

Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Plan



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



MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025, 5-7 P.M.

Blue Ridge Community College

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

TUESDAY, JULY 15, 2025, 4-6 P.M.

Shenandoah University

Brandt Student Center
1460 University Drive
Winchester, VA 22601

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025, 5-7 P.M.

Hilton Garden Inn

325 Village Circle
Bristol, VA 24201

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025, 5-7 P.M.

Salem Civic Center

1001 Roanoke Blvd
Salem, VA 24153

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 2, Potential Solutions.

Current Status of the Study:

Following the April online public meeting, the study team used a data-driven approach to develop potential infrastructure and operations solutions to solve safety, congestion, and reliability issues in the I-81 corridor.

The team reviewed more than 4,000 public comments in addition to performance measure data, crash reports, traffic volumes, geometry, and other available data to develop the potential solutions presented at these meetings. Potential solutions will be further refined to reflect strategic use of limited funding and will be tied to existing critical issues in the corridor.

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 proposed 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 potential solutions 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 meetings, will be summarized and included in the final project report available this winter on improve81.org.



IMPROVE 81

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 July 31, 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 second set of meetings in a series of three public engagement efforts for the I-81 2025 Corridor Improvement Plan.

The final set of meetings in October will outline the recommended improvements for the I-81 corridor based on the study.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE

- POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS MEETINGS
July 2025
- END OF POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS COMMENT PERIOD
July 31st, 2025
- SOLUTIONS REFINEMENT PUBLIC MEETINGS
September/October 2025
- END OF SOLUTIONS REFINEMENT COMMENT PERIOD
To be determined
- FINAL EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND REPORT
December 2025

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CONTACT INFORMATION



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