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THE VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION CONSTRUCTION ALLIANCE

September 2011

Fixing The Maintenance Funding Shortfall

Beginning almost 10 years ago, VDOT began moving money from its construction budget to fund basic transportation system maintenance needs. Since that time that transfer has grown to more than \$400 million annually and continues to grow at approximately \$50 million a year.

In the 2010 audit of VDOT commissioned by Governor McDonnell, the firm of Cherry, Bekaert and Holland (CBH) found that the VDOT maintenance deficit for FY 2011 is estimated to be \$511 million.

But this is just the tip of the iceberg -- the more pressing issue is the extent to which the Commonwealth is underfunding maintenance, despite the large transfers from the construction budget.

In September 2009, VDOT issued its latest Biennial Report. The Report estimated that the annual investment needed to maintain and operate the VDOT-maintained network of roads, bridges and other structures for FY 2011 and FY 2012 is \$1.885 billion and \$1.899 billion, respectively, or a total biennial investment of \$3.784 billion.

The report also noted that in the proposed FY 2011 and FY 2012 maintenance budgets of \$1.410 billion and \$1.451 billion, respectively, the gap between needs and available funds is approximately \$923 million over the FY 2011-2012 biennium. Using these figures, maintenance of Virginia's transportation infrastructure is being underfunded by about \$475 million in FY 2011 and \$448 million in FY 2012.

There is a statutory requirement that VDOT address system maintenance needs first. However, to do so would break the bank. Maintenance of Virginia's existing transportation infrastructure is a critical need that cannot go unaddressed. As President Reagan said as he signed the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982, **"Common sense tells us that it will cost a lot less to keep the system we have in good repair than to let it disintegrate and have to start over from scratch."**

Maintaining Virginia's transportation infrastructure is an investment in tomorrow that we must make today. As you have the chance to dialogue with candidates for the General Assembly be sure to educate them about the maintenance funding problem and ask them how they would support fixing it.

Still Time To Register For The Consultant Forum

The VTCA-VDOT Consultant Forum will be held on September 8 in Richmond. The Forum will focus on VDOT's plans to successfully deliver the wide array of projects made possible by Governor McDonnell's transportation funding initiative.

VDOT is depending heavily on the consultant design and inspection community for project development and execution. Be a part of the dialogue that will pave our way to success.

In addition to General Session discussions with Commissioner Greg Whirley, Chief Engineer Mal Kerley and CFO John Lawson, a number of concurrent technical sessions are offered focusing on a variety of consultant issues. Professional Development Hours will be available.

Join your public and private sector colleagues for this valuable event. The Forum will be held at the Hilton Richmond Hotel, Short Pump. To learn more and to register, visit www.vtca.org and click on the Consultant Forum link on the home page. We look forward to seeing you there.

Fall Erosion Classes Scheduled

Registration for the ESCCC classes is now open for the fall. Classes are scheduled for Richmond, Roanoke, Fairfax and Norfolk.

Registration information is now available on VTCA's web site at www.vtca.org or for details you can contact Stephanie Rusnak at 804-330-3312 or stephanie@vtca.org.

Richmond, September 23 - Holiday Inn Select Koger South

Roanoke, September 30 - Holiday Inn Tanglewood

Fairfax, October 28 - Marriott Fairfax at Fair Oaks

Norfolk, November 18 - Hilton Norfolk Airport

District Dialogues Set For Hampton And NOVA

VTCA's District Dialogues bring our members outstanding opportunities to meet with senior VDOT staff and transportation professionals from the localities in specific VDOT Districts. Mark your calendars:

Northern Virginia - November 17 at the Marriott Fair Oaks

Hampton Roads - November 30 at the Omni Newport News Hotel

Details will be out in early October.

VDOT Materials Division Memorandums

- ◆ Materials Division Memorandum MD346-11 - containing updates and changes to the Materials Division's Quality Assurance Sections Approved List Requirements. www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/Materials/MDs/bu-mat-MD346-11.pdf
- ◆ Materials Division Memorandum MD347-11 - containing revisions to Section 306 of the Materials Division's Manual of Instructions related to permission to enter property protocol. www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/Materials/MDs/bu-mat-MD347-11.pdf

VTCA Design-Build Committee Appoints New Members

The Design-Build Committee would like to thank outgoing members Guthrie Smith, (*Greenhorne & O'Mara*), John Jordan (*English Construction*), Ed Dalrymple (*Chemung Contracting*), Steve Chapin (*AECOM*) and Greg Lassiter, (*VHB*) for their service representing the industry. With their three year terms expiring, VTCA welcomes the following members to the committee: Steven Kuntz (*Dewberry*), Trip Phaup (*JMT*), Joe Prego (*American Infrastructure*), Ed Stelter (*Falconer Construction*) and Ginny Finley (*VHB*).

