



Overview

The transportation network in the Rockfish Valley consists of State-maintained rural routes and rural two-lane arterial highways. The major corridors are Route 151 (which runs north-south) and Route 6 (which runs east-west). Both routes are designated Virginia Scenic Byways; and Route 151 is a designated bicycling route. Route 151 is also the location of much of the area's recent commercial development and an growing number of special events. Route 6 has experienced less growth, but has the most heavy vehicle traffic in the study area, with 9% of vehicles on the route being heavy vehicles (trucks, busses, tractor trailers).

Facts and Figures (VDOT Data: 2012-2014)

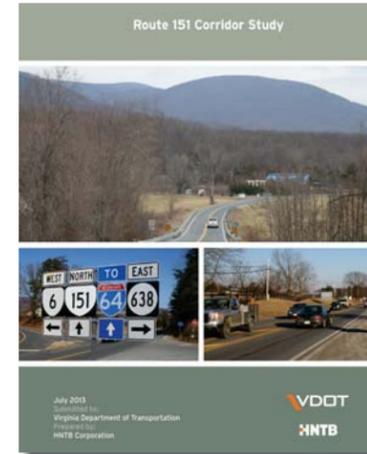
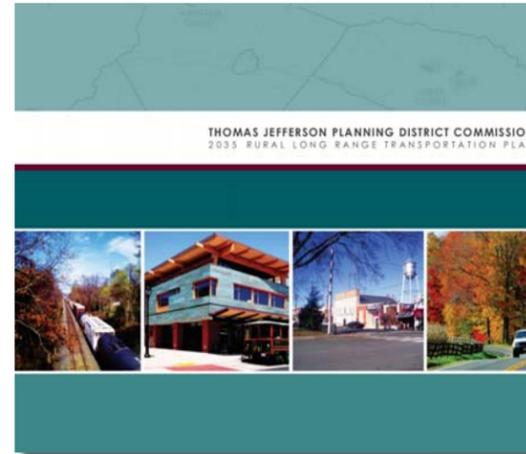
- Total road miles: 224
- Total number of crashes (between 2012-2014): 302
- Most congested routes: Route 151 and I-64
- Number of crashes involving alcohol (between 2012-2014): 26
- Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT): 8,161



