

**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA** Office of the Attorney General

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## MEMORANDUM

TO:	Jo Anne P. Maxwell
	Director, Governance and Legislative Affairs Division

- FROM: Chandra D. Lantz Senior Assistant Attorney General and Section Chief
- DATE: December 22, 2022
- SUBJECT: Periodic Review of Public Hearings for the Location and Design of Highway Projects, 24 VAC 30-380

In my capacity as legal counsel for the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Commonwealth Transportation Board, it is my legal opinion that the Public Hearings for the Location and Design of Highway Projects does not appear, on its face, to conflict with the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia, nor does it appear to conflict with federal or state law currently in effect.

Virginia Code § 33.2-210 provides that the Commonwealth Transportation Board has the power and duty to make regulations that are not in conflict with the laws of the Commonwealth for the protection of and covering traffic on and for the use of systems of state highways and shall have the authority to add to, amend, or repeal such regulations. Further, the Commonwealth Transportation Board is specifically authorized to hold public hearings in consideration of highway projects pursuant to Virginia Code § 33.2-208.

Further, Virginia Code § 2.2-4002(B)(3) states that this regulatory action is exempt from the Administrative Process Act. This memorandum addresses legal matters only and is not intended as a comment for or against the merits of the proposed regulations.