The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) completed its mandated employee reductions and launched its reorganization. I am gratified by Gov. McDonnell’s decision to appoint me transportation commissioner. Filling this post allows VDOT to move forward boldly so we can restructure the department to become a leaner, more efficient, more focused agency while meeting today’s transportation needs and better serving our customers.

Changes to our business practices will alter how localities, businesses, the transportation industry and the public work with VDOT. We opened our first customer service center in Salem District, which now directs most calls to VDOT to a central coordinated location. Since we have fewer points of contacts statewide for those requesting information and assistance, the center will provide more timely and effective service similar to what Virginians have come to expect from VDOT. One call to 1-800-367-7623 will address most of these needs.

VDOT’s final stage of streamlining also included: (1) consolidating 15 residency offices and expanding the scope of the 29 remaining residencies; and (2) reorganizing and downsizing our land-use, permitting, construction and project development activities to our district offices.

The governor and 2010 General Assembly directed that VDOT undergo audits of four programs: planning and programming; operations and maintenance practices; research; and Virginia’s Public-Private Transportation Act program. Results of these reviews will improve our efficiency and reduce unnecessary expenditures.

Finally, the Commonwealth Transportation Board adopted a $3.32 billion budget for VDOT for FY 2011, a 1.6 percent reduction from FY 2010. It reflects the impacts of transportation revenue reductions for our programs and staff. The budget includes $1.7 billion for highway maintenance and operations plus locality street maintenance payments, and $984 million for construction.

These various resource cuts made the past year one of the most challenging in VDOT’s history, but we did realize significant savings through our carefully planned activities to restructure the agency.

Greg Whirley
Commissioner

I-66 widening completed
The new eight-lane section of Interstate 66 between Manassas and Gainesville opened to traffic as the major makeover of Route 29 began south of the I-66 interchange. VDOT added a high-occupancy vehicle lane plus one regular lane in each direction on I-66 and rebuilt the interchange at Route 29. The $103 million, 2.5-mile section began in 2006 and finished on time and on budget.

The new $267 million Route 29/Linton Hall Road interchange includes two overpasses at the railroad tracks. VDOT will also widen Route 29 to six lanes and remove several signals and driveway entrances to improve traffic flow. Scheduled completion is 2014.

Construction quality, as evaluated by VDOT’s Construction Quality Improvement Program (CQIP), measures project compliance with contract quality requirements. The evaluation is made through a critical assessment, guided by a checklist of more than 1,100 construction quality checkpoints. The results show VDOT’s commitment to building quality roads and bridges while seeking opportunity for continuous improvement. Annual compliance results through the fourth quarter of FY 2009 and FY 2010 surpassed the 91 percent target, with both fiscal years achieving a 92.5 percent rating.

**Statewide Construction Quality Compliance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YTD Construction CQIP Rating</th>
<th>4Q FY 2009</th>
<th>4Q FY 2010</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 09 Target 91%</td>
<td>92.5%</td>
<td>92.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 10 Target 91%</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Contracts Completed</th>
<th>BOTH ON TIME AND WITHIN BUDGET</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 09 Target 77%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 10 Target 77%</td>
<td>79%</td>
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<tr>
<th>Scheduled Contracts Completed On Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>CONSTRUCTION ON-TIME PERFORMANCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 09 Target 75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84%</td>
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<tr>
<td>86%</td>
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300 construction and maintenance contracts were due for completion by fiscal year-end. Of those 300 contracts, 237 (79.0 percent) were completed both on-time and within budget.

90 construction contracts were due for completion by fiscal year-end. Of those 90 contracts, 58 (64.4 percent) were completed on-time.

210 maintenance contracts were due for completion by fiscal year-end. Of those 210 contracts, 191 (91.0 percent) were completed on-time.
QUARTERLY NOTES

- I-95 Improvements Includes Tolling
  Gov. McDonnell asked the Federal Highway Administration if Virginia could pursue tolling on Interstate 95 by adjusting its participation in a federal pilot tolling program. VDOT identified I-95 improvement projects to be funded with tolling revenues and met with FHWA to further develop plans to toll I-95.

- Route 460 PPTA Advances
  Commissioner Whirley issued a new solicitation for proposals for the Route 460 Corridor Improvements, a Public-Private Transportation Act (PPTA) project to build a new Route 460 between Petersburg and Suffolk. VDOT is seeking innovative financing methods to improve mobility on this critical transportation route.

- CTB Awards Enhancement Grants
  The Commonwealth Transportation Board awarded $3.5 million in transportation enhancement grants to support Virginia’s commemoration of the American Civil War Sesquicentennial. VDOT is part of the six-member joint venture that will use the funds to promote tourism and wineries.

- Fleet Ranked 17th in North America
  Government Fleet magazine ranked VDOT’s equipment fleet 17th out of 38,000 fleets and 400 applications for the “100 Best Fleets” awards. The sponsor cited the VDOT fleet’s 92 percent availability, despite resource cuts, and expanded use of onboard diagnostic laptops. Three Virginia government fleets and two state DOT fleets were included in the top 100 North American fleets.

- Culpeper Bridges Completed
  The Advance Mills Bridge in Albemarle County was completed for $3.3 million on an accelerated schedule, saving $2 million, because VDOT found it more cost effective only to build a permanent structure rather than a temporary one first. Culpeper District also replaced the timber deck on a Rappahannock County bridge in a single day, using pre-cast concrete slabs.

- Work Zone Awareness Vigil
  Secretary Connaughton and others addressed a sunset vigil at the VDOT Workers’ Memorial during April’s Work Zone Awareness Week. The audience included family members of those whose names are etched on the monument. The 2010 national event urged drivers to regard work zones as “No Phone Zones.”

- Animal Composter Study
  The Virginia Transportation Research Council began evaluating an animal composter in Salem District. The composting drum provides a cost-efficient and environmentally friendly way to manage road kill and is the first used by a state DOT. The study will assess the composter’s ability to manage VDOT’s increasing volume of road kill.

- New Virginia State Map
  VDOT collaborated with Virginia Tourism Corporation and the National Park Service to produce the 2010-2012 Virginia state map, which commemorates the 75th anniversary of the Blue Ridge Parkway.