Transportation Funding Bills Advancing

Over the past six months, VTCA worked with the administration on omnibus transportation funding legislation.

HB 1414 and SB 890 have been introduced as a result of that work. The legislation, among other things, would increase the gas tax in Virginia by 12 cents a gallon (4 cents a year for three years) and then index the gas tax to the CPI. In addition, fees on alternative fuel vehicles would be increased. Bottom line...these measures, when fully implemented, would generate over $360 million a year in new sustainable funding for transportation projects.

The legislation would also provide bonding authority to the Commonwealth for I-81. This would allow the Commonwealth Transportation Board to bond the I-81 revenue we were successful in getting passed in 2019. The bonding package would be worth $800-900 million for construction in the I-81 corridor.

HB 1414 passed the House Transportation Committee and has been referred to the House Finance Committee.

VTCA has also supported legislation to create a regional transportation authority for the Richmond metropolitan area (Planning District 15). (Similar to the authorities we got created for NOVA and Hampton Roads in 2013). HB 1541, would raise over $160 million a year in new transportation revenues for the Richmond area. HB 1541 passed the House Finance Subcommittee 5-3.

VTCA, through its Virginians for Better Transportation program, has started a PR/Voter Voice initiative to encourage people to send emails to their legislators in support of the transportation funding legislation. In addition, we are starting a social media/advertising campaign to send people to the website and get them to send emails to their legislators.

Please go to https://bit.ly/2vwAYlD and send an email to your legislator today. ALSO, please encourage your employees to do the same.

“Tech Day” Set For March 3

VTCA, VDOT and Bentley Systems are holding a “Tech Day” on March 3 in Richmond. Discover industry trends in delivering detailed survey/3D design in bridges, utilities, drainage, and modeling of transportation systems. Consultants, lead design engineers and contractors’ senior technical staff will not want to miss this opportunity to learn how the Department is transitioning to the 3D model. You will be able to network and collaborate with your peers and industry experts over the latest updates capabilities to increase your team’s productivity.

Topics include:

- Advancing VDOT in the 3D Design Space
- Industry Trends – Design and Construction Software
- MicroStation Connect Edition
- ConceptStation
- LumenRT
- ContextCapture
- OpenRoads Survey
- OpenRoads Designer
- OpenRoads Subsurface Utilities
- OpenBridge Modeler
- iTwin Design Review
- Deliverables
- eConstruction

VDOT Policy Updates

- **MD 423-19 – “Suspension of Certification” Guidelines** *(http://bit.ly/MD423-19)* – VDOT has published the new memorandum to revise Section 114.07 of Chapter I of the General Instruction of the Manual of Instructions, to provide greater clarity and detail to the Suspension of Certification guidelines. The new guidelines provide for better definition of what constitutes “negligence” and “abuse,” provides the framework for which incidents are reviewed and assessed, and how any disciplinary actions will be processed.


  For all CEI RFPs advertised after January 1, 2020, the rates in the memo will be in effect until December 31, 2020, or further notice. As noted, any questions regarding rate escalations should be directed towards the VDOT Alternative Project Delivery Division.


  The new monthly reimbursement amount of $145 (including tablets and cell phone) will replace the $45 (cell phone only) reimbursement for any VDOT project advertised after February 1, 2020. Industry should expect a revision to the memo in the next few weeks that will include guidance on various security requirements.


VDOT Welcomes Mona Gabriel, PE As Richmond District Construction Engineer

Mona Gabriel, PE, has been selected as the new Richmond District Construction Engineer. She holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Alexandria University.

Prior to her arrival at VDOT, Gabriel worked in the private sector where she managed numerous projects throughout central Virginia. She joined VDOT in March of 2017 as an environmental compliance engineer in the Construction Division, and was promoted to an assistant state construction engineer that October, where she was responsible for multiple programs in the Construction Division.

Call For 2020 TPMI Applications

The University of Virginia’s Center for Transportation Studies, in partnership with the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance, is preparing to offer the twelfth annual Transportation Project Management Institute (TPMI) from June 16–25, 2020 in Charlottesville. The Institute is designed for a cohort of 35 midcareer, emerging leaders from state and local government, and industry. To learn more about the Institute, please visit [http://bit.ly/TPMI2020](http://bit.ly/TPMI2020).

