

New River Valley Long Range Transportation Planning Initiative

Beginning this Fall, the RPO Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) will begin working on VDOT's Long Range Rural Transportation Planning Program (LRRTP). The primary objective of the statewide planning effort is to create regional rural transportation plans that would complement the long range planning conducted for metropolitan areas. Together VDOT, PDC and localities will evaluate the rural transportation system to recommend a range of transportation improvements that could best satisfy existing and future transportation needs by working with the RPO TAC. The list of recommendations developed in the plans will be used in the statewide transportation planning process to better quantify the statewide magnitude of needs.

The development of the transportation plan will be broken into four general phases. These phases are:

- Phase I Goals and Data Collection
- Phase II Analysis and Problem Identification
- Phase III Public Outreach and Recommendation Development
- Phase IV Public Endorsement and Regional Adoption

While the plan will cover functionally classified secondary roadways, it is important to note that each county has final authority over the recommendations on the secondary system within their jurisdiction.

The data will serve numerous transportation planning needs by providing localities with:

- Additional data to address the upcoming implementation of the transportation and land use legislation;
- A foundation for identifying Interstate and Primary system priorities for the Six-Year Improvement Program;
- Additional information for localities when they develop their Secondary Six-Year Program.

The analysis and plan recommendations are limited to those transportation facilities within the PDC's boundaries that are outside of established metropolitan study areas. The transportation system to be evaluated will be limited to federal functional classified routes of minor collector and above.

Attached is a guidebook for the LRRTP. Please refer to the guidebook for more detail in the following timeline.

Primary duties the first year of the TAC are: 1) draft regional goals and objectives for the plan, 2) quality control and check data layers that will be used in the analysis stage of the process, and 3) help develop and define the public involvement process for the plan.

July-December (First and Second Quarters)

October

1) Meet with locality Administrators to let them know the LRRTP is about.

Participants:

-PDC, TAC representative, locality administrators

October-December

2) Meetings to document and discuss transportation safety and capacity concerns for each locality.

Locality representative will provide most recent comprehensive and transportation (if PDC does not have) to PDC to summarize and include for baseline data. Identify and document each localities high growth areas and discuss overall transportation safety and capacity concerns.

Participants:

-PDC representative, TAC representative, VDOT Administrator, VDOT Project Administrator

January-March (January and March TAC meetings)

3) Develop transportation goals for region and identify objectives and measures for each goal.

Locality representative will be responsible for evaluating/identifying which goals/objectives are most suitable for their regional needs based off of the VDOT State Highway Plan, Vtrans statewide multimodal plan, and SAFETEA planning factors. Representatives will be responsible for working with administrators and other decision makers they represent before January, in order to prepare for the January and March meetings where these regional goals will be drafted.

-TAC Committee

April-June (April and May TAC)

4) Develop/Establish Public Involvement Process

-TAC Committee

Entire Year

Proof and Quality control data submitted

-TAC Committee

PDC Staff will gather and summarize data, TAC committee will review and proof all data to be used in the second year analysis.

What we need from you

- Idea of impacts to transportation system
 - o Zoning changes
 - o New developments
- Ideas for transportation needs and enhancements in your jurisdictions

Your TAC Representatives

- Name
- Contact information