



**SMART
SCALE**

*Funding the Right
Transportation Projects
in Virginia*

SMART SCALE Technical Guide

prepared for

Commonwealth Transportation Board

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3.5 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MEASURES

The SMART SCALE economic development measures evaluate how each project addresses regional and local economic development plans and new development activity, as well as improvements to intermodal freight movement access and efficiency, and travel time reliability to support the movement of goods and people. Listed below in Table 3.5 are brief summaries of the measures. Additional information about the measures, methodologies, and other details are available in Appendix E.

Table 3.5 Economic Development Measures

ID	Measure Name	Measure Description	Measure Objective	Measure Weight
ED.1	Project Support for Economic Development	Project consistency with regional and local economic development plans and policies and support for local development activity	This measure assesses whether the project is supporting new economic development and the progress made toward development in the project corridor at the local level. The scoring value is scaled by square footage of sites being developed in the area of influence of the project (up to a maximum of 10 million square feet of development).	60%
ED.2	Intermodal Access and Efficiency	Rate projects based on the extent to which the project is deemed to enhance access to critical intermodal locations, interregional freight movement, and/or freight intensive industries	<p>This measure assesses the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level to which the project enhances access to distribution centers, intermodal facilities, manufacturing industries or other freight intensive industries; • Level to which the project supports enhanced efficiency on a primary truck freight route (or high volume/ high value truck or rail freight corridor); • Level to which the project enhances access or reduces congestion at or adjacent to VA ports/ airports <p>The scoring value is scaled by the length of the project.</p>	20%
ED.3	Travel Time Reliability	Improvement in travel time reliability attributed to the project	This measure determines the project's expected impact on improving reliability which supports efforts to retain businesses and increase economic activity.	20%

3.6 LAND USE COORDINATION MEASURES

The coordination between transportation and land use is an important issue within jurisdictions throughout Virginia. SMART SCALE legislation mandates the use of this factor area for metropolitan areas in the Commonwealth with a total population of 200,000 or more. Localities with a population beneath that threshold were given the opportunity to voluntarily choose to use this factor area as well.

The goals of the SMART SCALE land use coordination measures are to improve the consistency of the connection between local comprehensive plan goals for transportation-efficient land use and transportation infrastructure design, multimodal accommodation, and system operations. Listed in Table 3.6 is a brief summary of the land use measures, and additional information is available in Appendix F.

Table 3.6 Transportation Efficient Land Use Measure

ID	Measure Name	Measure Description	Measure Objective	Measure Weight
L.1	Transportation Efficient Land Use	Amount of population and employment located in areas with high non-work accessibility	This measure determines the degree to which the project supports population and employment that on averages has a reduced impact on the transportation network	70%
L2	Increase in Transportation Efficient Land Use	Increase in amount of population and employment located in areas with high non-work accessibility between present day and the horizon year of 2025	This measure determines the degree to which the project supports population and employment that on averages has a reduced impact on the transportation network	30%