



Local Assistance Division Newsletter

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

Volume 8, Issue 1

Winter 2017



2017 LOCAL PROGRAMS WORKSHOP

September 12 - 14, 2017

at

Founders Inn
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Sponsorship and registration information coming soon!



In 2016, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) approved \$1.7B in funding to build 163 projects approved through the first round of the SMART SCALE prioritization process. Those selected projects are funded through all phases of project development to ensure their ability to progress and meet their proposed schedules. Developed to offer transparent reporting, a new SMART SCALE Dashboard has been implemented to communicate to our stakeholders the status and progress of these projects funded through the SMART SCALE process. The SMART SCALE Dashboard contains all projects that have SMART SCALE funding regardless of who is administering the project.

There is a stronger focus on early delivery which includes an expanded use of the yellow and red indicators to alert parties of approaching milestones as well as allow recovery time before a status permanently moves to red. A core business rule for SMART SCALE projects implemented with the new Dashboard is that projects must be opened to charges by July 1 of the first fiscal year in which they receive funding. In order to accomplish this, all of the steps normally needed to get a project open to charges must be taken sufficiently in advance (Request to Administer and agreement execution) so that the project can be opened for charges July 1. Your District contacts are prepared to work with you in advance of the funding being available to accomplish this goal.

Additionally, reporting SMART SCALE Dashboard construction milestones and budget updates will be required through construction completion. If any critical information is missing, the project will show RED on the Dashboard. In order to keep information current and complete, VDOT will continue the partnerships that we have with local government staff, from project development all the way through the successful completion of the project. The Construction Dashboard previously developed in 2006 for locally administered projects will be the tool utilized to provide updates to the current SMART SCALE Construction Dashboard. Please work with your respective District staff contact to determine the best approach to maintain the data and fulfill this requirement.

NUTRIENT CREDIT PURCHASE PROCESS

The Virginia Stormwater Management Plan (VSMP) regulations require water quantity controls to prevent downstream flooding and erosion and quality controls that limit the discharge of the nutrient phosphorus, a keystone pollutant. Best Management Practices (BMPs) are installed in conjunction with development projects to meet water quantity and quality criteria. The use of offsite compliance options, including the use of certified Nutrient Credits can be used to address the post construction (water quality) requirements on LAP projects. Presently, VDOT has contracts with Nutrient Credit Banks in the Albemarle, Chowan, Chesapeake Bay, New River, Roanoke, and York River Basins (aka tributary). The purchase of nutrient credits may eliminate the need for the purchase of additional right of way or permanent easement and relieve future maintenance costs.

To qualify for a nutrient credit purchase credits must be purchased within the same or adjacent eight-digit hydrologic unit code (HUC) as the land disturbing activity. If there are not nutrient credit banks available within the same or adjacent HUC, the project may purchase from any bank in the same tributary.

For additional nutrient credit purchase information go to http://www.virginiadot.org/business/locdes/nutrient_credits.asp or contact at (804)371-0366 or John.Olenik@vdot.virginia.gov

GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 61

EXECUTIVE ACTION TO ENSURE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND ACCESS FOR ALL VIRGINIANS IN STATE CONTRACTING AND PUBLIC SERVICES

Issued by Governor McAuliffe on January 5, 2017, [Executive Order 61](#) advances the cause of equality in Virginia by:

- I. Requiring future state contracting to include prohibitions on discrimination in employment, subcontracting, and delivery of goods and services, including discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.
- II. Prohibiting discrimination, including that based on sexual orientation or gender identity, in the provision of state services.

Local Public Agency contracts are expected to be consistent with the Executive Order. Additional details will be forthcoming.

VIRGINIA BYWAYS PROGRAM

In December, at the request of Warren and Prince William Counties' Board of Supervisors, the CTB designated 6.42 miles in Warren County and 39.4 miles in Prince William County to the Virginia Byways Program. Two nationally recognized historic sites, mountain vistas, and connections to previously designated Virginia Byways makes for an attractive driving experience for sections of Routes 658, 624 and 639 in Warren County. A beautiful drive along Routes 601, 681, 55, 646 and 619 in Prince William County can bring back wonderful memories of history while passing through Brentsville Historic District, Broad Run/Little Georgetown Rural Historic District, Chapman's Mill/Beverly Mill Historic District, Prince William Forest Park Historic District as well as several battlefields with connections to Virginia Byways in adjacent Fauquier County.



A Virginia Byway offers travelers a side of the commonwealth that is uncommon and revealing. Each byway leads to scenes of natural beauty and places of historical and social significance. VDOT's popular "Scenic Roads & Byways in Virginia" map along with local tourism promotion efforts can be used to attract tourists to communities and sites along Virginia's 3,500 miles of designated Virginia Byways. For more information on the Virginia Byways program visit the VDOT Virginia Byway [website](#).

