

ABOUT THE TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A Transit Development Plan (TDP) serves as a “road map” for future public transportation improvements in a community. It allows the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) to focus investments in transit systems that are meeting the existing demand for public transportation, and that have a desire to meet the growing demand for improved public transportation services. DRPT requires that public transit operators prepare, adopt, and submit a TDP at least every six years and update it annually each December.

The previous TDP for Suffolk Transit was completed in January 2014. This updated TDP for the City of Suffolk will meet the new 2017 DRPT planning guidelines, and provide the opportunity to:

- Document the changes in transit services;
- Adjust transit goals and objectives;
- Assess current transit services;
- Identify unmet transit needs; and
- Determine appropriate course of action within the six-year planning horizon.

The TDP serves as a management and policy document for the City of Suffolk and as the basis of capital and operating grant requests in the Commonwealth’s Six Year Improvement Program (SYIP), Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and Constrained Long-Range Plan (CLRP)

PUBLIC OUTREACH FOR THE TDP

During the planning phase of a TDP, it is important to engage both existing riders and the public in conversations regarding their thoughts and experiences about the system and its service. This discussion proves especially valuable if major changes to the system are ultimately recommended.

Suffolk Transit is planning to engage the public through a survey available on Suffolk Transit buses, at public libraries, and online. The main goal of the survey is to collect preferences of five trade-off scenarios. Due to limited resources, Suffolk Transit can not promise certain improvements but wants to know which improvements would help the most Suffolk residents. **Suffolk Transit is not proposing changes to service at this time.**

The survey is available online: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VDHP77P>. The survey is also available on Suffolk Transit buses and at public libraries in Suffolk. The last day to submit a survey will be Friday, October 19, 2018.

