

# **GEORGE WASHINGTON REGIONAL COMMISSION**

**FY-2014 Rural Transportation Planning Work Program  
July 01, 2013 – June 30, 2014**

## **Purpose and Objective**

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) allocates part of the State Planning and Research (SPR) funding to provide annual transportation planning assistance for non-urbanized areas within the Commonwealth. The Rural Transportation Planning (RTP) Program was created to aid the State in fulfilling the requirements of the State Planning Process to address the transportation needs of non-metropolitan areas. Funds appropriated under 23 U.S.C. 307(c) (SPR funds) are used in cooperation with the Department of Transportation, Commonwealth of Virginia for transportation planning as required by Section 135, Title 23, U.S. Code. These Federal funds provide 80 percent funding and require a 20 percent local match.

In FY-2014 each planning district commission / regional commission will receive \$58,000 from VDOT's Rural Transportation Planning Assistance Program and each planning district commission / regional commission will provide a local match of \$14,500 to conduct rural transportation planning activities. This resource may be supplemented with additional planning funds, but note that the arrangement of all such funds involves development of a scope of work, approval and other coordination in TMPD administrative work programs.

The scope of work shall include specific activities as requested by VDOT and/or the Federal Highway Administration. The scope of work may also include activities or studies addressing other transportation planning related issues that may be of specific interest to the region. The criteria for the determination of eligibility of studies for inclusion as part of this work program are based upon 23 U.S.C. 307 (c), State Planning and Research.

**FY 2014 - Program Administration (\$5,000)**

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**Background and Objective:** The purpose of this work element is to facilitate regional participation and consensus building on transportation-related issues through a continuing, comprehensive, and coordinated planning process.

The staff of the George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC) will coordinate all regional rural transportation activities, as well as maintaining all records, processing all correspondence, and creating quarterly progress reports/invoices associated with these activities.

The Fredericksburg Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's (FAMPO) Technical Committee will serve as the advisory body for transportation issues and make recommendations to both the FAMPO and GWRC Policy Committees. The GWRC will implement the requirements of the FY2014 agreement with VDOT for the utilization of Federal/State Planning and Research Funds.

- 1. Work Element** - Provide fiscally sound management and accountability of State Planning and Research (SPR) funds through in-house accounting and control and quarterly reports to VDOT. **Deliverable** - Quarterly Reports and Invoices for the FY 2014 Rural Transportation Program as well as the development of the FY2015 Rural Transportation Work Program. **\$2,500**
- 2. Work Element** - Maintain contacts and attend meetings with the Regional stakeholders, including: local government officials/staff, regional agencies, neighboring PDC's, VDOT representatives, and other federal, state and local agencies concerning transportation issues.  
**Deliverables** - Coordination of rural transportation planning activities with metropolitan planning activities taking place within FAMPO as well as the Commonwealth of Virginia and neighboring PDCs. **\$2,500**

<b>SPR Funds (80%)</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>
<b>PDC Funds (20%)</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Total Budgeted Expenditure for Program Administration</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>

## **FY 2014 – VDOT Statewide Planning Assistance and Coordination (\$10,000)**

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This task will outline the planning initiatives that GWRC/FAMPO Staff will undertake in support of VDOT's statewide planning efforts. Activities will include data collection and review as well as agency coordination and meetings as appropriate for the following planning efforts.

The following work elements and initiatives will be undertaken in FY 2014:

- Coordinate, as appropriate, with the VDOT in the development of the VTrans and the Virginia Surface Transportation Plan (VTSP) updates; including attendance at meetings, workshops and providing local data, input and recommendations in regard to policies and projects of regional significance.
- Coordinate, in conjunction with VDOT, a local review (through the FAMPO Technical Committee) of data and information related to Virginia's freight initiatives, including identifying the location and classification of freight activity zones and responding to freight surveys prepared by VDOT.
- Assist VDOT with updating Roadway Functional Classifications by conducting local review (through the FAMPO Technical Committee) of data and information related to technical roadway data as it pertains to federal/state functional highway classification guidelines.
- Coordinate with VDOT, in locally reviewing (through the FAMPO Technical Committee) data and information related to Virginia's statewide Park and Ride Lot inventories and studies. This task will be completed on an as needed basis.
- Compile a list of local and regional bicycle and pedestrian recommendations and include the source of each of the recommendations. These will be used in the development or enhancement of local bike plans. The identified projects will be used by VDOT to strengthen the bicycle and pedestrian element of the next Surface Transportation Plan, allow VDOT to map the planned recommendations and provide an inventory of which jurisdictions have bicycle / pedestrian plans. This list will be taken from the 2040 GWRC Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. An inventory of all of the sidewalks and bicycle facilities in the rural localities will also be compiled in order to identify gaps in the existing and planned networks. These also will be taken from the 2040 GWRC Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

- Coordinate and host in each member jurisdiction a day to ride and inventory major roads. The purpose is to discuss problems and potential solutions. (VDOT to provide transportation) Participants on the ride should include: 1) the VDOT Representative on Rural Technical Committee, 2) District Local Liaison (if available), 3) County Representative, 4) PDC Planner. These field trips will help build working relationships and provide an opportunity to gain local/state perspective on transportation challenges.
- As requested, assist the VDOT District Planner in the update / review of the Small Urban Area Plans in the region.