The Design-Build Committee has been working closely with VDOT since the introduction of the procurement method as an option for transportation projects. The twelve member committee is currently chaired by Mike Higgins (*Branch Highways*) and meets periodically with VDOT representatives with the objective of continuous improvements to Design-Build procurement process and project execution.

Contractor Leadership Presents Scholarships

On July 20 VTCA's Contractor Scholarships were presented to two outstanding students, Peter Rieger and Thomas Witten.

Peter is currently attending Virginia Tech and pursuing a degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering.



Mike Higgins (*Branch Highways*) presents award to Peter Rieger

Thomas is attending Virginia Western Community College where he is majoring in engineering with plans to transfer to Virginia Tech.



Buddy League (*Branscome*) presents award to Thomas Witten

Two other recipients, Tyler Griffith and Lauren Omelchenko, were unable to attend the luncheon. Tyler is attending VMI and majoring in Civil Engineering and Lauren is at UVA studying Systems Engineering.

Individual Safety Awards

VTCA and the Division of Mineral Mining (DMM) have announced the winners of the 2010 Individual Safety Awards for mining operations around the state. The awards are presented to those individuals that have worked in a mining operation without a lost time injury for categories of 25, 35 and 45 years. Presenting these awards offers a great opportunity to recognize those individuals that have gone the extra mile in making sure safety is the number one priority in their work routines. Dave Benner (DMM) and Sam Hollins (VTCA) will be coordinating the award ceremonies over the coming weeks. The following are the winners for 2010:

25 years without a lost time injury:

Kevin Hinkle, The Frazier Quarry – North Plant
 James Riggleman, The Frazier Quarry – North Plant
 Steve Bennett, Martin Marietta – Red Hill Quarry
 Eddie Burgess, Rockydale Quarries – Rockydale
 Lee Wright, Rockydale Quarries – Rockydale

35 years without a lost time injury

Andy Price, Vulcan Materials Company – Puddledock
 Ronnie Raymond, Vulcan Materials Company – Royal Stone
 Earnest Chambers, Titan America – Roanoke Cement
 Thomas Fernatt, Titan America – Roanoke Cement
 Michael D. Lackey, Titan America – Roanoke Cement
 Gary Simpson, Titan America – Roanoke Cement
 Michael Waldron, Titan America – Roanoke Cement
 Samuel Whitacre, Titan America – Roanoke Cement
 Robert “Lee” Nash, Luck Stone Corporation – Bealeton/Culpeper Plants (38 years)

Smoke Schools One Month Away!

Time is drawing near for the fall session of smoke schools. VTCA’s Visible Emissions Certification Classes (“smoke schools”) are scheduled for September 24 in Glade Springs, September 27 in Manakin and September 28 in Blue Ridge.

Anyone involved in taking visible emissions readings is required by the Environmental Protection Agency to receive certification every six months.

You may receive a reminder from Compliance Assurance Associates (CAA) regarding your registration for these classes. These reminders are automatically generated by CAA 90, 30 and 15 days out from the classes to everyone in their database as holding a certification, whether you are already registered with VTCA or not. This is only meant as a reminder from the company conducting the smoke schools. Registration must continue to be done through VTCA.

Registration information has been mailed and is available at www.vtca.org. Contact Sam Hollins at sam@vtca.org with questions. Register today!

Post-Earthquake Inspections Encouraged

In the wake of the recent earthquake that hit Virginia, Federal and State mining agencies are encouraging mine operators to conduct inspections of high hazard dams as well as any other structures that may have been impacted by the earthquake’s seismic activity. Some suggestions for inspections are:

1. Inspect impoundments for any signs of instability, including new or changed seepage and settlement;
2. Examine highwalls for potentially hazardous conditions;
3. Examine elevated structures including silos, belt structures, cat walks, and buildings to ensure the structures were not damaged.

If any inspections reveal areas of possible damage that could affect the safety of employees, immediate measures should be taken to insure that those areas are cordoned off and repairs are made before allowing anyone into that area again.



