

AGENDA ITEM #15: A GUIDE TO FUNDING OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO VIRGINIA JURISDICTIONS
Audrey Moruza, VTRC

In mid-2012 VDOT's Transportation and Mobility Planning Division requested a comprehensive guide to the ways in which local Virginia jurisdictions could raise funds for local priority transportation projects. Several factors made this a timely request: federal and state funds based on fuel tax revenues were growing weakly or not at all, and SAFETEA-LU had technically expired with no replacement as of yet. Although federal programs funded under that authorization were lingering around, they were known to be winding down. There was a need to know what local jurisdictions could do for themselves.

As it happened, the calm landscape that existed when the report was launched was soon caught up in comprehensive transformation caused by a new federal transportation authorization, several signature acts of the Virginia General Assembly, a new Governor's priorities, the recodification of Title 32, the afterthought addition of the Revenue Sharing grant program to the report, and the addition of VDOT's Local Assistance Division as a key contributor to and customer of the report. The research was brought to an official close in 2015 yet contained material that took three more years to be reviewed, updated, vetted by a legal expert, and edited for publication. This content had not been published in the open literature prior to this report, yet the report is not the final word given that Virginia is a Dillon's Rule state, and the Virginia General Assembly has traditionally played an active role in determining transportation policy. It is specifically hoped that the legal framework and research approach of this report assists those who wish to update its content in the future.

Ms. Audrey Moruza, VTRC Senior Research Scientist, will brief the TTAC on this item.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

For discussion and informational purposes.