



State Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting

March 27, 2013

John Bolecek

Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner

BPAC Meeting

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Committee Structure
3. Status of Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects at VDOT
4. Recent Bicycle Improvements in Northern Virginia
5. Status of Virginia Supplement to the MUTCD
6. Update on Safe Routes to School Program
7. Maintenance Division – update on 2% paving
8. Breakout Session / Roundtable
9. Upcoming Meeting Agenda Items
10. Closing

1. Welcome and Introductions

Introductions

- Name
- Location
- Representation



2. Committee Structure

Overview and purpose of the Committee

Structure:

- John Bolecek will serve as the BPAC Chairman
- Meetings will be held twice a year
- Membership comprised of cross section of Virginia stakeholders



Purpose:

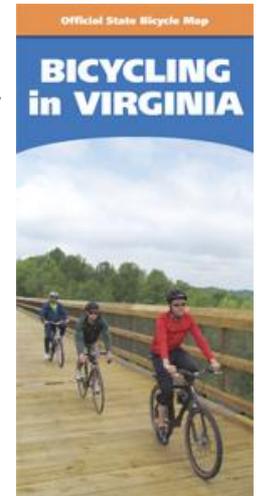
- Provides an official avenue of communications between VDOT's Bike/Ped Program and stakeholders
- BPAC Committee will improve the quality of the VDOT Bike/Ped Program by soliciting public input:
 - Identifying high bicycle use road sections that would benefit from shoulders
 - "Gap Map" identifying small gaps in bike/ped network in each district
 - Keeping program abreast of local issues
 - Providing input on priorities
 - Reporting maintenance needs i.e. missing US Bike Routes signs etc.

2004 Policy for Integrating Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations

- **Adopted by the Commonwealth Transportation Board on March 18, 2004, and applies to all projects that reach the scoping phase after its adoption**
- **States that the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) will initiate all highway construction projects with the presumption that the projects shall accommodate bicycling and walking**
- **Defines accommodation as any facility, design feature, operational change, or maintenance activity that improves the environment in which bicyclists and pedestrians travel**
- **Allows accommodations to be built as independent construction projects**

3. Recent History of the VDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Program

- **March 2004 – The Policy for Integrating Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodation is approved by the CTB**
- **2005 to 2009 – The Policy was Implemented by the VDOT Policy Implementation Team**
- **First Audit of Policy June, 2006**
- **Fall 2006 – First edition of the *Bicycling in Virginia* map is released**
- **January 2007 - Policy Implementation guidance documents for localities released**
- **Second Audit of Policy March, 2009**
- **Summer 2010 – VDOT Bicycling Guide Released**
- **September 2011 – VDOT State Bicycle Policy Plan released**
- **May 2012 – VDOT Community Trail Development Guide released**
- **October 2012 – Second edition of the *Bicycling in Virginia* map released**



Bicycle Policy Plan

- Completed September 2011
- Develops a direction and vision for the Bike (and Ped) Program
- Further ingrains the 2004 Policy for Integrating Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations
- Provides a list of recommendations that guide the VDOT Bike/Ped Program
- Actions on this list are currently underway
- Actions will be combined with the Pedestrian Plan recommendations



DRAFT

Virginia Department of Transportation
State Bicycle Policy Plan



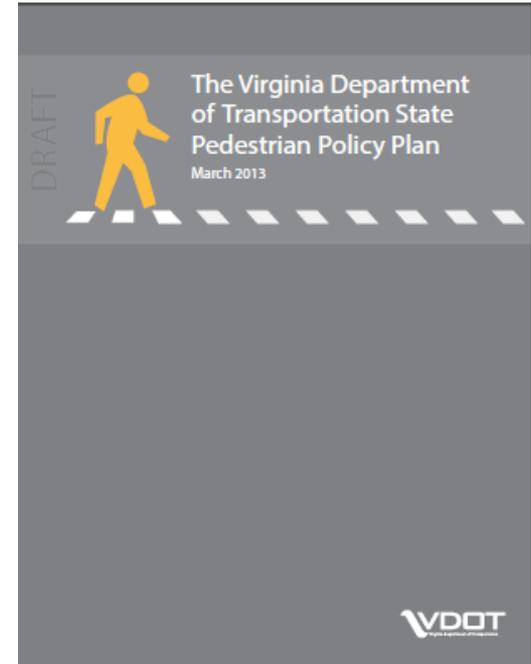
<i>Element 2: Provide Staff with Necessary Resources</i>				
Action	Short (0-3 yr)	Mid (3-5 yr)	Long (5-10 yr)	Ongoing
Action 2.1a: Establish mission and core responsibilities of the Bike and Pedestrian program (Appendix D)	✓			
Action 2.1b: Review/revise responsibilities of District bicycle and pedestrian coordinators	✓			
Action 2.1c: Establish communication methods between Central and District office bicycle staff	✓			
Action 2.2a: Offer multimodal training to VDOT staff and others				✓
Action 2.2b: Expand training opportunities to include webinars	✓			
Action 2.3a: Include bicycle responsibilities in job descriptions for new VDOT employees, where appropriate				✓
Action 2.4a: Continue to provide guidance on liability issues				✓