FUNDING PROGRAMS

HIGH VOLUME UNPAVED ROAD PROGRAM

Applications are now being accepted from counties for the FY2018 High Volume Unpaved Road Program. Section 33.2–358 of the Code of Virginia authorizes the set-aside of unpaved road funds for providing a hard-surface to unpaved roads with traffic volumes over 50 vehicles per day. The CTB established a policy, effective July 1, 2014, whereby a small portion of these unpaved road funds may be allocated to address high volume unpaved roads in counties. The policy defines a high volume unpaved road as one with a traffic count greater than 500 vehicles per day.

An application is necessary for each proposed project, and a county with qualifying routes may apply annually for up to \$300,000. An application's score relies on criteria including traffic count, construction readiness, safety issues, and the road's access to schools and other community/public service facilities.

FY2018 applications are due to VDOT Residency Administrator or designee by Friday, March 17, 2017. Applications are due to the Local Assistance Division by Friday, March 24, 2017. Recommendations for funding will be presented to the CTB in June 2017. Applications, as well as the list of qualifying routes and instructions, can be found on our website. http://www.virginiadot.org/business/local_assistance_division_funding_programs.asp

PRIMARY EXTENSIONS / STATE OF GOOD REPAIR

The 2014 General Assembly modified Section 33.2-358 of the *Code of Virginia* so that Primary Extensions maintained by municipalities could receive a portion of the reconstruction and paving allocations that were beforehand only available to Interstates and Primary Roads. Municipalities can apply for paving funding up to \$1M for qualifying routes. In addition to Primary Extension funding, State of Good Repair funding will be available again this year and will be applied to project based on the scoring process for those project that qualify. To qualify, routes have to be locally maintained, have a primary route number (those Routes with numbers less than 600), and must have a Combined Condition Index (CCI) of less than 60, and must be included in VDOT's inventory at the following link:

http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/local_assistance/Arterial_Data_Statewide.xlsx

Applications are now being accepted for the FY 2018 Primary Extension funding program. Localities must submit applications to their local VDOT contact by Friday, March 17, 2017. Applications are due to the Local Assistance Division by Friday, March 24, 2017. For more information on the Primary Extension funding program and application process, please review our website at http://www.virginiadot.org/business/local_assistance_division_funding_programs.asp

Note: The applications will be scored on a statewide competitive basis. An additional 15 points will be awarded to those municipalities who have expended at least 25% of their urban maintenance payment allocations on pavements in their municipalities. The expenditures will be based on the data submitted by the municipality in the **Weldon Cooper Center** for Public Service Annual Road, Street and Highway Finance Survey as described at the following link: <http://www.coopercenter.org/econ/highway-finance-survey-information> . These surveys must be completed on the Weldon Cooper Center website by March 15, 2017.

REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM

VDOT's Local Assistance Division received 240 applications totaling approximately \$213 million for the FY 2018 Revenue Sharing Program. The applications are being reviewed to ensure eligibility of project work under the Revenue Sharing Program Guidelines and categorized according to priority stipulated by Code. The CTB will consider the recommended projects and funding amounts at its June 2017 action meeting. Upon approval by the CTB, funds will become available July 1 for the FY 2018 Program.

Based on the Department's process for de-allocation of Revenue Sharing funds, projects identified as candidates for de-allocation were presented to the CTB at its January meeting. The Department's process for de-allocation of Revenue Sharing Program funds was established following 2008 legislation which stipulated a time-frame for prompt use of these funds. The procedures are described in the Revenue Sharing Program Guidelines. This year's annual review process culminated with CTB approval of the de-allocation of Revenue Sharing funding on 14 projects, totaling approximately \$1.7 million. These funds are anticipated to be made a part of the CTB allocation total for the FY 2018 program approval in June.

REVENUE SHARING STUDY COMMITTEE

As Virginia's transportation program funding and project selection processes continue to evolve, the Revenue Sharing program must also evolve so that we can allocate limited fiscal resources in the most equitable manner. Accordingly, our Secretary of Transportation has established a Revenue Sharing Study Committee, made up of four CTB Members, to evaluate the Department's current allocation selection and transfer policies and make recommendations to the full CTB. The first step in this evaluation was to survey and receive input from local government stakeholders and VDOT District staff regarding several new policy options. We received feedback from 49 local governments and five VDOT Districts, and a summary of that feedback is available on the Local Assistance Divisions' website at http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/local_assistance/RevenueSharingProgram-SummaryOfFeedback.pdf.

The first meeting of the CTB Revenue Sharing Study Committee will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2017, immediately following the CTB Workshop in the VDOT Central Office. Additional information on the CTB Workshop can be found on the CTB Website at <http://www.ctb.virginia.gov/meetings.asp>. All meeting time/location/agendas of the Study Committee will be posted on the CTB website. The Study Committee is currently scheduled to present its recommendations to the full CTB at the May Workshop meeting.

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES

The first application round submitted via the Smart Portal was a success!!!

100 applications were received statewide with requests exceeding \$37M. Application scoring has been completed and the project list has been provided to CTB members for consideration. We expect the tentative selections to be completed by mid-April and those will be included in the SYIP public hearings. The tentative selections will also be posted on our website after the April CTB meeting. Final selections will be announced in June with federal funds available in October.

“100 applications were received statewide with requests exceeding \$37M.”