A particular benefit for private sector participants is the opportunity to gain direct experience with the VDOT project management process, while navigating the Program alongside other Industry and Department emerging leaders.

Students who are employees of VTCA members are eligible for a $500 rebate for participation in the program. Please contact VTCA’s Jeff Bragdon for details.
Dialogue With The Culpeper And Fredericksburg Districts Set For March 5, 2020

Our next District Dialogue is set for March 5 at the DoubleTree Charlottesville. You’ll have a chance to hear a strategic overview of the VDOT program from District Engineers John Lynch, PE (Culpeper) and Marcie Parker, PE (Fredericksburg), while VDOT leaders discuss specific program and project highlights. VTCA's Jeff Southard will close with a timely legislative update. Finally, conversation will continue at lunch round tables where VDOT and industry professionals will lead discussions around various topics of interest. Round Table topics include:

- Alternative Project Delivery
- CEI
- Construction
- Locally Administered Projects
- Maintenance
- Materials
- Mega Projects
- Preliminary Engineering

Don’t miss the opportunity for your company to sponsor one of these Round Table Discussions. Topics are first come, first served and limited to one table sponsorship per company. Dialogue Sponsorships are also available. All sponsors will be recognized in the Dialogue program, during the event and in the Blue Top. To register or sponsor, visit https://bit.ly/2U18911.

Please contact VTCA’s Dana (dana@vtca.org or 804-330-3312) with any questions.

Overnight rooms are available for the conference single rate of $129.00 + tax per night. The rate is available through 5:00 pm on February 10, 2020 or until the block is sold out, whichever comes first. DoubleTree Charlottesville, 990 Hilton Heights Road, Charlottesville, VA 22901. Reservations: 1-800-222-8733 and ask for the Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance Group rate or online at http://bit.ly/CFDD20_DoubleTree.

“Continuing The Quality Revolution”
VDOT To Host 2020 Mid-Atlantic Quality Assurance Workshop

Registration is open for the 2020 Mid-Atlantic Quality Assurance Workshop, set for February 11-13 in Williamsburg. The Workshop's mission is to promote, adopt, and emphasize new transportation technologies, while gathering support in implementing proactive policies, practices, and procedures that ensure life-cycle expectations of transportation infrastructure, at minimal overall cost. The program includes DOTs, and affiliated industries from seven Mid-Atlantic states. VTCA will have a significant role in this event. VTCA Aggregate Producer members will be giving four presentations, on Soil Stabilization, Use of #10 Screenings as Embankment and Fill Material, and Aggregate Fines and Manufactured Sand in Ready Mix Concrete. Registration and hotel information is online at http://www.midatlanticqaw.com. VDOT is offering sponsorships for the Workshop. If you are interested in a sponsorship please contact VDOT’s Angela Beyke at angela.beyke@vdot.virginia.gov.

ARTBA Seeks Nominations For Industry Leader Development Program

The American Road & Transportation Builders Association is accepting nominations for its 2020 Industry Leader Development Program (ILDP), set for May 12-14 in Washington, DC. The immersive, two-and-a-half-day program provides an understanding of industry economics, how transportation work in the U.S. is funded and financed, how actions by the federal government impact the industry and how to become politically engaged to help shape transportation policy.

Admission is competitive. Nominees should be between ages 30-50, have at least three years of experience in the transportation design and construction industry, have made a significant contribution to the work of his or her firm, and shown evidence of strong leadership potential. Candidates must be nominated by a sponsor and submit a completed application form. Applications are due by April 1. Access the nomination form at https://bit.ly/2S0FwrQ, or contact ARTBA’s Nick Goldstein at 202-683-1005 with questions.
MHSA Increases Penalties


