**Introduction**

The Urban Construction Initiative (UCI) currently has fifteen localities under agreement to administer their entire construction program. UCI localities include the cities of Virginia Beach, Hampton, Richmond, Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, Lynchburg, Colonial Heights, Chesapeake, Danville, Newport News and Suffolk, and the towns of Blacksburg, Bridgewater, Purcellville and Dumfries. 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.

**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 eight 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 is to focus on increasing efficiency and effectiveness of the UCI.

One item the Workgroup initiated was creating a VDOT project development review timeline that later developed into the “LAP Scheduling Tool”. This schedule tool lists local and VDOT timeframes for reviews and submittals for federal and state funded projects and was developed through a partnership between VDOT Hampton Roads District and the City of Virginia Beach and will aid in the establishment of detailed schedules for local projects. The tool was developed in Microsoft Excel and offers robust Preliminary Engineering scheduling in an easy to use format. Both local government and VDOT project development activities are incorporated into the tool, to help insure the development of accurate and realistic schedules. A “READ ME” tab is included in the spreadsheet to provide an overview and instructions on using the tool.
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:

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Similar to the last couple of years, the 2016 UCI Annual Meeting was held as a two day event. This year the event was hosted by the City of Chesapeake. Topics for the Annual Meeting included General Assembly updates; LAD Program updates; VDOT’s Business Plan update to include the new LAP Starter Pack (A Beginner’s Guide to Locally Administered Projects) and updates on the new funding programs State of Good Repair and Smart Scale (formerly HB2) as well as an update on the TAP, Revenue Sharing and HSIP programs. FHWA representatives gave training and updates to ADA Pedestrian Accessibility Requirements in the Public Right of Way; Buy America; FAST ACT and Omnibus (the new transportation funding bill); the Compliance and Assessment Program (CAP); Civil Rights Related Issues (DBE/Title VI); and Transportation Performance Management. There was also training on hiring and managing consultants; the Incentive/Disincentive Program as well as updates to the UCI Workgroup goals and UCI Satisfaction Survey results. The highlight of the two day meeting was a bus tour to the Dominion Boulevard project in which attendees had several opportunities to exit the bus for live overview of the project at different locations along the project.

The Annual Meetings (formerly named Triannual Meetings) will continue to be held once a year as a two day event. 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 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 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
### URBAN CONSTRUCTION INITIATIVE

**Fiscal Year 2016 Financial Summary**

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<th>PREVIOUS FUNDING on ACTIVE PROJECTS</th>
<th>PAST PROJECT RECONCILIATION</th>
<th>ANNUAL TOTALS</th>
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**NOTES**

1. Figures in thousands (1,000).
2. Figures shown for FY16 and Previous Funding on Active Projects are based on allocations made in FY16 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.

**Total Federal & State Funds** $448,628