

A Partnership With:



Introduction

The Urban Construction Initiative (UCI) currently has fifteen localities under agreement to administer their entire construction program. The City of Suffolk executed the programmatic agreement and began administering their entire urban programs on July 1, 2015. They join the cities of Virginia Beach, Hampton, Richmond, Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, Lynchburg, Colonial Heights, Chesapeake, Danville and Newport News, and the towns of Blacksburg, Bridgewater, Purcellville and Dumfries.

Program Accomplishments

LAD has continued to hold UCI Workgroup Meetings to develop new ways to enhance communication with our municipal counterparts and to streamline project delivery. This group consists of representatives from seven different localities, VDOT District and Central Office Staff, and the FHWA. In addition to preparing the agendas for the UCI Semi-Annual Meetings, the Workgroup continues to focus efforts on completing goals identified in the UCI Strategic Goals. The intent of these strategic and programmatic goals are focused on increasing efficiency and effectiveness of the UCI. While several of the goals are on-going items, the group did complete three of the nine goals in FY2015.

One of the items that the workgroup completed was developing a more streamlined process for approving the use of patented and proprietary items. Per the UCI group's request, VDOT and FHWA reviewed the existing process and conducted a process review that determined that the current process that VDOT and FHWA are using can be streamlined. Following the process review, VDOT and the FHWA worked together to establish a new, more streamlined process for approving the use of patented and proprietary items. The more streamlined process was approved on April 6th, 2015 as a VDOT Instructional & Informational Memorandum (IIM) and can be accessed at the following link:

<http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/const/IIM-CD-2015-01-01.pdf>

Section 3.9.5 of the Urban Manual was also updated to include the new process, link:

http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/local_assistance/Urban_Construction_and_Maintenance_Program_Guidance.pdf

Another item that the workgroup completed was creating a VDOT project development review timeline. This timeline lists local and VDOT timeframes for reviews and submittals for federal and state funded projects. This tool will aid in the establishment of detailed schedules for local projects. The timeline is listed on VDOT's Forms website as 'LAP Scheduling Tool' at the following link:

<http://vdotforms.vdot.virginia.gov/SearchResults.aspx?lngDivisionID=37>

The workgroup also completed incorporating the UCI Program and Policy items into the Urban Manual which can be found in Chapter 3 at the following link:

http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/local_assistance/Urban_Construction_and_Maintenance_Program_Guidance.pdf

The workgroup is currently working to incorporate the UCI Project Development processes into the Local Administered Programs (LAP) Manual. Additional items in the UCI Strategic Plan can be found at the following:



UCI Goals FY15-FY16

In 2012, the City of Virginia Beach successfully demonstrated their ability to deliver state and federally funded projects and became the first locality to qualify under the certification process. This year, VDOT conducted a compliance assessment of several projects within the City of Virginia Beach as outlined in the UCI Guidance Document. The City of Virginia Beach, VDOT and the FHWA continue to collectively work together to further document and streamline the certification program.

Similar to the last couple of years, the 2015 UCI Annual Meeting was held as a two day event. This year the event was hosted by the City of Harrisonburg. Topics for the Annual Meeting included updates on the General Assembly, FY16-21 Six Year Improvement Program (SYIP), HB2, the June Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) Meeting, FHWA updates, the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), NHS Performance Metrics and the UCI Workgroup Update. In addition, we also included a full day of training which included presentations on Noise & Air Process, Environmental Justice, Threatened & Endangered Species, 2 CFR 200 Overview, the NHS Performance Metrics and an update on the HSIP Program. The City of Harrisonburg also took the group on a bus tour of several UCI Projects that the City had underway and recently completed. While the full UCI Group was only able to meet once this past year, the UCI community will continue to attempt to gather in person two times a year in varying locations. The agendas for the meetings will be established by the UCI Workgroup and will continue to have a three-pronged approach: business session (updates of program interest), information sharing (lessons learned/technical), and progress on a specific programmatic initiative/focus area led by the workgroup. A link to the agendas, meeting minutes, presentations and handouts for all previous UCI Semi/Tri-Annual Meetings held since November 2010 can be found at the following link:

<http://www.virginiadot.org/business/local-assistance-firstCities.asp>

Financial Table

As a result of reductions in the urban formula allocations, the commitment of Urban Construction Funds, including reimbursable federal funds and state funds paid directly to the participating municipalities in their quarterly payment, have diminished since 2009. The total financial commitment is shown in the following table in Attachment A:

UCI Goals and Major Initiatives for Fiscal Year 2016

- Provide training and development opportunities to enhance local and VDOT competencies, reduce risk, and improve oversight.
- Continue to find ways to streamline project delivery and oversight.
- Incorporate the UCI Project Development requirements into the Local Administered Projects (LAP) Manual.
- Facilitate developing and implementing the UCI Strategic Goals.