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<tr>
<th>Name/Description</th>
<th>Mine Act Citation</th>
<th>2019 Penalties Minimum/Maximum</th>
<th>2020 Penalties Minimum/Maximum</th>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Assessment</td>
<td>30 CFR 100.3(a)</td>
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<td>$73,901</td>
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<td>Penalty Conversion Table</td>
<td>30 CFR 100.3(g)</td>
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<td>$137</td>
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<td>Minimum Penalty for any order issued under 104(d)(1) of the Mine Act</td>
<td>30 CFR 100.3(a)</td>
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<td>Minimum penalty for any order issued under 104(d)(2) of the Mine Act</td>
<td>30 CFR 100.3(b)</td>
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<td>Penalty for failure to provide timely notification under 105(j) of the Mine Act</td>
<td>30 CFR 100.4(c)</td>
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<td>Any operator who fails to correct a violation for which a citation or order was issued under 104(a) of the Mine Act</td>
<td>30 CFR 100.5(c)</td>
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<td>$8,006</td>
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<td>Violation of mandatory safety standards related to smoking standards</td>
<td>30 CFR 100.5(d)</td>
<td>$332</td>
<td>$338</td>
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<td>Flagrant violations under 110(b)(2) of the Mine Act</td>
<td>30 CFR 100.5(e)</td>
<td>$266,275</td>
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VDOT Issues Memorandum Revising Suspensions On Certifications

VDOT’s Materials Division has issued MD 423-19 revising Section 114 of the Materials Certifications Schools, specifically Section 114.07 Suspension of Certification. Effective January 1, 2020, the purpose of these revisions is to provide greater clarity and detail to the Suspension of Certifications guidelines.

Please be sure that everyone in your organization who holds VDOT Material Certifications is aware of these revisions. For more details visit http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/Materials/MDs/MD_423-19.pdf.

Lunchbox Seminars to Return

VTCA’s Aggregate Producer Operations Committee is pleased to announce the return of Lunchbox Seminars. Lunchbox Seminars are designed to provide presentations on technical topics pertaining to aggregate operations at the plant level.

The first Lunchbox Seminar is scheduled for February 25 and will be held at Luck Stone’s Training Facility at the Boscobel Plant in Goochland County (Richmond metropolitan area). Seminar topics will be screen plant maintenance and conveyor maintenance. Registration will be open the beginning of February.

Spring Smoke Schools Scheduled

Spring Visual Emissions Certification classes (Smoke Schools) have been scheduled:

- Richmond: March 10 - Luck Stone’s Rockville Plant
- Roanoke: March 11 - Boxley’s Blue Ridge Office

Registration for the Spring Smoke Schools is currently open and can be accessed by visiting https://bit.ly/2vt7aq3.
Member News

**A. Morton Thomas and Associates, Inc.** (AMT) is pleased to announce that Steven J. Chapin has been appointed as the outside Board member of AMT's Board of Directors. Chapin has had a distinguished 40-year career in the transportation engineering industry throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. “Steve’s professional insights and experience will play a meaningful role in the future direction of our firm,” notes President and CEO Mike Wiercinski, PE, PS. “Steve has been an AMT industry friend for 30 years and we look forward to his effective Board membership.”

Chapin holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the VMI and was a licensed Professional Engineer in MD, VA, and eight other states. He held numerous leadership positions with AECOM and predecessor company Hayes, Seay, Mattern & Mattern. In addition to serving as the Director of Transportation for HSMM, he spent 9 years on the HSMM Board of Directors prior to the company’s merger with AECOM. He ultimately retired from AECOM as a Senior Vice President of Transportation. Chapin has also made significant contributions to the industry through his leadership within the Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance (VTCA), the VDOT/VTCA Design-Build Task Force, and others. His career is marked by tremendous success in managing, overseeing, growing, and directing a wide variety of transportation projects and practices.

**Concrete Pipe & Precast** has named John M. Blankenship as President effective January 1, 2020. Blankenship brings more than 34 years of experience in the concrete pipe and precast industry in multiple roles across North America. He most recently served as the company’s Chief Operating Officer. He holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Virginia Military Institute and a Master’s in Engineering from the University of Virginia. CP&P has 13 plants along the eastern seaboard.

