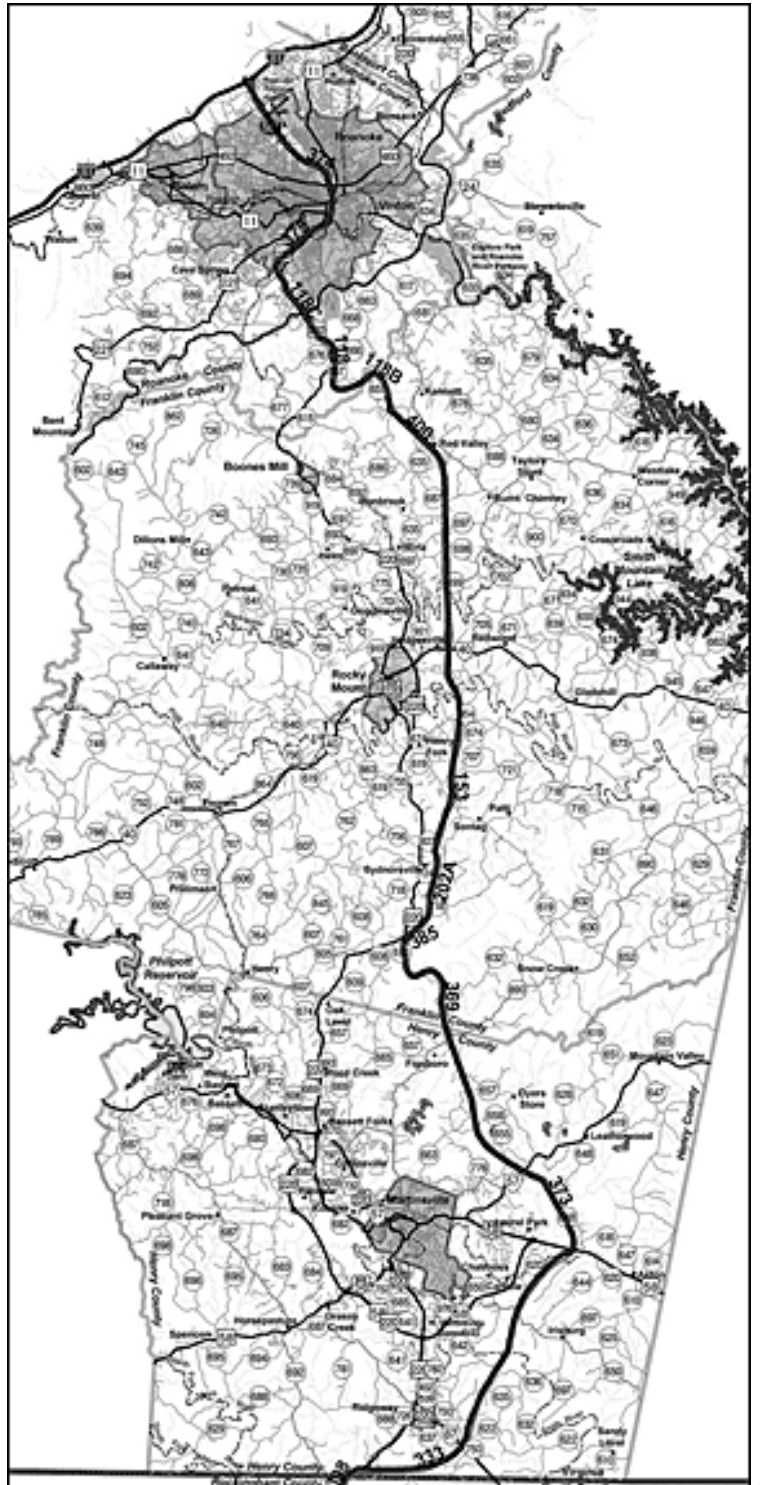


- I-73 was identified by the U.S. Congress as a high priority corridor in the federal transportation funding bill of 1991, the Intermodal Surface Transportation Act (ISTEA). It was defined as a north-south corridor from north of Detroit to Charleston, S.C.
- In May 2001, members of the Commonwealth Transportation Board decided to build I-73 in Virginia and selected a location for the road. The board revised the routing for the southern portion of I-73 in June 2001.
- In July 2004 the Commonwealth Transportation Board voted to re-route a 12-mile section of the I-73 corridor through Roanoke, Roanoke County and northern Franklin County. The route was altered to avoid a neighborhood in southeast Roanoke that was determined to be eligible for historic designation. No other section of the 70-mile corridor is affected by the change. The map to the right reflects the current location for I-73.
- VDOT completed the Federal Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) in December 2006 on the selected location. The document was forwarded to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for approval. FHWA issued a Record of Decision in late March 2007. With this decision, design, right of way acquisition and eventual construction of I-73 can begin, depending on funding.
- No timetable for construction has been set, although some funds have been designated for designing plans and construction. In the meantime, VDOT continues to work on a series of improvements along Route 220, including installation of median guardrail, closing of some crossovers, building turn lanes and installing changeable message signs to provide real-time traffic information to drivers.



For more information about I-73, log onto [www.VirginiaDOT.org](http://www.VirginiaDOT.org).