Long Term Vision / Goals

- Continue the VDOT shift to a stewardship and oversight role – much like FHWA

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Attachment A:

URBAN CONSTRUCTION INITIATIVE									
Fiscal Year 2015 Financial Summary									
	CITY / TOWN	URBAN CONSTRUCTION ALLOCATIONS		PREVIOUS FUNDING on ACTIVE PROJECTS		PAST PROJECT RECONCILIATION		ANNUAL TOTALS	
		FEDERAL FUNDS	STATE FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS	STATE FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS	STATE FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS	STATE FUNDS
		(for Reimbursement)	(Quarterly Payment)	(for Reimbursement)	(Quarterly Payment)	(for Reimbursement)	(Quarterly Payment)	(for Reimbursement)	(Quarterly Payment)
	FISCAL YEAR 2005	\$2,781	\$2,268	\$54,277	\$29,612	\$6,353	\$26,563	\$63,411	\$58,443
	FISCAL YEAR 2006	\$4,484	\$10,846	\$3,391	\$2,948	\$908	\$1,352	\$8,783	\$15,146
	FISCAL YEAR 2007	\$19,881	\$12,178	\$1,553	\$2,108	\$596	\$760	\$22,030	\$15,046
	FISCAL YEAR 2008	\$17,579	\$19,872	\$3,941	\$19,169	\$155	\$666	\$21,675	\$39,707
	FISCAL YEAR 2009	\$12,234	\$10,096	\$6,513	\$8,852	\$0	\$965	\$18,747	\$19,913
	FISCAL YEAR 2010	\$2,597	\$2,733	\$1,523	\$1,715	\$0	\$0	\$4,120	\$4,448
	FISCAL YEAR 2011	\$4,835	\$1,396	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,835	\$1,396
	FISCAL YEAR 2012	\$0	\$19	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19
	FISCAL YEAR 2013	\$0	\$75	\$800	\$2,427	\$0	\$1,689	\$800	\$4,191
	FISCAL YEAR 2014	\$0	\$41	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$41
	HAMPTON	\$0	\$0					\$0	\$0
	RICHMOND	\$0	\$0					\$0	\$0
F	VIRGINIA BEACH	\$0	\$0					\$0	\$0
Y	CHARLOTTESVILLE	\$0	\$117,335					\$0	\$117,335
2	BRIDGEWATER	\$0	\$0					\$0	\$0
0	HARRISONBURG	\$0	\$0					\$0	\$0
1	LYNCHBURG	\$0	\$0					\$0	\$0
5	DUMFRIES	\$0	\$0					\$0	\$0
	PURCELLVILLE	\$0	\$0					\$0	\$0
	BLACKSBURG	\$0	\$0					\$0	\$0
	COLONIAL HEIGHTS	\$0	\$0					\$0	\$0
	CHESAPEAKE	\$0	\$0					\$0	\$0
	NEWPORT NEWS	\$0	\$0					\$0	\$0
	DANVILLE	\$0	\$0					\$0	\$0
	FY 2015 TOTALS	\$0	\$117,335	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$117,335
	TOTALS TO DATE	\$64,391	\$176,859	\$71,998	\$66,831	\$8,012	\$31,995	\$144,401	\$275,685
								TOTAL FEDERAL & STATE FUNDS	\$420,086
NOTES:									
1. Figures in thousands (1,000).									
2. Figures shown for FY15 and Previous Funding on Active Projects are based on allocations made in FY15 Program.									
3. Federal Funds are paid to localities on a reimbursable basis.									
4. State Funds provided to localities as Quarterly Payments and are to be used for state funded projects and/or for local match on Federally Funded Projects.									
5. Includes SAFETEA-LU and Local Partnership Funds									