A Partnership With:

Introduction

Fiscal Year 2010 is the sixth consecutive year of growth of the Urban Construction Initiative. The City of Colonial Heights joined the initiative, bringing the total number of localities participating in the initiative to ten when they began administering their entire urban program on July 1, 2009.

The City of Newport News continued with their transition (initiated in 2003) and executed the agreement to begin participation on July 1, 2010. Resolutions of intent were received from the City of Chesapeake and Town of Purcellville to join the initiative on July 1, 2011.

Program Accomplishments

For FY2009 and FY2010, our primary focus has been on the development of a certification program. The UCI workgroup met 17 times to cooperatively develop this new program, which was presented at the 2009 Annual Meeting. Upon receiving written concurrence from all participating localities, the certification program document was finalized and submitted to FHWA for their concurrence. This year has been focused on providing outreach and information on the certification program beyond the localities participating in UCI. Presentations have been made to the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization Technical Committee, American Society of Highway Engineers - Hampton Roads Section, and Northern Virginia District Urban Day.

The 2010 Satisfaction Survey responses trended downward from previous years. This was believed to be largely related to the current economic climate and staffing changes at the federal, state, and local levels. The area with the most notable decrease in satisfaction for both local and VDOT staff involved the availability of training and resources. The survey reflected that 37.5% of local government respondents are interested in pursuing certification. The results also clearly indicated that good communication is still occurring between VDOT and the localities.

The 2010 Annual Meeting was quite different than previous years. In the past, the meetings have been focused on developing guidance and policy for this evolving program. As the program matures, the focus of the meetings has shifted towards providing resources to share lessons learned and further streamline program delivery. As a result, the Annual Meeting once again set the course for the future of the initiative by outlining a new path forward for coordination as a group. The UCI community will gather in person 3 times a year in a central location. The meetings will 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.

**Financial Table**

The commitment of Urban Construction Funds, including reimbursable federal funds and state funds paid directly to the participating municipalities in their quarterly payment, has continued to increase (even with reductions in urban allocations) as participation in the program expands. The total financial commitment is shown on the following table:

![Financial Table](attachment:image.png)
Goals for Fiscal Year 2011

- Implement the UCI Certification Program.
- Continue to assess program level performance through implementation of the annual satisfaction survey and tracking of quantifiable performance measures.
- Provide training and development opportunities to enhance local and VDOT competencies, reduce risk, and improve oversight.
- Improve programmatic communications through new tri-yearly meeting format.

Long Term Vision / Goals

- Continue the VDOT shift to a stewardship and oversight role – much like FHWA.