

George Washington Regional Commission

FY-2021 Rural Transportation Planning Work Program (RWP)
July 01, 2020 – June 30, 2021



Purpose and Objective

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) allocates part of the State Planning and Research (SPR) funding to provide annual transportation planning assistance for non-urbanized areas within the Commonwealth. The Rural Transportation Planning (RTP) Program was created to aid the State in fulfilling the requirements of the State Planning Process to address the transportation needs of non-metropolitan areas. Funds appropriated under 23 U.S.C. 307(c) (SPR funds) are used in cooperation with the Department of Transportation, Commonwealth of Virginia for transportation planning as required by Section 135, Title 23, U.S. Code. These Federal funds provide 80 percent funding and require a 20 percent local match.

In FY-2021 each planning district commission (PDC) / regional commission that has rural area will receive \$58,000 from VDOT's Rural Transportation Planning Assistance Program. The corresponding PDC / regional commission will provide a local match of \$14,500 to conduct rural transportation planning activities. This resource may be supplemented with additional planning funds. The arrangement of all such funds involves the development of a scope of work, approval and other coordination in the Transportation & Mobility Planning Division's (TMPD) administrative work programs.

The scope of work shall include specific activities as requested by VDOT and/or the Federal Highway Administration. The scope of work may also include activities or studies addressing other transportation planning related issues that may be of specific interest to the region. The criteria for the determination of eligibility of studies for inclusion as part of this work program are based upon 23 U.S.C. 307 (c), SPR.

This Rural Transportation Planning Work Program (RWP) outlines transportation planning efforts in the rural localities within Planning District 16 which includes King George County, Caroline County, the Towns of Bowling Green and Port Royal. The work activities detailed in this document were developed by George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC) staff in coordination with VDOT, planning staff from rural localities, and the Fredericksburg Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's (FAMPO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The FAMPO TAC will serve as the advisory body for transportation issues and make recommendations to both the FAMPO Policy Committee and GWRC Board. The GWRC will implement the requirements of the FY-2021 agreement with VDOT for the utilization of Federal/SPR Funds.

1.0 FY 2021 - Program Administration (\$5,000.00)

Background and Objective: The purpose of these work elements is to provide oversight of the program and facilitate regional participation and consensus building on transportation-related issues through a continuing, comprehensive, and coordinated planning process.

The staff of the GWRC will coordinate all regional rural transportation activities, as well as maintain all records, process all correspondence, and create quarterly progress reports/invoices associated with these activities.

1.1 Program Management - Provide fiscally sound management and accountability of SPR funds through in-house accounting and control and quarterly reports to VDOT.

Deliverable - Quarterly Reports and Invoices for the FY-2021 Rural Transportation Program as well as the development of the FY-2022 RWP. **\$2,500**

1.2 Regional Coordination - Maintain contacts and attend meetings with the Regional stakeholders, including local government officials/staff, regional agencies, neighboring PDC's, VDOT representatives, and other federal, state and local agencies concerning transportation issues.

Deliverables - Coordination of rural transportation planning activities with metropolitan planning activities taking place within GWRC as well as the Commonwealth of Virginia and neighboring PDCs. **\$2,500**

SPR Funds (80%)	\$4,000.00
PDC Funds (20%)	\$1,000.00
<hr/>	
Total Budgeted Expenditure for Program Administration	\$5,000.00

2.0 FY 2021 - Program Activities (\$67,500.00)

Background and Objective: Address regionalized transportation issues that are identified by the Transportation TAC and the PDC. Individual projects and work elements are described below:

2.1 VDOT Statewide Planning Assistance and Coordination - \$10,000.00

Required Tasks

- Complete any unfinished tasks from FY-20 RWP.
- Participate in VTrans webinars and Smart Scale Regional Meetings.
- Participate in meetings with VDOT staff regarding Title VI and Environmental Justice (EJ) compliance.
- Participate in the Fall Transportation Meeting held in GWRC region and provide a display to serve as outreach to the region’s citizens.
- Participate in any additional outreach meetings that may arise and provide / review data as requested by VDOT throughout the fiscal year.
- Participate with the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and VDOT on meeting performance measure goals.
- Work with VDOT staff in identifying locations for corridor studies and Arterial Management Plans base on safety and congestions data.

Subtotal Task 2.1

SPR Funds (80%)	\$8,000.00
PDC Funds (20%)	\$2,000.00
<hr/>	
Total Budgeted Expenditure for Program Administration	\$10,000.00

2.2 Local and Regional Analysis and Support - \$12,500.00

Background and Objective: Address regionalized transportation issues that are identified by the FAMPO TAC, the PDC and the rural localities in the Region. Maintain the upkeep of the 2050 Rural Long-Range Transportation Plan (RLRTP) and provide assistance with planning and analytical support for the rural localities in GWRC.

Individual projects and work elements are described below:

2.2.1 Local Transportation Planning and Analysis Support - Provide support and guidance to local governments in local planning efforts, identifying and developing rural transportation projects with technical assistance in cost estimating and transportation planning and analysis, including Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis and mapping. Additionally, GWRC staff will assist rural localities with initial application development for SMART Scale, Revenue Sharing, Transportation Alternatives, and other State transportation funding programs as needed.

