



# **Emerging Trends in Interstate Operations and Management in Virginia**

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# Virginia's Interstate Network

- VDOT operates 1,118 miles of interstate, ranging from congested urban facilities to rural, mountainous interstates.
- 5 Traffic Operations Centers cover entire system
- VDOT also operates 56,416 miles of primary and secondary roads.







# Using Operations and Management to Address Interstate Congestion

- Primary focus is on mitigating nonrecurring events
- Improve reliability of trips under unusual conditions



Source: Cambridge Systematics and TTI, 2004



# Trends in Interstate Operations in Virginia

- Improved data and analytics
- Improved incident response
- Active traffic management
- Pricing as a management tool
- Integrated corridor management
- Connected and automated vehicle applications



# Improving Data and Analytics

- DOTs have historically been restricted to data generated by point sensors
- Partnerships with crowd sourced data providers have increased coverage
  - Probe travel time data (INRIX)
  - Incident data (Waze)
  - New cloud data portal for app providers
- New Big Data analytical tools
- Emerging connected vehicle data sets







# Improving Rural Incident Management



- Rural areas have lower levels of monitoring, fewer parallel routes
- Implemented first responder pilot using VDOT to provide coordination with first responders on lane blocking incidents at known rural hotspots
- 20% reduction in lane clearance time, 14% reduction in incident duration







# I-66 Active Traffic Management

- Major commuting corridor with frequent recurring and nonrecurring congestion
- In September 2015, VDOT activated ATM system that included:
  - Advisory Variable Speed Limits
  - Lane Control Signals
  - Dynamic Hard Shoulder (previously a static time of day system)









# I-66 Active Traffic Management



- Travel times improved 4 to 10% during weekday off peak periods, 7 to 15% on weekends
- Up to 25% reduction in crashes



# **I-77 Variable Speed Limits**



- Rural mountainous area prone to severe fog events
- Significant unsafe driving behavior during fog
- Implemented VSL system to dynamically reduce speeds based on visibility data
- System active in October 2016







# **I-77 Variable Speed Limits**



 Real time VSL feedback has reduced speed and improved compliance





# Priced Managed Lane Projects

- Pricing has been used to manage demand and encourage HOV utilization
- Open facilities:
  - I-95 Express Lanes
  - I-495 Express Lanes
  - Elizabeth River Tunnels
- Planned facilities
  - I-64 in Hampton Roads
  - I-66 Inside the Beltway
- I-66 Outside the Beltway









# Priced Managed Lane Projects







# Integrated Corridor Management



- Planning initiatives underway to look at multimodal mobility on I-95 and I-66
- Connection with freeways, arterials, transit, and parking



# Planning for Connected and Automated Vehicles



- VDOT has been active in connected and automated vehicles for many years
  - Lead state in connected vehicle pooled fund study
  - Developed Virginia Connected Corridor and Virginia Automated Corridor for testing
  - Key partnerships with state universities
  - Moving towards integration with TOCs



#### **Virginia Connected Corridors**









### **Virginia Connected Corridors**









#### **Virginia's Automated Corridor**



- Partnership between VDOT, DMV, Here, Transurban and led by VTTI to enable advanced automated vehicle technologies in Virginia
- VDOT has committed to maintaining standards for completeness of marking and retro-reflectivity properties







# **Themes Moving into the Future**

- Continued emphasis on real-time management of facilities, including active traffic control
- Continued improvement in availability, diversity, and analysis of data
- Increased coordination in operations between freeways, arterials, and transit
- Integration with future connected and automated vehicle applications



# **Questions?**

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