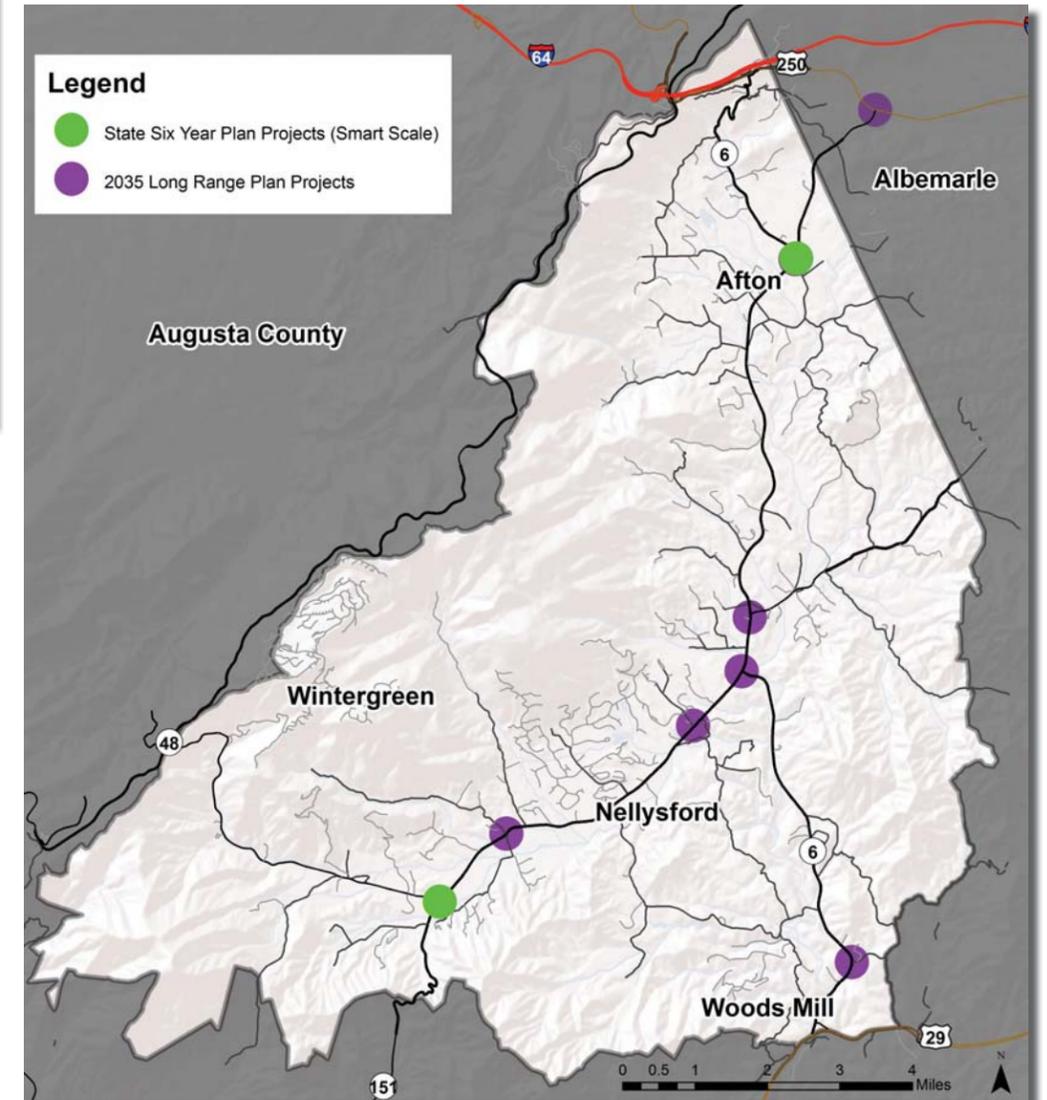
Current Recommendations

Several studies have evaluated the transportation networks in the Rockfish Valley and identified recommendations for improving safety and reducing congestion. Recommendations from these plans have been incorporated into the Regional Long Range Transportation Plan (RLRP-2035). Most recently, the VDOT Route 151 Corridor Study (2013) identified strategies for improving problematic intersections all along Route 151. Two such projects in the corridor were recently awarded construction funds through the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).

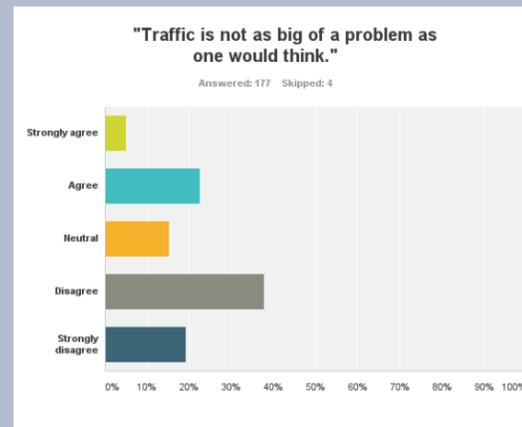
Previous Plans & Existing Studies



2035 Rural Long Range Plan Recommendations Map

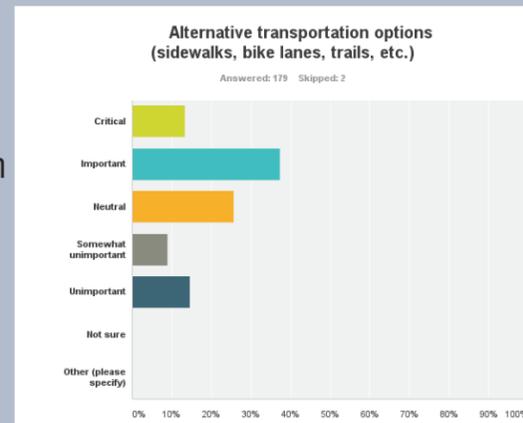


Public Survey Results: What is the community saying about Transportation? Do you agree with the results of the survey?



55% disagreed with the statement that "Traffic is not as big of a problem as one would think." Approximately 28% said they agree with that statement.

Approximately 50% said alternative transportation options in the Rockfish Valley are important. Approximately 23% such options are somewhat unimportant or unimportant.

