

**Virginia Department of Transportation
Transportation & Mobility Planning Division
VAPDC Winter Conference
Transportation Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 29, 2008 – 10:00AM**

Regional Long Range Plan Consultant Assistance Overview

- **VDOT has an excellent consultant team that will be providing technical support in developing the Regional Long-Range Plans (RLRPs)**
- **Prime - Vanasse Hangen Brustlin (VHB)**
- **Subs**
 - Parsons Transportation Group (PTG) – Lead consultant on RLRPs
 - McCormick Taylor
 - T3
- **VHB will be assisting the PDCs in the following area:**
 - Compiling and Reviewing Existing Data
 - *Collecting Supplemental Data* as needed (additional cost)
 - Assist with identifying “hot spots” (area with safety and/or congestion problems in need of further analysis)
 - Reviewing forecast and assess demand - Roadway, Transit, Bike Ped, Goods Movement
 - Assist with development of recommendations – Operational, Corridor/Land Use, Expansion, New location, Transit
 - Public Involvement
 - Preparing & Printing Final Plan
 - Website Development
- **The VHB Team will coordinate with VDOT and the Planning District Commissions (PDCs) to obtain the following information, as available, to support analysis for the studies:**
 - GIS layers and tables including multi-modal geographic and attribute data, Census data, jurisdiction boundaries, identified needs from the 2025 State Highway Plan, high crash areas, other infrastructure geographic and attribute data, and business (VEC) data.
 - Highway inventory data, including major projects in the Six-Year Improvement Program
 - Transit services inventory
 - Bicycle/pedestrian inventory
 - Freight generator inventory
 - Airport inventory
 - Locations and attributes of major activity centers and high growth areas
 - Locations and attributes of sewer and water infrastructure

- Virginia Employment Commission data on population and employment growth, commuting patterns, labor market data
- Mapping of disadvantaged population groups
- Summaries and copies of existing regional/local plans and studies
- Aerial photography (most recently available)
- Traffic counts (all available traffic counts, including segment and intersection counts)
- Deliverables
 - Organized data set for each PDC
 - Data sufficiency review
- **Draft scope of work provides for data collection and analysis for up to 500 spot locations statewide to supplement the data and analysis provided through SPS-Lite and the GIS layers**
 - Each PDC will receive a minimum of 15 spots for Capacity Analysis
 - Each PDC will receive 20 locations to conduct field and safety reviews
- **Any further data collection above and beyond these spot locations will incur additional costs therefore additional data collection needs approval from the VDOT Contract Manager.**
 - The data sufficiency review will be used to assess need for any additional data collection
- **Hot spot conversion rates**
 - Intersection = 1 hot spot
 - Roadway segment = 2 hot spots
 - Interchange = 3-4 hot spots depending on complexity
- **AM / PM peak hour analyses will be conducted**
 - Highway Capacity Manual methodology will be used
 - Synchro analyses when applicable
- **Existing year and horizon year analysis**
- **Based on public feedback and PDC/VDOT coordination, the VHB Team will further develop, refine, and compile recommendations for roadway, transit, bicycle/pedestrian, and goods movement**
- **Recommendations will include:**
 - **Operational improvements:** identification of minor improvements that could be made to existing corridors such as signal improvements, addition of turn lanes, lane widening, and closure/shifting of crossover and access points.
 - **Corridor/land use interface improvements:** identification of access management or control recommendations to enhance the flow and safety of traffic in major transportation corridors.

- **Facility expansion:** identification of major improvements such as reconstruction, construction of additional lanes, upgrading to limited access, providing grade separation, bridge widening, etc.
 - **Facility on new location:** If the existing facility cannot be improved due to right-of-way, engineering, or environmental considerations, a new facility may be considered.
- **The VHB Team will utilize a pre-NEPA template developed by VDOT to document alternatives considered, purpose and need information, and potential environmental concerns/impacts**
- **This approach allows for a more consistent link between the planning and NEPA processes and will provide useful information for any future project development and NEPA activities**
- **The VHB Team in coordination with VDOT and the PDCs will:**
 - Provide outreach to transportation disadvantaged groups
 - Identify and attend tag-along meeting
 - Develop and maintain website
 - Assist with response to website comments
 - Conduct a Public Information meeting after the draft plan has been approved
 - Each PDC is encouraged to supplement these public involvement activities
- **Each PDC is encouraged to supplement these activities with regional public involvement strategies such as:**
 - Include information on PDCs website
 - Set up a booth at local mall or festival to solicit input on transportation problems
 - Conduct a phone survey
 - Meet with local community leaders to build awareness and solicit input
 - Establish a Citizens Advisory Committee
 - Attend a meeting of local community group (Ruritans, Optimists, Lions Club, etc)
- **VHB Team will create and maintain a secure, password protected Internal Study Team Website known as WorkSite MP.**
- **The VHB Team would maintain this Internal Study Team Website throughout the study process. This website would contain internal study information such as:**
 - Study Team Contact Information
 - PDC and Stakeholder Contact Information
 - Media Contact Information
 - Communications Efforts

- Events Plan
 - Meeting/Event Minutes
 - Products and Study Information
 - Schedule
 - Action Items/Information Alerts
 - Study Bulletins
- **VHB will hold training with VDOT and PDC staff on how to access and use this web-based tool**
 - **The final plan will consist of the following deliverables:**
 - Technical Report: 25 copies
 - Plan Map: 300 copies
 - Executive Summary: 100 copies
 - CD's with all three documents in PDF format: 50 copies
 - VDOT Website information