**Terra Site Constructors** has announced key changes to its senior leadership team, including the promotion of Peter W. Bernat to Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer and the addition of Geoff Bambini as Senior Vice President to lead the company’s newly formed Federal Services Division.

Bernat joined Terra in 2019 and has served as Senior Vice President of Operations throughout his tenure. In this new role, he will continue to develop, refine and execute the firm’s strategic plan. He will also oversee field operations to ensure quality, achieve financial objectives and meet client expectations.

Bambini will lead the firm’s new Federal Services Division. As Senior Vice President, he will take the lead in procuring Federal contracts and partner with Peter to build a project delivery team that has deep experience in the Federal market in order to meet growth and quality objectives. He brings more than 25 years of construction management experience, including experience developing and growing companies involved in the SBA 8(a) business development program to Terra.

**WRA’s CMI Division** welcomes Chad McMurray, PE, PMP, CCM, DBIA as an Associate and Regional Responsible Charge. Chad will be responsible for VDOT and local government projects in Southwest Virginia and Tennessee. Chad is a University of Tennessee Civil Engineer with over 25 years of experience managing construction projects and programs. He was an Area Construction Engineer in the VDOT Bristol District before becoming a consultant QA Manager and Responsible Charge Engineer providing services in Staunton, Hampton Roads, Salem, and Bristol Districts. Chad is a well-respected QA Manager in Virginia and will work to further strengthen WRA’s Design-Build and CEI services throughout Virginia and surrounding states.

Congratulations to **American Geotechnical & Environmental Services, Inc.**, celebrating of its 25th anniversary. “Our wonderful journey would not have been possible without our exceptional employees and clients. We would just like to say thank you for being a part of our family and look forward to many more years working together,” said Kanwal Chopra, President of the firm. A.G.E.S. is one of the largest award-winning minority owned geotechnical engineering firms in the northeastern United States.

In Memoriam

Cynthia (Cindy) Kessler Lanford passed away on January 6 at the age of 60 after a seven-year hard-fought battle with cancer. Cindy was the beloved wife of Ken Lanford, **Lanford Brothers Company**. Cindy attended many VTCA events over the years, supporting Ken and the Lanford Brothers family. Cindy was a member of Daleville Baptist Church, where her funeral service was held on January 11. We will miss her wonderful smile and kind soul.
New Members

**Development Facilitators, Inc.** is a multi-disciplined consulting engineering organization offering project management and inspection, engineering and survey services to clients in the mid-Atlantic region. Our goal is to provide the services you need for your project, whether it is the development of a highway or other transportation-related projects, as well as sewer and water or utilities-oriented plans. “Your Needs Equal Our Solutions.”

1127 Benfield Blvd., Suite K
Millersville, MD 21108
443-871-4066
http://www.dfiengineering.com/

**IPR Northeast** is a full-service underground utility repair and rehabilitation infrastructure contractor providing underground utility trenchless rehabilitation capabilities. IPR was founded, and built, on the core belief that trenchless infrastructure solutions are critical to bringing the nation’s aging and damaged water, sewer, and industrial infrastructure back to standard. No matter where the problem lies - beneath roadways, through open space, industrial or sensitive areas – IPR has the solution to handle the most difficult pipe repair challenges, without the need for digging.

10555 Tucker Street
Beltsville, VA 20705
301-741-0360
http://teamipr.com/

**Data-Pro/Flora Surveying, PC** specializes in the conversion of 2D Design Plan data to 3D survey quality construction models for Electronic survey stakeout, Automated Machine Guided (AMG) construction equipment and electronic Inspection surface models. Our 3D Data models are survey grade accurate for bulldozers, graders, pavers, milling machines, etc. utilizing GPS and/or UTS total stations. We provide training and consulting to contractors using AMG-Machine controlled construction equipment. We also provide the set-up of horizontal and vertical site calibration project control networks and perform construction forensics.

12863 George Washington Memorial Hwy.
Saluda, VA 23149
804-694-4578
http://www.florasurvey.com/

VTCA Office Closed

VTCA will be closed February 17 for President’s Day.