Deliverables – Technical memorandums, GIS data and mapping. **\$8,000.00**

2.2.2. Regional and Long-Range Transportation Planning – Maintain the 2050 RLRTP in concurrence with updates from the FY 20-25 Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP), the US 301/Route 207 Corridor Study, and other completed studies.

Deliverables – Maintain the RLRTP **\$4,500.00**

Subtotal Task 2.2

SPR Funds (80%)	\$10,000.00
PDC Funds (20%)	\$2,500.00
<hr/>	
Total Budgeted Expenditure for Program Activities	\$12,500.00

2.3 Caroline and King George Transportation Studies - \$45,000.00

Background and Objective: Address Caroline and King George transportation study needs and link to economic development opportunities, including Opportunity Zone tax incentives, where possible.

GWRC will begin to work with Caroline and King George Counties on the work elements in FY-21 as shown below in priority order for each county. It is envisioned that although these work efforts could all begin in FY-21, that some of the work would carry over into the FY-22 and be completed in the FY-22 RWP.

King George County

2.3.1 Feasibility of reinstating Fredericksburg Regional Transit (FRED) service – To assist with initial planning, GIS support, and data analysis of potential bus routes in the County in coordination with FRED.

Deliverables – Support communication with FRED and creation of a baseline study to determine the feasibility of reinstating service in King George County.

2.3.2 King George Industrial Park – GWRC staff will work with County staff to develop a foundational plan for utilizing EDA-owned land in the King George Industrial park. This study effort will explore the possibility of developing a commuter train station along the existing rail line.

Deliverables – Coordination of meetings with stakeholders to support this effort; study report and presentation to King George County staff and GWRC.

2.3.3 Commuter Bike Path along Dahlgren Railroad Heritage Trail – To assist with planning, GIS support, and initial data analysis for the project. With this analysis, County staff and stakeholders will have information to make decisions around possibilities for the trail in coming years. Additionally, GWRC staff will assist with identifying potential funding sources.

Deliverables - Study report and presentation to King George County staff and GWRC.

Caroline County

2.3.4 Bicycle and Pedestrian Small Area Plan for Ladysmith – To complete a study of potential bicycle and pedestrian improvements with recommendations for Ladysmith, the most populous part of Caroline County and a designated growth zone.

Deliverables – Start study with planned completion in FY-21. Study report and presentation to Caroline County and GWRC.

2.3.5 Route 2 Corridor Study – GWRC staff will work with VDOT to conduct a safety and capacity study for the corridor using GIS and VDOT’s Statewide Planning System data. Study potential to link proposed transportation improvements to economic development opportunities. Subject to VDOT approval, funding, and availability, additional resources may be available for this effort under the lead of VDOT. This activity is a carryover of the FY-20 RWP.

Deliverables - Study report and presentation to Caroline County staff and GWRC.

2.3.6 Small Area Plan Study for Port Royal – To complete the transportation element of small area plan and update the transportation portion of the comprehensive plan for Port Royal which would also include linkages to economic development opportunities and opportunity zone tax incentives and a study of potential bicycle/pedestrian improvements. Additionally, complete an in-depth study of ways to include street calming devices such as street trees, sidewalks, and more along Route 301 from Route 17 to the Port Conway Bridge. This activity is a carryover from the FY-20 RWP.

Deliverables - In FY-21, study report and presentation to Caroline County staff and GWRC.

2.3.7 Canoe and Kayak Launch at Town Pier - To complete a study of where to place a soft launch location for canoes and kayaks off the town pier. The Town of Port Royal currently has dedicated grant and local match funding to support the construction of this project.

Deliverables - In FY-21, study report and presentation to Caroline County staff and GWRC

Subtotal Task 2.3

SPR Funds (80%)	\$36,000.00
-----------------	-------------

PDC Funds (20%)	\$9,000.00
-----------------	------------

Total Budgeted Expenditure for Program Activities	\$45,000.00
--	--------------------

Total, Tasks 2.1-2.3

SPR Funds (80%)	\$54,000.00
-----------------	-------------

PDC Funds (20%)	\$13,500.00
-----------------	-------------

Total Budgeted Expenditure for Program Activities	\$67,500.00
--	--------------------

<u>FY-2021 Budget Summary Tasks</u>	VDOT (SPR) 80%	PDC (Match) 20%	Total 100%
<u>1.0 Program Administration</u>			
1.1 – Program Management	\$2,000.00	\$500.00	\$2,500.00
1.2 – Regional Coordination	\$2,000.00	\$500.00	\$2,500.00
Total Budgeted Expenditure for Program Administration	\$4,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$5,000.00
<u>2.0 Program Activities</u>			
2.1 – VDOT Statewide Planning Assistance and Coordination	\$8,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$10,000.00
2.2 – Local and Regional Analysis and Support	\$10,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$12,500.00
2.3 – Caroline and King George Transportation Studies	\$32,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$40,000.00
Funding by task is for estimation purposes only and is not intended to be restrictive.			
Total Budgeted Expenditure for Program Activities	\$54,000.00	\$13,500.00	\$67,500.00
Total Budgeted Expenditure for Program Administration and Program Activities	\$58,000.00	\$14,500.00	\$72,500.00