



# Virginia Stakeholder Partnering Experience

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# Virginia's Highway System

- 95 Counties, 39 Cities, 45 Towns
- VDOT Maintains Roads for all but 2 Counties
- State-maintained System = 57,867 miles
- Locality Maintained Roads = 12,238 miles
  - Cities/Towns = 10,561 (Note: VA cities are independent of its counties)
  - Henrico and Arlington County = 1,638 miles
  - Toll roads, maintained by others = 39 miles
- Note: VDOT provides state funds to assist localities in maintaining qualifying streets



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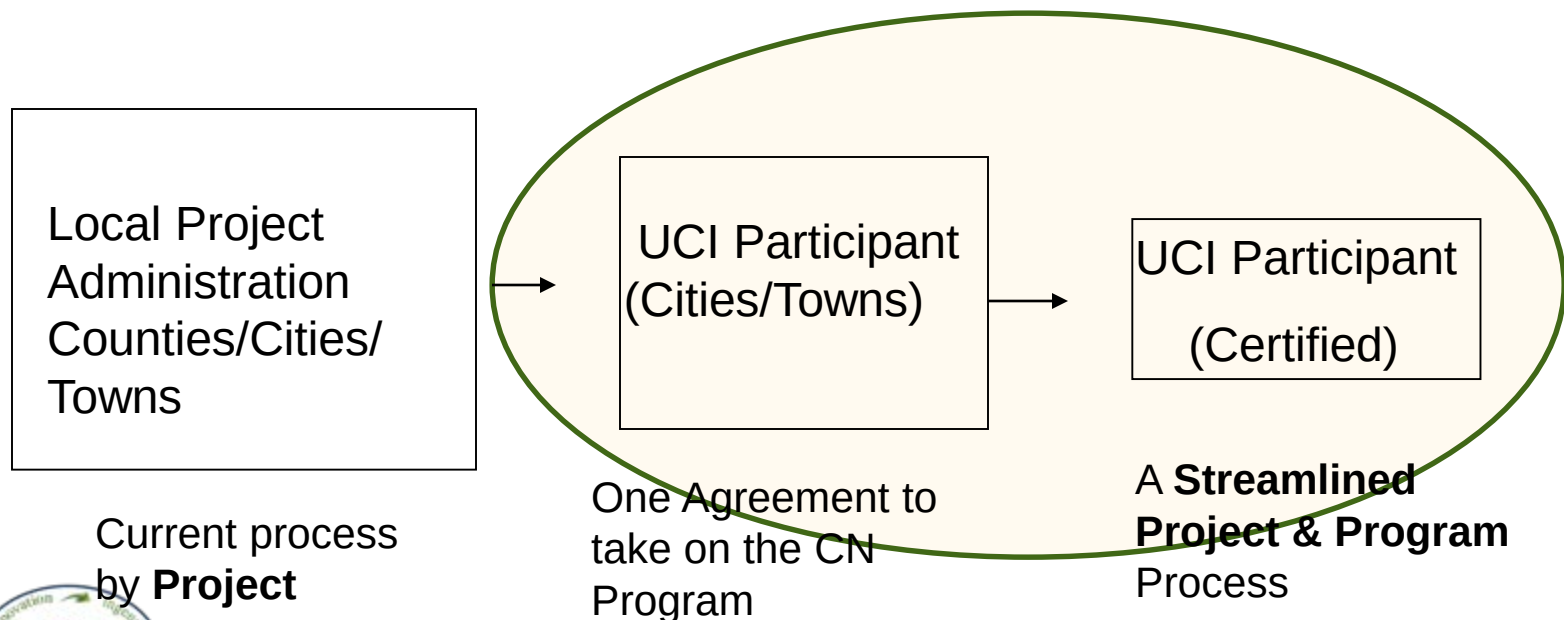
# City of Harrisonburg - Statistics

- Population: 49,000 Citizens
- Harrisonburg Metropolitan Statistical Area: 110,000
- Area = 18 square miles
- Roadway miles = 138 centerline miles
- Transportation Maintenance Expenditures = >\$6M
- Home to James Madison University and Eastern Mennonite University



# Virginia's LPA Program

- VDOT obligated to perform construction in all localities (- 2 Counties)
- 2003 Code Change Allowed Certain Cities/Towns to manage entire construction program – became “Urban Construction Initiative” (UCI)
- “Stakeholder Partnering” began with this Group



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# Harrisonburg's Construction Program

- Experience in administering State and Federally funded transportation projects = 29+ years
- Joined UCI in 2008
- Design, and Construction Administration for Federal Highway Bridge over I-81
- Bridge over Norfolk Southern Railroad
- Currently \$30M of Projects Under Development
- Another \$10M of Projects in Planning



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# Harrisonburg's Construction Program

- 7 Full Time Employees Dedicated to Project Management
  - Full Time Engineer
  - Engineering Technicians
  - Construction Managers
- Consultants Assist with Project Development
- Consultants Assistance for Construction Management
- VDOT Project Coordinator



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# Partnering – The Beginning – UCI Program

- **Locals/FHWA/VDOT**
- **Bi-monthly meetings**
- **Information sharing/Identification of Issues**
- **Establishes goals for program**
  - Created Certification Program
  - Rolling list of Priority work items with task leads
    - Project Development Scheduling Tool
    - Proprietary Procurement Streamlining
    - Continue Development of Certification Program
    - Modify and Update Program Guidance Documents
  - Annual Satisfaction Survey
  - Agenda for annual meetings



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## Partnering – Local Stakeholders Group

- **Established Local Stakeholders Group in August 2013 to apply similar approach to a broader audience**
  - Open communication
  - Collaborative, partnering environment to identify and resolve issues
  - Align programmatic vision and goals
  - Venue to document/share best practices
  - Continuous program improvement





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# Partnering – Local Stakeholders Group (Cont'd)

- **First Major Deliverable of the Local Stakeholders Group (LSG):**
  - VDOT Business Plan
  - LSG Developed the Business Plan Strategies
    - Strengthen Project Scheduling & Accountability for Project Timelines
    - Implement District Locality Days
    - Local Administered Project Starter Pack
    - Streamline Procurement
    - Local Access to IT Applications
    - Consistency among VDOT Project Coordinators
    - Continue Stakeholder Groups
  - LSG are assisting the VDOT District Advisory Group in Developing and implementing Strategies



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## Partnering – Other Opportunities

- **Annual Local Programs Workshop**
- **Started in 2012**
- **“Network for Success”**
- **Over 400 local, state, federal and private sector attendees**
- **Typically 2-3 Days in length**



# Partnering – Fostering Informal Networks



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# Benefits of Partnering – VDOT Perspective

- **Benefits of Partnering**
  - Identifying issues
  - “Proving Ground” for innovative approaches
  - Networking
  - Having a local voice in the program
  - Aligning Local Assistance Division goals with stakeholder needs



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# Benefits of Partnering – Local Perspective

- **Benefits of Partnering**
  - Timeliness of Project Delivery
  - Reduced Cost
  - Direct Local Feedback to Citizens/Businesses
  - Local Project Involvement
- **Opportunity to Share and Learn**
  - Partner with VDOT and other Local Staff
  - Sharing Ideas and experiences
  - Open Communication
  - Local Input on Statewide Program
- **Training**
  - Federal and State Project Requirements
  - Receive Information to Assist in Project Success
  - Opportunity for Locals to help provide the Training



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# Challenges to Partnering – VDOT/Local Perspective

- Challenges (to Success)
  - Time and Effort (Other Duties as Assigned)
  - Momentum/ Motivation
  - Equal Participation
  - Funding



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