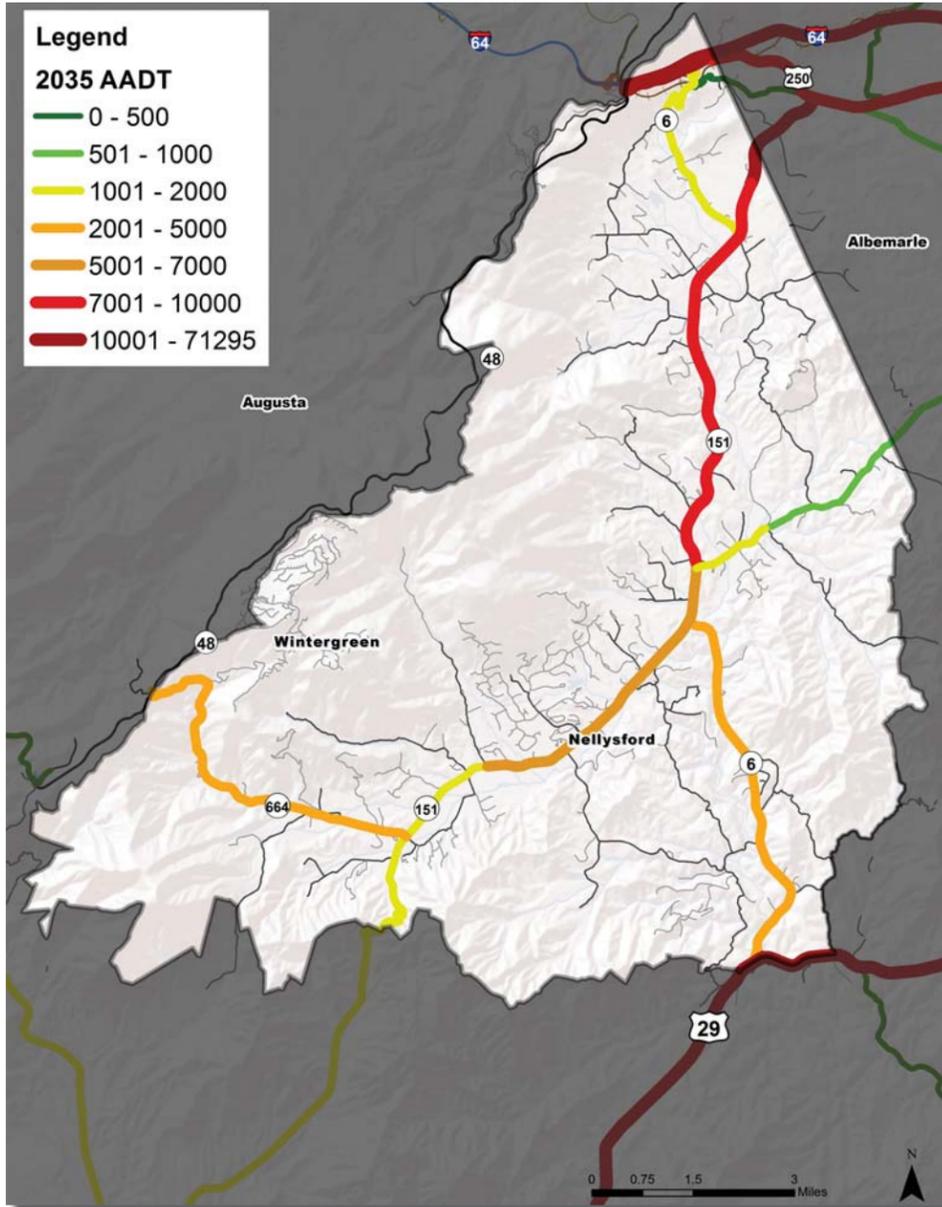


Transportation

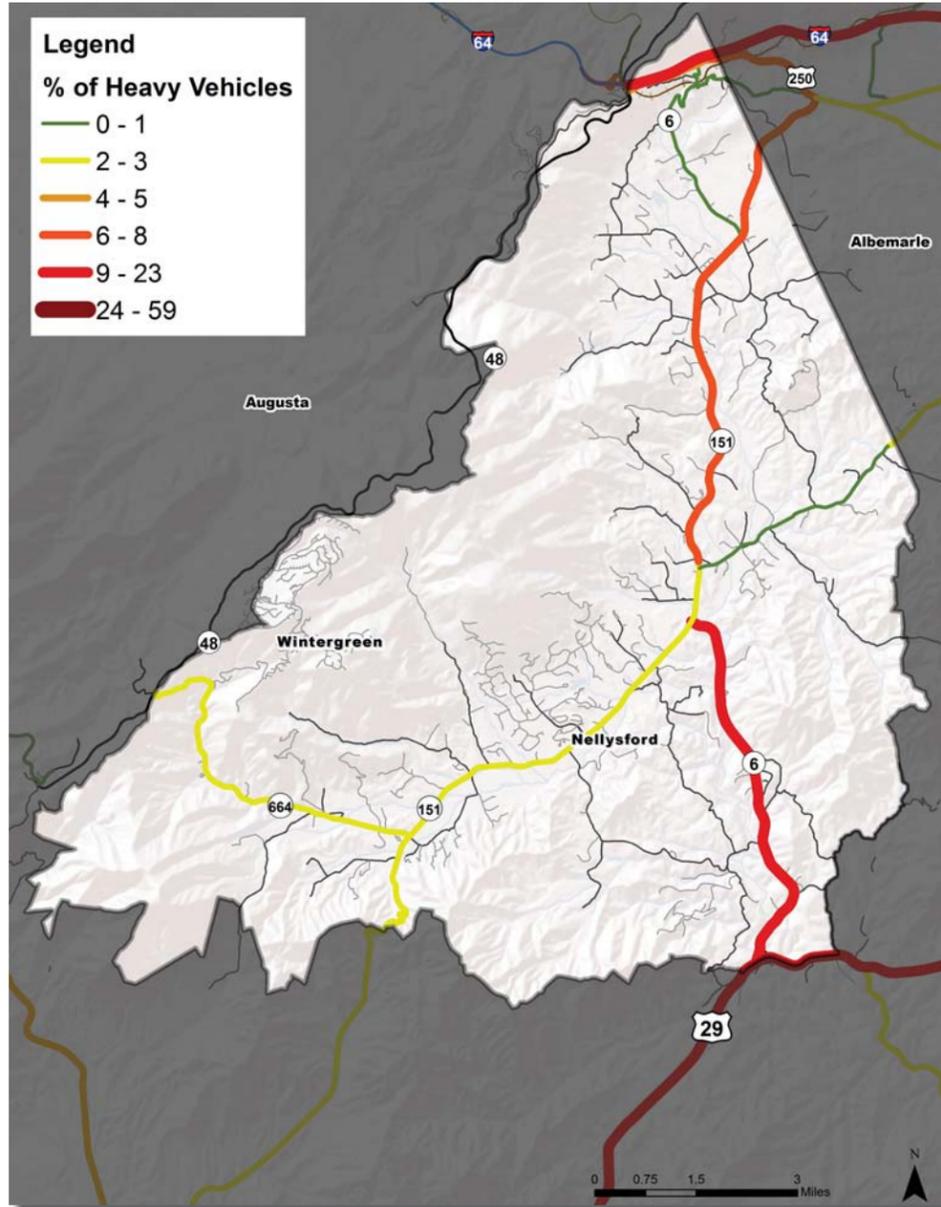
Transportation networks are evaluated on their safety, access to the community, and ability to adequately carry traffic. The maps on this poster highlight the current traffic conditions, the percentage of traffic that is heavy vehicles (trucks), and crash hotspots.



