Reasonable Solutions

Reasonable Solutions for I-81: A Six-Point Plan for the Future was endorsed by numerous local governments, civic groups and residents from 2005 through 2007.

- Complete spot improvements to I-81, such as climbing lanes and redesigned exits, which will improve safety and relieve congestion. Data should support the need and type of each improvement, many of which are identified in earlier VDOT studies.
- Use the highway's median for improvements to limit the encroachment of the road on private property and to avoid further impacts on adjacent landowners, communities, farmland, battlefields and tourism.
- Significantly step up law enforcement to improve safety.
- Incorporate meaningful transit options for both urban and rural areas in road improvement plans. Coordinate with cities, local governments, major employers and universities.
- Pursue implementation of a rail component for a balanced transportation system that would increase options for freight capacity, maintain economic competitiveness and avoid air quality and congestion problems as road use grows.
- Provide funding for land acquisition to mitigate impacts of I-81 on cultural resources in the corridor, most notably battlefields.

Counts: Augusta, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Clarke, and Albemarle Counties

Localities: City of Roanoke; Towns of Front Royal, Tom’s Brook, New Market, Edinburg, Mt. Jackson

Agencies, Civic Groups:

- Appalachian Trail Conservancy
- Augusta Community Partnership
- Civil War Preservation Trust
- Friends of the North Fork of the Shenandoah River
- National Parks Conservation Association
- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- Potomac Conservancy
- Pure Water Forum
- Rail Solution
- Rockingham CAP
- Scenic 340 Project
- Shenandoah Forum
- Shenandoah Preservation League
- Shenandoah Resource Conservation & Development Council
- Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation
- Shenandoah Valley Network
- Shenandoah Valley Travel Association
- Shenandoah Valley Network
- Valley Conservation Council
- Virginia Conservation Network
- Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association
- Virginia League of Conservation Voters

The Shenandoah Valley Network works to maintain healthy and productive rural landscapes and communities, to protect and restore natural resources, and to strengthen and sustain our region’s agricultural economy by supporting strong local citizens’ groups in six counties in the northern Shenandoah Valley.  www.svnva.org