

Unified Regulatory Plan

Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

Fiscal Year 2024

June 30, 2023

Agency Summary

DRPT's mission is to connect and improve the quality of life for all Virginians with innovative transportation solutions. The agency works with rail and public transportation stakeholders to provide service to people throughout Virginia and promotes transportation options to the general public, businesses, and community decision makers. As an agency entrusted with public dollars, we seek the highest possible return on investment to maximize funding and strive to implement best practice management tools and techniques.

Fiscal Year 2024 Regulatory/Guidance Document Actions

Grant Administration Guidance for Public Transportation and Commuter Services

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID 7213		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Grant Administration Guidance for Public Transportation and Commuter Service		
Brief Overview DRPT created this document to assist Virginia's transit agencies. This document outlines all the state and federal rules that agencies must follow when receiving state and federal funds.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box) N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute	<input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component DRPT is reviewing the document to simplify it and reduce the number of pages contained within the document. It should be noted that much of this document simplified voluminous federal regulations to assist Virginia's transit agencies with federal compliance which DRPT is responsible for.		
Expected Date Summer 2023		

Transit Ridership Incentive Program Guidelines

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID 7041		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Transit Ridership Incentive Program Guidelines		
Brief Overview Created during the 2020 General Assembly, the Transit Ridership Incentive Program provides funding to transit agencies for programs and projects that support regional connectivity or provide assistance to low-income individuals. This document outlines the program guidelines and set forth the process to apply.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box) N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action	X Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute X Action required by state statute	<input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component None. The General Assembly created additional eligible projects to the program so DRPT will add to the guidance document to reflect these changes.		
Expected Date Fall 2023		

FREIGHT (Commonwealth Rail Fund) Program Guidelines and Procedures

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID 7065		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document FREIGHT (Commonwealth Rail Fund) Program Guidelines and Procedures		
Brief Overview Created during the 2020 General Assembly, DRPT maintains seven percent of the Commonwealth Rail Funds for projects not administered by the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority. This document outlines the program guidelines and set forth the process to apply.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box) N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action	X Guidance Document

Legal Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute	<input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component DRPT is exploring opportunities with the Commonwealth Transportation Board that will allow the agency more flexibility in using these funds.		
Expected Date Fall 2023		

Rail Industrial Access Program Guidelines and Procedures

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID 7088		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rail Industrial Access Program Guidelines and Procedures		
Brief Overview The Rail Industrial Access Program was created in the 1980s and is used to spur economic development throughout the Commonwealth by connecting business to rail line to transport goods. This document outlines the program guidelines and set forth the process to apply.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box) N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute	<input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component DRPT is currently conducting a review of the program to better use the funds to spur economic development in the Commonwealth.		
Expected Date Fall 2023		