<i>Element 3: Improve Bicycle Outreach and Coordination</i>				
Action	Short (0-3 yr)	Mid (3-5 yr)	Long (5-10 yr)	Ongoing
Action 3.1a: Maintain a database of adopted local plans that address bicycling			✓	
Action 3.1b: Ensure local plans are reviewed during project scoping				✓
Action 3.1c: Work with local governments to ensure Policy is applied to locally-administered projects				✓
Action 3.2a: Periodic review of the content of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program website				✓
Action 3.2b: Create centralized information area on website that provides easy-to-access guidance		✓		
Action 3.3a: Increase communication with VDOT Marketing, Communication, and Public Affairs Offices				✓
Action 3.4a: Continue to coordinate with Virginia Tourism Authority and others to promote bicycling				✓
Action 3.5a: Continue to involve the Bicycle Advisory Committee in Program activities				✓
Action 3.5b: Clarify the scope and responsibilities of the Committee	✓			
Action 3.6a: Collaborate with the Department of Education, particularly on Safe Routes to Schools issues	✓			


Page 36

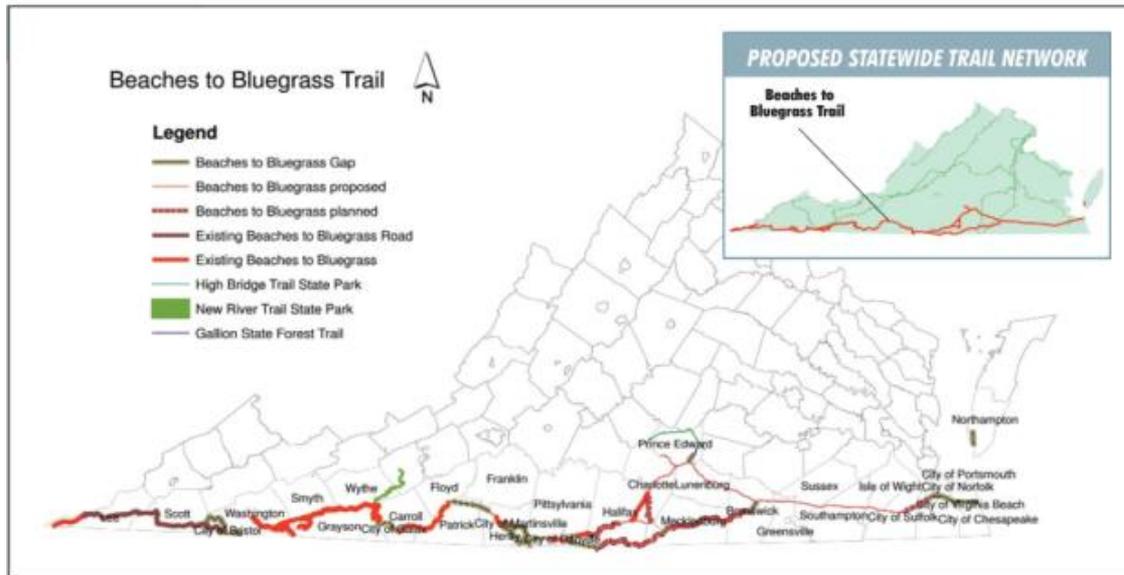
Pedestrian Policy Plan

- **The Pedestrian Policy Plan is underway and should be completed by Summer, 2013**
- **HNTB is the consultant assisting with the project**
- **The plan outlines background information on statewide pedestrian issues and provides recommendations on how to further implement the 2004 CTB Bicycle and Pedestrian Policy**
- **The development of the plan has been aided by both an external and an internal working group**



Bicycle & pedestrian projects underway

- Pedestrian Policy Plan
- Beaches to Bluegrass trail study
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Database Project
- Southeast Highspeed Rail Greenway Study



Virginia Capital Trail Progress

Virginia Capital Trail Construction Completed:

- 2006 Greensprings phase
- 2007 Chickahominy Riverfront phase
- 2009 Charles City Courthouse phase
- 2010 Richmond Riverfront phase 1

Phases underway:

- **Sherwood Forest Phase - Construction underway estimated completion - Summer 2014**
- **Varina Phase is under contract completion expected in September 2014**
- **New Market Phase is under contract completion expected in January 2014**
- **Dorey park segment will be completed by Summer 2015**

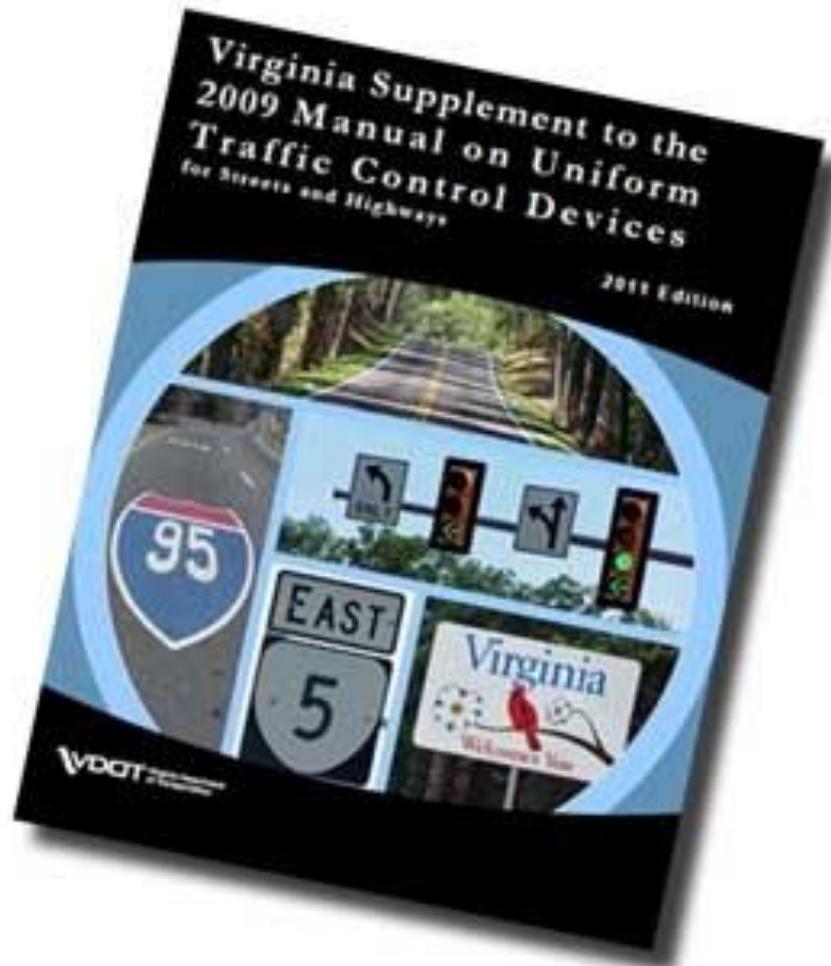
4. Recent Bicycle Improvements in Northern Virginia

Randy Dittberner – Regional Traffic Engineer NOVA District



5. Status of Virginia Supplement to the MUTCD

John Bolecek – Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner



6. Update on Safe Routes to School Program

Rob Williams – Safe Routes to School Coordinator



7. Maintenance Division – 2% Shoulder Paving

Robert Prezioso – Assistance Division Administrator
- Maintenance



8. Breakout Session – 20-30 minutes

Potential areas for sharing input:

- Identifying high bicycle use road sections that would benefit from shoulders
- “Gap Map” identifying small gaps in bike/ped network in each district
- Keeping program abreast of local issues
- Ideas for planning and research
- Reporting maintenance needs i.e. missing US Bike Routes signs etc.

What other areas of input offer the most value?

1. Form groups and list the top 5 areas to provide input (15 minutes)
2. Each group will select someone to present their list

9. Upcoming Meeting Agenda Items

- **Status of USBRs 1 and 76**
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Recommendations Database**
- **Status of Transportation Alternatives**

Suggestions for future topics?

10. Wrap Up & Next BPAC Meeting

Follow-up Items

- Follow-up items sent out by e-mail

Next BPAC Meeting(s):

- October 2013



Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Thank you

John Bolecek

Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner

Virginia Department of Transportation

804-371-4869

John.Bolecek@vdot.virginia.gov