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

TRANSPORTATION PROJECT MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE - May 16 - 25, 2017

The Center for Transportation Studies at the University of Virginia is currently accepting applications for the Transportation Project Management Institute (TPMI) to be held May 16—25, 2017. TPMI is an eight day intensive residential training program exclusively designed for managing the development phase of transportation projects. Additional information can be found at <http://cts.virginia.edu/transportation-project-management-institute/>

To encourage local government participation in the TPMI, VDOT's Local Assistance Division offers up to four full scholarships to eligible local government staff. Local staff must first apply to UVA CTS by March 31, 2017 for eligibility determination, and state on their application that they wish to be considered for the VDOT scholarship. Scholarship evaluation criteria include local government size, locality participation on VDOT-funded programs, and the applicant's project management responsibilities.

Additional questions regarding VDOT's Scholarships may be referred to Penny Forrest at (804)786-9810 or Penny.Forrest@vdot.virginia.gov

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 March—May classes are now being accepted. For general class registration information go to <http://uva-tta.net/workshops/>.

LAD SPOTLIGHT

NEW EMPLOYEES

Jay Lindsey

Jay joins LAD serving as a Program Manager for the Local Projects Program area. Jay will assist the Hampton Roads, Lynchburg, and Richmond Districts, and will also have responsibility for statewide locally administered project performance metrics and reporting. Jay comes to LAD from the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) where he served as the Statewide Multimodal Transportation Planner, and previously with Fluvanna County where he served as the Long Range Planner. Jay holds a Master's of Urban and Regional Planning degree from Virginia Commonwealth University.



Fulton deLamorton

Fulton joins LAD for a return engagement as a Program Manager within the LAD Federal Programs Section. After a recent stop in the Fredericksburg District PIM Section, Fulton has decided to hit the road again and resume duties working with the LAD team. As a member of that group Fulton will now manage the Federal Lands Access Program, the ARC program, and provide assistance to District staff that manage Transportation Alternatives funds in the Richmond, Fredericksburg, and Lynchburg Districts. Fulton will also take the lead in some of our division initiatives including the SMART Portal coordination.



ON-TIME ADVERTISEMENT OF LAP'S

On-time project delivery is a key performance measure for both VDOT and locally administered projects. We periodically report on-time advertisement of locally administered projects as a measure of program success. This information is tracked in two ways—real time via VDOT's Dashboard and also by tracking advertisements planned by calendar year on what we call our "commitment list." Our statistics utilizing both tracking methods as of December 31, 2016 are shown below and CY2016 Commitment List is posted on our [website](#). We have additional performance data available by locality on our "Outside VDOT" team site. If you would like access to the team site, please contact John Simmers at (804)786-2571.

End of the Year (12/31/2016)

CY16—Projects and \$ Value of Projects Committed for Advertisement

Planned 163
Actual 147

Planned \$299M
Actual \$326M

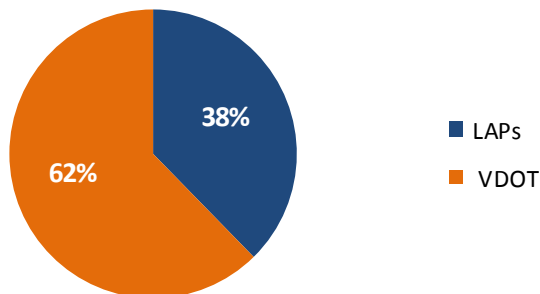
CY17—Planned Projects and \$ Value of Projects Committed for Advertisement

Planned 189

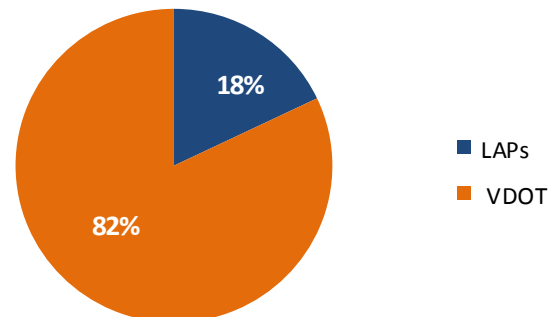
Planned \$244M

We also continue to report quarterly on the size and scope of the local program relative to VDOT administered projects. Those statistics as of December 31, 2016 are shown below.

Active LAP Percent of CN Projects
1433 Projects



Active LAP Percent of Construction \$\$
\$3,391,131,582



Active LAP CN Projects and CN Dollars

District	Projects	%	CN \$\$	%
Bristol	112	8%	\$121,780,389	4%
Culpeper	59	4%	\$119,177,232	4%
Fredericksburg	61	4%	\$76,434,319	2%
Hampton Roads	248	17%	\$941,669,478	28%
Lynchburg	75	5%	\$107,364,839	3%
Northern Virginia	339	24%	\$1,189,079,697	35%
Richmond	302	21%	\$564,890,866	17%
Salem	133	9%	\$124,378,070	4%
Staunton	104	7%	\$146,356,692	4%
Statewide totals	1433		\$3,391,131,582	