

Upcoming SMART SCALE Round 7 Requirements

All transit-primary projects must engage with DRPT by **October 31, 2025**, to meet the program's engagement requirement.

This engagement ensures DRPT is aware of your project and can provide technical support for your application. This meeting is required for projects where **transit is the primary focus**, such as new fixed-route bus services. Projects that are roadway-based and include only minor transit elements, like bus stop improvements, are **exempt** from this engagement requirement.

To schedule your engagement meeting, contact Paige Lazar at Paige.Lazar@drpt.virginia.gov.

Round 7 Application Schedule

	Open Date	Close Date
Schedule Meeting with DRPT	Now	October 31, 2025
Pre-Application Period	March 2026	March 2026
Full Application Period	June 2026	August 2026

General SMART SCALE Reminders

- Only capacity expansion projects are eligible; state of good repair projects are not.
- Projects can request up to 100% funding, or leverage other state, local, or federal funds.
- SMART SCALE funding is the final funding source. Projects must be fully funded and ready for implementation upon award.

Eligible Transit Projects

- Rolling Stock or Infrastructure for New/Expanded High-Capacity (20-minute headways or less) or Fixed-Guideway Route
- Construct or Convert Existing General Purpose or Parking Lane to Bus-only Lane
- Construct or Expand Transit Customer Facility or Maintenance/Administrative Facility
- Construct New or Improve Existing Bus Stops
- Park and Ride Lots
- New or Expanded Vanpool or On-Demand Transit Service

Application Requirements

- Meeting with DRPT by October 31st
- Project Sketch
- Engineering Cost Estimate
- Ridership Data
- Planning Documentation: Project needs to be included in approved planning documentation.

For a comprehensive list of requirements, please consult the [SMART SCALE Technical Guide](#).