Research Park	Previously ranked at #14 for Secondary Roads but subsequently raised in priority prompting Smart Scale and Revenue Sharing applications submitted for these projects, which were denied. Funding identified to begin PE and fund some construction through the Secondary Six-Year Plan.	Broken up into 2 projects north of Airport Road and South. South of Airport Road is 2nd highest priority for 2018 Smart Scale application. North of Airport Road is likely a 2019 Revenue Sharing project through Public/Private Partnership with UVA Foundation.
7	Sunset Road Improvements - From Country Green/Sunset Ave intersection to Yellowstone Dr.	Improve alignment, install C & G, bike/ped facilities	Previously ranked at #3 for Secondary Roads this project had multiple components which have been broken out to separate projects some of which are being completed by developers. Project was denied funding through SS in 2016. Eventual connection from Sunset Ave to Fontaine Ave should be explored as second phase. New alignment to Southwood and across Biscuit Run and Country Green portion of this project have been removed to a future projects list.	Project would be a poor application for Smart Scale because of low benefit/cost based on State criteria but is important based on County Criteria. CIP funding has been requested to set up as a potential 2019 Revenue Sharing Project. Second Phase is recommended to be added to this which would connect across to Stribling and then to Fontaine Avenue.
8	Rt. 20 South Improvements - From City limits to Mill Creek Drive	Intersection improvements/ Bike and Pedestrian facilities/ Roadway Alignment Improvements/C & G	Previously ranked at #7 for Primary and Interstate projects this is also a bicycle and pedestrian improvement project with identified needs	Initial Phase of this to improve the Route 20 Route 53 Intersection is third highest priority for Smart Scale Funding. Future Phases will be part of Future Smart Scale and Transportation Alternatives Grants.

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9	Berkmar Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements - From US 29 to Hilton Heights Rd	Sidewalk, bike lanes or shared use path	Previously ranked at #10 for bike and ped projects this should also be part of the evaluation for the Northtown Trail.	Revenue Sharing application in 2017. Awaiting word on the funding
10	Commonwealth Dr/Dominion Dr Pedestrian Improvements - Commonwealth Cir to Dominion Dr/Commonwealth Dr to Rt 29	Pedestrian Improvements	Previously ranked at #10 for Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects this project focuses on improvements in an older urban neighborhood.	Revenue Sharing application in 2017. Awaiting word on the funding
11	Library Avenue - Current stub out to Eastern Avenue.	New road construction with future developments; bike lanes and sidewalks.	Previously ranked at #10 for Secondary Roads	Revenue Sharing application in 2017 as part of Public/Private Partnership. Awaiting word on the funding.
12	Eastern Ave. - From US 250 across Lickinghole Crk to existing stub out	New road segment to improve local road network capacity and accessibility; bike lanes and sidewalks.	Previous rank of #4 under Secondary Roads, conceptual design was done and segments completed by developers, but this segment will need to be County led.	Project would be a poor application for Smart Scale because of low benefit/cost based on State criteria but is important based on County Criteria. CIP funding has been requested to set up as a potential 2019 Revenue Sharing Project.
13	Greer/Jouett Bike/Ped Improvements - From Hydraulic Rd on Lambs Rd to AHS and Greer/Jouett schools	Sidewalks, bike lanes and/or shared use paths	Previously ranked #10 for Bike/Ped Improvements this was the recommendation from the SRTS Travel Plan	Transportation Alternatives application in 2017. Awaiting word on the funding
14	Cale ES Pedestrian Improvements - Avon St Ext and Cale ES	Pedestrian Crossing of Avon St Extended and internal sidewalks	Previously was proposed to be funded as part of other RS sidewalk improvements on Avon, but VDOT denied proposal	Transportation Alternatives application in 2017. Awaiting word on the funding

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15	Rio Road East Improvements - JW Parkway to City line	Improve alignment, install C & G, bike lanes and sidewalks.	Previously ranked at #15 for Secondary Roads sidewalk improvements are currently underway and VDOT has been evaluating the potential for roundabouts at the intersections in this segment of Rio to improve safety and operations including to facilitate pedestrian crossings	Initial Phase to reconstruct Rio/ Pen Park Intersection as a Roundabout is 4th highest priority 2018 Smart Scale application
16	Route 10 Transit Improvements - Downtown C'ville to Pantops	Increase transit headways on existing CAT Route 10 to 15 minutes during the peak hour and 30 minute off-peak.	Previously Ranked at #5 for Transit projects. Transit only link portion of this project was evaluated through the Free Bridge Project Process and not recommended for advancement and removed from this project. Discussions underway to create the Regional Transit Partnership and TDP which could evaluate this.	Recommended for inclusion in the update to the CAT Transit Development Plan. If approved, and recommended by the Regional Transit Partnership this would be funded through a budget request submitted by CAT possibly for funding in FY20.
17	Crozet Transit Service - Along Rt. 250 connecting Crozet to downtown C'ville	New transit service connecting Crozet and Downtown C'ville. Service would only occur during peak hrs (7am to 10 am) and (4pm to 7pm). Service would run on 30-minute headways.	Previously ranked at #4 for Transit projects JAUNT has been evaluating the addition of this service. Could be enhanced in the future working with the Regional Transit Partnership or through recommendations of the TDP	Currently being evaluated by JAUNT. If determined feasible and recommended by the Regional Transit Partnership this would be funded through a budget request submitted by JAUNT possibly for funding in FY20.

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18	Avon St./Mill Crk. Transit Service	New Transit service to developing Urban Neighborhood, regional public facilities and service areas	Previously ranked at #2 for Transit projects the Board received a report on this at the July 2017 meeting and directed to continue exploring options. CAT Director suggested providing the potential expansion to the consultant for the Transit Development Plan and evaluating through that process. Could also be part of the Regional Transit Partnership process.	Recommended for inclusion in the update to the CAT Transit Development Plan. If approved, and recommended by the Regional Transit Partnership this would be funded through a budget request submitted by CAT possibly for funding in FY20.
19	US 250 West/Crozet Ave Intersection Improvements	Safety/operation/ capacity improvements, roundabout, lengthen turn lanes, etc.	Formally grouped together with other 250 West Intersection improvements and ranked at #5 for Primary or Interstate projects. This was broken out as it was the only one of those intersection projects with an existing signal within the development area.	Potential 2019 HSIP, 2020 Smart Scale, or 2021 RS project.
20	Rio Road East Pedestrian Crossings - Between Fashion Sq. Mall western entrance and Old Brook Rd	Pursue crosswalk(s) in multiple locations including at Putt Putt Place or Rio East Ct. safety improvement	Previously ranked at #3 for Pedestrian Bike projects one crossing is now in development and Putt Putt Lane is being evaluated for a signal. Additional signal warrant studies may allow other crossings.	NIFI project moving forward to create new pedestrian connection at Greenbriar.

PSI = Potential Safety Improvement (VDOT rating system based on crash rates and potential for improvement; ranking represents level within the entire Culpeper VDOT District))

SS = Smart Scale Grant

TA = Transportation Alternatives Grant

RS = Revenue Sharing Grant

HSIP = Highway Safety Improvement Program Grant

SRTS = Safe Routes to School

TDP = Transit Development Plan

BRT = Bus Rapid Transit

DA = Development Area