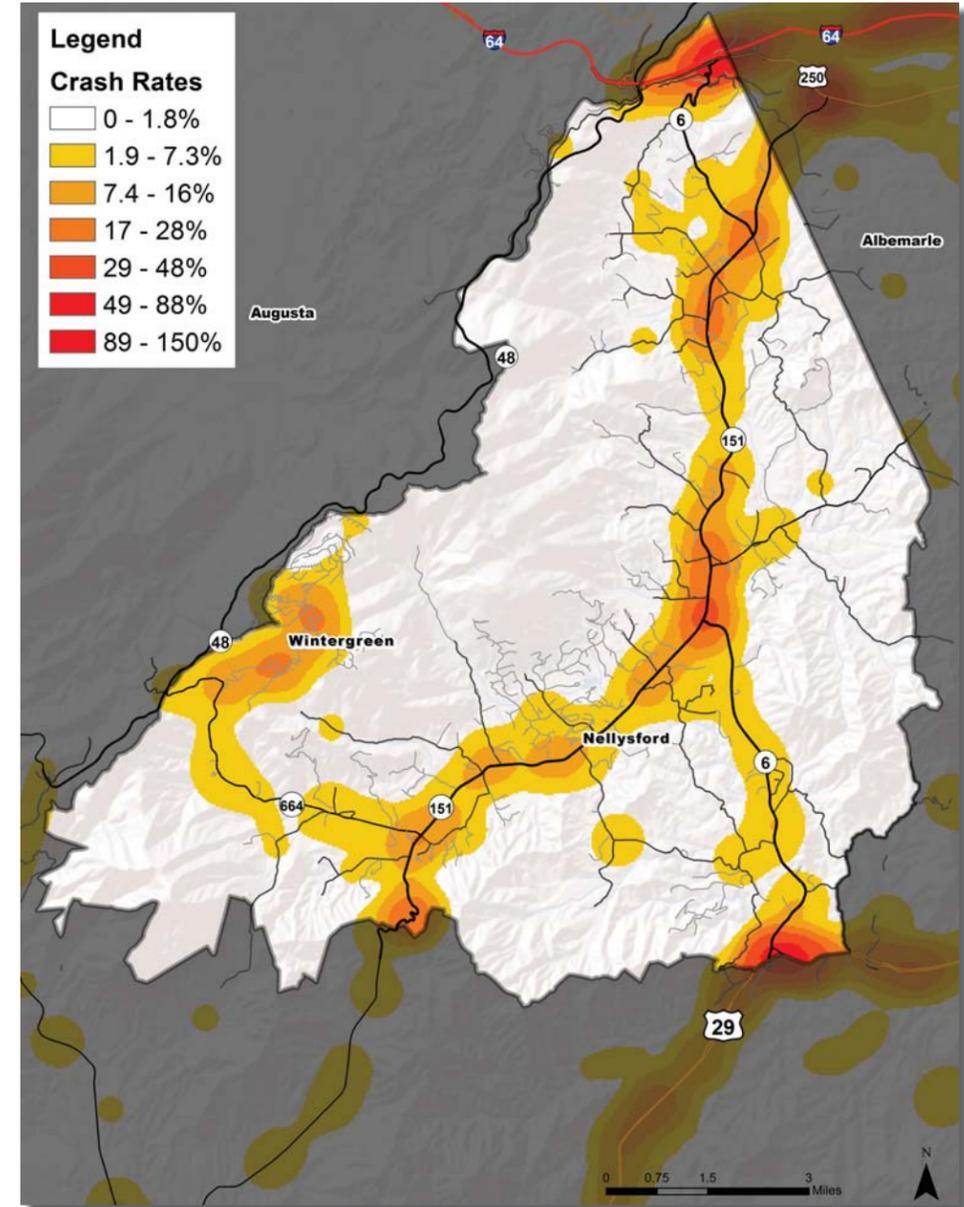
Traffic Volumes



Percent Truck Traffic



Crash Hotspots



Annual average daily traffic (AADT) is a measure of traffic volume on a section of roadway. AADT data is collected by VDOT for major roadways. VDOT collects the data using electronic counting equipment placed in the roadway. Counts are normally done during the week (Tuesday-Thursday) to represent “normal” weekday traffic - and therefore data might not fully represent weekend traffic increases. Data in this map shows current trends forecasted out to 2035.



Percent truck traffic is derived from the same counts as AADT, but sensors on the counting equipment distinguish vehicles by weight. This data provides information on the percentage of the traffic on a roadway that is made up of heavy vehicles. Heavy vehicles include busses, box trucks, large farm equipment, semi-trailers and other combination axle vehicles. Currently, the highest truck traffic rate in the study area is on River Road (Route 6) at 9%.



Crash hotspot mapping is a method used to identify areas with clusters of crashes. Crash data is reported to VDOT with location information, severity, and the type of incident. Crash data can be mapped and analyzed using specialized software that identifies hotspots. This map illustrates crashes from 2012-2014; darker colors indicate greater crash numbers. Most hotspots are clustered around intersections along Routes 151, 6, and 29.