<b>SPR Funds (80%)</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>
<b>PDC Funds (20%)</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>Total Budgeted Expenditure for Program Activities</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>

#### **FY 2014 – Local Planning Assistance/Long-Range Planning (\$57,500)**

**Background and Objective:** Address regionalized transportation issues that are identified by the FAMPO Technical Committee, the Planning District Commission and the rural localities in the Region.

The Land Use Scenario Planning and Congestion Management Process work elements are initiatives that will be developed for both the urban (MPO) and rural areas. The State Planning and Research (SPR) funds contained in this work program will be used to fund the rural portions of these planning initiatives, which are being undertaken on a Region-wide basis to better coordinate the metropolitan and non-metropolitan planning processes.

Individual projects and work elements are described below:

- 1. Local Transportation Planning and Analysis Support** - Support and guidance to local governments in local planning efforts, identifying/developing rural transportation projects and technical assistance in cost estimating, transportation planning and transportation analysis including GIS analysis and mapping.

**Deliverables** – Technical memorandums, GIS data and mapping. **\$20,000**

- 2. Land Use Scenario Planning Phase II** – In FY 2014 GWRC/FAMPO will build upon the Region’s initial Land Use Scenario Planning Study. While the first phase was aimed at establishing a base and developing the land use models to analyze the impacts of alternative future land use scenarios and analysis of things such as the provision of public utilities/facilities, and high level transportation indicators such as VMT, VHT and Congested Corridors; the second phase will be more focused on testing different combinations of transportation investment strategies utilizing the outputs from the land use models as inputs to the FAMPO travel demand model as well as other regional issues as defined by the GWRC and FAMPO. This will be a multi-year initiative spanning Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015.

**Deliverables** – Deliverables for this project will include a series of maps and a report outlining the impacts that land use and different combinations of transportation investments have on the surface transportation network, costs to maintain and upgrade the network, the efficiency and costs of public transportation and outcomes from other analyses to be defined by the GWRC and FAMPO. **\$20,000**

- 3. Congestion Management Process Update** – This work element will update the travel time indices, safety and congestion hotspots, and the recommendations of the 2010 Congestion Management Process. The 2010 CMP was developed for the metropolitan area of the Region and also included two important rural corridors that directly feed the Fredericksburg urban area (US-17 and PR-3). The 2014 CMP, just as the 2010 CMP, will include safety and congestion mitigation strategies and recommendations that were developed as a part of the Rural Long-Range Plan (RLRP) and the Commonwealth’s Strategic Targeted Affordable Roadway Solutions study, or STARS Program. The 2014 CMP will also include analysis of US-301 from PR-3 to the Harry Nice Bridge as well as a portion of PR-206 near US-301 and NSWC Dahlgren.

**Deliverables** - Updated travel time indices, safety and congestion hotspots and safety and congestion mitigation strategies for US Routes 17 and 301 as well as Routes, 3 and 206 in Caroline and King George Counties. **\$17,500**

<b>SPR Funds (80%)</b>	<b>\$46,000</b>
<b>PDC Funds (20%)</b>	<b>\$11,500</b>
<b>Total Budgeted Expenditure for Program Activities</b>	<b>\$57,500</b>

**FY-2014 Budget Summary**

Tasks	VDOT (SPR) 80%	PDC (Match) 20%	Total 100%
<b><u>Program Administration</u></b>			
1. Program accounting, quarterly invoices and progress reports, meetings/coordination with local governments, state, federal and local agencies	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$5,000
<b><u>Program Activities</u></b>			
1. VDOT Statewide Planning and Coordination Assistance	\$8,000	\$2,000	\$10,000
2. Local Transportation Planning and Analysis Support	\$16,000	\$4,000	\$20,000
3. Land Use Scenario Planning Phase II	\$16,000	\$4,000	\$20,000
4. Congestion Management Process Update	\$14,000	\$3,500	\$17,500
<b>Total Budgeted Expenditure for Program Activities</b>	<b>\$54,000</b>	<b>\$13,500</b>	<b>\$67,500</b>
<b>Total Budgeted Expenditure for Program Administration and Program Activities</b>	<b>\$58,000.00</b>	<b>\$14,500.00</b>	<b>\$72,500.00</b>