

Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Plan



Please use the survey found at this link to provide your comments to the study team



MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2025 5-7 P.M.

Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center
One Partnership Circle
Abingdon, VA 24212

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2025 5-7 P.M.

Salem Civic Center
1001 Roanoke Blvd
Salem, VA 24153

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2025 5-7 P.M.

Blue Ridge Community College
Robert E. Plecker Workforce Center
One College Lane
Weyers Cave, VA 24486

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2025 5-7 P.M.

Shenandoah University
Brandt Student Center
1460 University Drive
Winchester, VA 22601

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is preparing an updated study focused on projects that remain under construction or have progressed since the original 2018 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), which identified a total of 65 projects.

The I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan and Phases:

Phase 1: Issue identification - identify segments of I-81 with performance issues

Phase 2: Potential solutions - identify improvements to address segments with the highest rate and severity of crashes, or the most significant traffic delays

Phase 3: Prioritize potential solutions using an established methodology to ensure the best investment of public funds

Each of the above phases includes a public engagement component. Today's meeting is focused on Phase 3 Prioritized Solutions.

Current Status of the Study:

In July, the public had an opportunity to review potential infrastructure solutions to solve safety, congestion, and resiliency issues in the I-81 corridor. Those solutions were developed using a data-driven approach involving analysis of crash reports, traffic volumes, geometry, and other available data, as well as comments from the April public information meeting.

Following the July meetings, the study team performed an evaluation of each of the potential infrastructure solutions. Projects were evaluated against several factors, including safety, congestion, and accessibility to jobs. The list of staff recommended funding scenario takes into account the project evaluation and potential available funding.

PUBLIC MEETING

Welcome to the VDOT public information meeting on the Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Plan.

We look forward to your participation. This public information meeting is being held to provide an opportunity for the public to review refined solutions to address safety, congestion, and reliability issues in the corridor and provide input. The study team strives to ensure that all members of the community have the opportunity to comment on transportation projects and programs affecting them.

The purpose of this meeting is to share the staff recommended funding scenario with the public to get feedback on priorities that address critical needs in the I-81 corridor.

Study representatives are available to discuss the project, potential solutions, and answer your questions. An online survey and comment sheet are available and your input is encouraged. All written comments received will be reviewed by the study team.

Comments from this meeting, and the April, and July meetings, will be summarized and included in the final project report available this winter on improve81.org.



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GET INVOLVED

Study representatives will review and evaluate all input received from the public. Please complete the online survey or fill out the comment sheet provided at this meeting. You may leave the sheet or any other written comments in the comment box or mail/email your comments.

Comments must be postmarked, emailed, or delivered to the study manager by November 9, 2025.

Mail comments to Mr. Robert Williams at the address below or email va81CorridorPlan@vdot.virginia.gov.

Please include "I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan" in the subject line.

Project information shared at this meeting will be available at improve81.org and at VDOT's Bristol, Salem, and Staunton District offices.

These public information meetings are being held in the Bristol, Salem, and Staunton Districts. This is the final set of meetings in a series of three public engagement efforts for the I-81 2025 Corridor Improvement Plan.

SCHEDULE

PUBLIC INPUT MEETINGS

April 2025

July 2025

October 2025

END OF SOLUTIONS REFINEMENT COMMENT PERIOD

November 9, 2025

FINAL EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND REPORT

December 2025

CIVIL RIGHTS

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CONTACT INFORMATION



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