In Memoriam

Virginia F. "Betty" Curtis, 81, founder and President of Curtis Contracting, Inc., died peacefully on August 19 surrounded by her loving family. Betty founded Curtis Contracting in 1985 and remained active as the leader of the company until her death. She will be remembered for her gracious ways and her love of people and laughter. She leaves behind her loving husband and best friend of 62 years, Mr. Andrew R. "Mickey" Curtis, her daughter Debra L. Curtis, son Andrew R. Curtis, Jr. and his wife Sherry and her grandchildren Kaitlin and Heth Curtis. A memorial service was held August 26 in Richmond.

Jan Morehead, VTCA's Director of Administration and Membership Services, has earned renewal of her Certified Association Executive (CAE) credential. The CAE is the highest professional credential in the association management industry. Less than five percent of all association professionals have achieved this mark of excellence. Congratulations to Jan.

Welcome To Our Newest Members

MDB Strategies delivers results-oriented legislative, regulatory and government affairs solutions, while developing relationships that will benefit your business for decades. They will build a strategy with you to navigate the highly complex governmental entities, officials and systems which can either help or hinder your company's productivity and ability to compete in a free market.

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The law firm of ***Guthrie and Thomas*** includes twenty attorneys skilled in a wide range of litigation matters. The practice is especially strong in mine safety (MSHA), occupational health and safety (OSHA), commercial litigation, product liability, white-collar criminal defense and mediation.

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The Lane Construction Corporation is pleased to announce that Larry Thomas has joined the firm as Senior Purchasing Manager and will lead the procurement team working out of the Chantilly, VA office.

Larry brings 40 years of highway construction experience in the areas of contract management, procurement and material sales. Prior to joining Lane, he worked eight years for C. S. Mundy Quarries, 28+ years for Moore Brothers and 4+ years with TransCon Supply. Larry can be reached at 703-222-5670 or LRThomas@laneconstruct.com.

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A monthly publication of the
Virginia Transportation
Construction Alliance

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VTCA Winter Meeting - Mark Your Calendar

The VTCA Winter Meeting will provide you with solid educational programs and excellent opportunities to strengthen your working relationships with your customers and colleagues. The agenda includes:

- *“When Unions Come a Calling: The Rules are Changing”* - Dean Buckius, **Vandeventer Black**
- *“The New Health Care Laws: Your Business May Never be the Same”* - Sean Willoughby-Ray, **Scott Insurance**
- *“Top 10 Reasons Employees May Sue You”* - Pat Genzler and Dean Buckius, **Vandeventer Black**
- *“Federal Gridlock and the Need for Sustainable Funding: A Federal, State and VDOT Update”* - Jeff Southard, VTCA

The dates are January 12-15, 2012 and the location is the fabulous Loews Miami Beach Hotel. Visit www.loewshotels.com/miami for a virtual tour! Registration packages will be in the mail the first part of October.

Drive Smart Golf Tournament

The 9th annual Drive Smart Virginia golf tournament will be held September 30 at Richmond Country Club. Proceeds benefit key safety initiatives focused on distracted driving, teen driving and bicycle and pedestrian safety. For more information on registration and sponsorship opportunities, contact Kristin Smolenski at 276-206-6963, kristin.smolenski@drivesmartva.org.

Transportation Career Fair October 6

The 7th Annual VDOT Transportation Career Fair for students in Northern Virginia will be held on October 6 at the Prince William County Fair Grounds.

“Transportation: Your Ride to the Future” showcases the benefits of careers in all fields related to transportation. Students who attend are part of the future workforce for our industry. Getting those students interested in the transportation industry now will benefit your companies and organizations for many years to come.

For the first time in the Fair’s history, Secretary of Transportation Sean Connaughton will attend. There is a heightened sense of excitement about this year’s event as a result of this important appearance. Capitalize on this opportunity for visibility for your company or organization by participating as a 2011 Career Fair Exhibitor!

For more information contact Carolyn Wolcott at c.wolcott@vamegaprojects.com or visit http://vtcaonline.com/images/registration/trans_career_fair.pdf.

Hilliard Tournament Coming Up!

The fall edition of the Hilliard Charity & Fellowship Outing is set for October 7 at Bowling Green Country Club in Front Royal. To date, proceeds from the golf tournament exceed \$285,000. Be part of the tournament that aims to top the \$300,000 mark!

For a registration form visit www.vtca.org/vtca_calendar/events/hilliard_charity_fellowship_outingfall11.