



Local Assistance Division Newsletter

Providing guidance for localities and serving as a liaison to local governments throughout the state

Volume 8, Issue 2

Summer 2017

Local Programs Workshop - September 12-14, 2017 - Virginia Beach, Virginia



"Network for Success"

The sixth annual Local Programs Workshop will be held at the Founder's Inn in Virginia Beach. This workshop will focus on providing an overview of local programs and provide training for program management and project development. The theme of the workshop is "Network for Success" and will bring together local government, VDOT, and private sector staff to discuss delivery of the local transportation program. In addition to the plenary sessions, the workshop will feature 20 breakout sessions, scheduled in four concurrent tracks, over the two-day workshop. This workshop is intended for those within local public agencies that have oversight of locally administered projects or work with projects receiving special funding from various programs, in addition to consultants and VDOT staff involved in these projects.

Registration

Check out <http://www.cpe.vt.edu/lpw/registration.html> for registration details, schedule and more!

Project Showcase

As part of the Local Programs Workshop, we will be having a project showcase and we are looking for submissions of projects to highlight. The showcase of projects will be featured in a slideshow to be shown continuously during breaks and meals in the general session ballroom. In order to be included, projects should be either locally administered, funded through one of our programs, or both and should be complete. If interested in submitting a project or have questions, contact Carol West at (804)786-2746 or carol.west@vdot.virginia.gov.

Continuing Education Credits

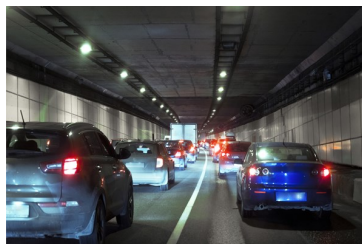
The Local Programs Workshop provides up to 9.5 educational hours. For purposes of the VA DPOR continuing education requirements for Virginia Professional Engineer license holders this workshop earns 11.4 continuing education credits.

Mobile Workshops

On Tuesday, September 12, we are offering five mobile workshops which highlight projects in the Hampton Roads - Virginia Beach area. For information on these mobile workshops, check our [website](#).



First Landing State Park



Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel



Cape Henry Lighthouse

URBAN MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

In accordance with Section 33.2-319 of the Code of Virginia, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) approved the maintenance payments for Urban Cities and Towns at the June CTB meeting. The overall budget for this program has increased by 1.19% in FY18. The raised payment rates will be applied to eligible lane mileage for each classification. Local Assistance Division (LAD) has worked with VDOT District and Residency offices to adjust the roadway inventory and lane mileage summaries based on eligible mileage additions/deletions as submitted by municipalities over the past fiscal year. These adjustments also include the functional reclassification per Julie Brown's email dated October 27, 2016. Affected localities were notified individually of any adjustments to the functional classification of their inventory. Detailed information regarding the Urban municipal mileage and payments for FY18 can be found under the Urban Maintenance Program at http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/local_assistance/Urban_Municipal_Mileage_and_Payments.pdf

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URBAN MAINTENANCE INVENTORY SYSTEM (UMIS) / ROADWAY INVENTORY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (RIMS)

As previously shared, the next phase of the UMIS/RIMS conversion project is to geo-reference the urban maintenance inventory data. The UMIS/RIMS project requirements have been finalized and there are plans to start this phase the project July 10, 2017 with completion in April 2018. The project will incorporate all UMIS functionality into the VDOT Roadway Network System (RNS) and also includes making available a public map of the urban network for viewing to VDOT Districts and local jurisdictions. Retirement of the UMIS system will occur after running parallel with the upgraded RIMS for a period of time post-project.

FUNDING PROGRAMS

HIGH VOLUME UNPAVED ROAD PROGRAM

The Code of Virginia (§33.2-358) authorizes the set-aside of unpaved road funds for providing a hard-surface to unpaved roads with traffic volumes over 50 vehicles per day. In June 2014, the CTB began to set aside a portion of these funds to address high volume unpaved roads, which are defined as unpaved roads with a traffic count greater than 500 vehicles per day. Allocations are awarded annually by the CTB based on applications submitted by Counties. At its June 20, 2017 meeting, the CTB approved \$1,198,000 for four projects. A list of these projects, as well as previously funded projects, can be found on our High Volume Unpaved Roads website: http://www.virginiadot.org/business/local_assistance_division_funding_programs.asp

LOCAL PAVING PROGRAMS PRIMARY EXTENSIONS / STATE OF GOOD REPAIR

Similar to last year the Primary Extension applications submitted for FY18 funding had the opportunity to be funded with both CTB formula funds and State of Good Repair (SGR) funds. Applications were scored and ranked Statewide and Districtwide since the SGR paving funds were allocated to each District with a specific amount identified for locally maintained primary extensions. The SGR funds were allocated first and then CTB formula funds. Projects that received partial funding for SGR funds were also considered for CTB formula funds based on their relative statewide score. In total 159 applications were scored with 76 projects in 30 localities receiving funding. A total of \$19,949,627 was distributed to the selected projects. A list of the approved projects the CTB approved at their June 20, 2017 meeting can be found at the Primary Extensions [website](#). As a reminder, projects must be advertised within 6 months of receiving funds or be subject to deallocation.

REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM

The CTB approved the FY18 Revenue Sharing Program at its June 20, 2017 action meeting. This approval provided approximately \$102 million for 77 projects. Requests for funding were prioritized in accordance with Virginia Code requirements and CTB policy. However, because applications exceeded available funding, only applications for existing revenue sharing construction projects were able to be funded this year. The list of FY18 Revenue Sharing Allocations is posted on the [website](#). The next request for allocations will be for a two-year cycle (FY19 and FY20) and applicants will continue to be required to submit requests on-line via the Department's Smart Portal. A pre-application coordination form is available on our website and is intended to assist in gathering the information that will be required to submit your application. You are encouraged to use this form and work closely with your local VDOT representative to develop estimates and schedules and to ensure the project request is a viable candidate under the program.



Due to the popularity of this program, and the limited funding available, a study committee comprised of four CTB members was established by the Secretary to review the Revenue Sharing Program and recommend changes that would align the program with the projected funding over the next six years. New guidelines are anticipated to be approved at the July CTB meeting and will be posted on our website.

VDOT's Local Assistance Division has begun its review of project candidates for the annual de-allocation process for the Revenue Sharing Program. Any project that has not been initiated within two fiscal years of receiving the allocation, has not incurred expenditures within the past 24 months, or has been completed for six months and has a surplus is a candidate for the de-allocation of funds. We strongly encourage localities with existing projects to ensure those projects are progressing and funding is being spent within the established timeline. More information on the de-allocation process can be found on our website.

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM

The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) finalized selection for FY18 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) at their June 20, 2017 meeting. A total of 70 projects received funding. A list of these projects can be found on our [website](#).

This year's TAP application deadline is November 1, 2017. Note that this application cycle will include awards for both FY19 and FY20 allocations. The next opportunity to submit an application will not be until November 1, 2019.



Localities and other project sponsors interested in applying for FY 2019/20 federal Transportation Alternatives (TA) funding are strongly encouraged to attend a Applicant Workshop. At these workshops we will review the program eligibility, application process, and scoring criteria.

Applicant Workshops have been scheduled for the following dates and locations.

July 19, 2017	Wytheville Preservation Heritage Center	Wytheville
July 26, 2017	Smithfield Center	Smithfield
August 3, 2017	VDOT Lynchburg District Ramey Building	Lynchburg
August 17, 2017	VDOT Culpeper District Auditorium	Culpeper

To register for a workshop and for directions please click on the following link [2017 Applicant Workshops](#).

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

VA TRANSPORTATION TRAINING ACADEMY /VA LTAP WORKSHOPS

UVA TTA offers a wide range of training workshops throughout Virginia that would be beneficial to our local government partners. Registration for July—September classes are now being accepted. For general class registration information go to <http://uva-tta.net/workshops/>.

TRANSPORTATION PROJECT MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (TPMI)

2017 LOCAL GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Local Assistance Division congratulates the 2017 local government scholarship winners graduating from TPMI.

Brent Epps, Chesterfield County
 Susan Wilson, City of Portsmouth
 Hongtu Qi, Fairfax County
 Pete Kesecker, Rockingham County/Community Development

MANUAL UPDATES

LAP MANUAL

Local Assistance Division continues to work on comprehensive updates to the LAP Manual. The next update coming soon will include CH13 - Construction, CH15 - Environmental, CH16 - Right of Way, and Ch17 - Civil Rights.

URBAN MANUAL

The purpose of the Urban Construction and Maintenance Program Manual (aka Urban Manual) is to provide uniform policy and procedural guidance to support urban municipalities and assist VDOT staff in the delivery of the urban maintenance and construction programs. This manual also establishes policy and program level guidance so that VDOT and urban municipalities can effectively meet the state and federal requirements. The Urban Manual is being updated for an early summer release. Overall changes include correcting broken links, improving readability and expanding section definitions for clarity. Specific items of interest include establishing a process for bicycle-lane conversions for payments under the Urban Maintenance Inventory System (UMIS) in accordance with changes to Virginia Code [Section 33.2-319](#) per [HB2023](#) (2017 GA Session); and updating the Urban Construction Funding Sections. The Urban Manual can be accessed on the [Local Assistance Division website](#).

LAD SPOTLIGHT

CONGRATULATIONS KURT KUPPERT

Congratulations to Kurt Kuppert, Local Assistance Division Program Coordinator on receiving the 2017 FHWA Environmental Excellence Award - Multimodal Transportation.

The FHWA Environmental Excellence Award is a biennial award to honor outstanding initiatives and partnerships across the United States that incorporate environmental stewardship into the planning and project development processes using FHWA funding sources. The selection process was extremely difficult because of the high caliber of this year's nominations.



The **Virginia Central Railway Trail** was a unique project funded with Transportation Alternatives and CMAQ fund sources that required thinking outside the box to preserve several historic aspects of the project. The project included a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among the FHWA, National Park Service, VDOT, Virginia State Historic Preservation, City of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County, and consulting with several outside groups such as the Virginia Council on Indians, Army Corps of Engineers, National Railway Historic Society, and Friends of the Rappahannock, to preserve historic elements of the project such as reusing the ca. 1857 culverts stone and using them as headwalls and avoidance of the ca. 1926 bridge piers by placing a new bridge deck over them for preservation. The project also included interpretive displays and rest areas to highlight the rich history of the **Virginia Central Railway Trail**.

No different than any other successful project, this particular project had a great level of partnership between the involved parties. The team cooperated together to advance and achieve their mutual interests during the complex development of the MOA and worked through the special challenges of this project. Valued trust, respect, communications and cooperation among the group were essential in delivering a successful project to serve and benefit citizens of the Commonwealth.