Virginia Receives “Bonus” Federal Funds

On Monday September 16th, 2013, Governor Bob McDonnell announced the receipt of an additional $57.3 million in federal funds originally allocated to other states. According to the governor’s office, the funding will be used in each of the nine construction districts for the following—$16.7 million for interstate paving, $25.6 million for primary route paving, and $13.7 million for secondary route paving. The remainder of the funds will be allocated to bridge painting and preventive maintenance. VDOT’s final project recommendations will be made to the Commonwealth Transportation Board this month.

“This has been a historic year for transportation funding in Virginia,” said Governor McDonnell. "This 'bonus' funding, along with the new and sustainable funding from the transportation bill, will enhance VDOT's ability to move projects forward and continue to improve the condition of our roads. Virginia's transportation system is vital to both economic opportunity and to the quality of life of every Virginian...”.

With the passage of the historic transportation funding bill (HB 2313), the primary focus for the 2013 Fall Asphalt Conference will be on spending the new funds wisely in order to improve the pavement conditions statewide, ease congestion, and provide access for the citizens of Virginia.

This year’s Fall Conference features VDOT and FHWA Senior Management on Day 1 (October 7) of the conference. Topics will include Secretary Connaughton discussing Virginia’s Transportation Plan; Commissioner Whirley providing an overview on how VDOT will implement the Governor’s Transportation Plan; FHWA Division Administrator Irene Rico outlining the impacts of MAP-21 on Virginia and the prospects for future federal transportation funding; Chief Deputy Commissioner Kilpatrick detailing how the work with the new funding will be rolled out; and the District Administrators summarizing...
the work to be advertised in the winter and in 2014. Following these presentations, Deputy Chief Engineer Mirshahi will announce the best VDOT Maintenance and Construction/Rehabilitation projects for 2012. VAA Executive Vice President Schreck will announce the VAA Best Municipal, Best Commercial, Best Non-Traditional and Best Green Paving award winners for 2012.

The second day of the Fall Conference (October 8) will be full of interesting and innovative technical presentations. Work related to research conducted by VCTIR on topics such as high RAP AC mixes, fiberless SMA and AC binders will start off the morning. Then presentations will cover topics such as: the use of Thinlays for Preventive Maintenance, ADA Compliance for paving projects, and VDOT’s First Porous Pavement Parking Lot in NO-VA. After lunch, conference attendees will get an update on the performance of VDOT’s changes and the 2014 Road and other test sections at the NCAT Test Track by Dr. Buzz Book, and comments by the Powell—Director of the Test Chief Engineer and his staff. At the conclusion of Day 1 and Day 2, the VAA and their members will host a reception for those attending the conference. To register for the Annual Fall Asphalt Conference, visit the VAA website at www.vaasphalt.org and use our new online registration option or contact the VAA office at 804-288-3169. Don’t miss this opportunity to see what’s coming in 2014.

Virginia Paving Completes Work at FHWA ALF

Some of the most significant pavement and asphalt materials research has been conducted at the FHWA Turner-Fairbank Accelerated Load Facility (ALF) over the last decade. Now that Virginia Paving has completed the reconstruction of the ALF, in late 2013, the next set of experiments will begin. Consisting of 10 experimental lanes, FHWA researchers will be examining the performance of various asphalt mixtures that incorporate RAP and RAS, mixtures that change binder grades with various asphalt binder replacement percentages as well as different warm mix technologies. During the life of the experiments, each lane is expected to receive 300,000 repetitions of a 10,000 pound loaded tire. Routinely, these lanes will be evaluated and the distresses measured and mapped. The goal of the project is to determine how different replacement binders, binder grades and warm mix technology impacts overall mixture performance. More information on this project can be obtained by contacting Dr. Nelson Gibson, P.E. at Nelson.Gibson@dot.gov.
MEMBER AND ASSOCIATION NEWS

Congratulations to Frank Caldwell of Sawyer Paving on the birth of his son, Frank Braxton Caldwell V. He was born on September 8, 2013 and weighed 9lbs 3 oz. Frank V and his mother, Jennifer, are doing great and the family, including sister Kathryn, are adjusting well to life at home.

Superior Paving Corp. wins the NAPA website award for the Producer Member category. In 2012, Superior Paving redesigned and re-launched their website to be more effective in communicating with their customers as well as promoting the industry. Based on the new website, NAPA awarded Superior Paving with the best website award in their category.

Trenton Clark moderates webinar on Wide-Based Tires. More and more trucks have switched to wide-base tires from the dual tire assembly on their tractors as well as trailers. In an effort to assess the impact of these tires on pavements, FHWA has been conducting research. Clark moderated a webinar hosted by the Transportation Research Board (TRB) on September 10th where researchers presented the findings. Overall these tires can have increased damage on thick pavement structures, but limited impacts on thicker pavements. More research results will be available in the coming months.

Trenton Clark of VAA and David White of Superior Paving Corp are to present at SEAUPG meeting in Baton Rouge. Like most states, Virginia is rehabilitating existing interstates—not building new ones. For original concrete pavements, the main rehabilitation approach after years of patching and grinding has been overlaying with asphalt. Clark will present the overall approach and results of the interstate rehabilitation in Virginia and White will discuss the I-66 project.

Young Leaders Scholarship Awarded

On September 11th and 12th the NAPA Young Leaders held their 10th annual conference at the W Hotel in Washington, D.C. This year the Young Leaders co-located their meeting with NAPA’s Asphalt Fly-In. Attendees participated in all Fly-In activities, including legislative and regulatory briefings, networking events with members of Congress, and lobbying visits.

The Young Leaders Conferences always have sessions focused on developing and building the leadership skills needed for personal and professional growth. To prove that commitment, each year NAPA Young Leaders presents a scholarship to a graduate or undergraduate student who is working towards a degree in Civil Engineering, Construction Management, or Construction Engineering in the state in which the meeting is held.

This year the Young Leaders were able to award the scholarship to a student in our great state of Virginia. The VAA and its Board of Directors stepped up to the plate and increased the scholarship to a record $5,000. We reviewed 23 applications all deserving of this award. The scholarship was awarded to James Bryce of Virginia Tech. He received his masters of Science and Engineering in 2012 and is currently working on his PhD. James has a long list of academic achievements and is also very active in his community. James has conducted research with the Center for Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure at the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTI), VDOT, the Strategic Highway Research Program 2 (SHRP 2), and a national Sustainable Pavements Consortium.

We congratulate Mr. Bryce on receiving this scholarship. Through this scholarship, Virginia is seen as a state that recognizes the value in making the necessary investments to ensure the future success of our industry.

Boxer, Legislator of the Year

From NAPA website.

Boxer honored for bipartisan leadership in passing MAP-21 into law.

The National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) today presented Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) with the Asphalt Legislator of the Year Award for her bipartisan leadership in crafting the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21).

“We commend Senator Boxer for her extraordinary leadership in advancing legislation that will truly modernize and reform the nation’s current transportation system to help create jobs, accelerate economic recovery and build the foundation for long-term prosperity,” said John Keating, President and COO East of Oldcastle Materials Inc. and Chairman of the Board of Directors for NAPA.
Ozone Levels Improve

Ozone levels monitored by DEQ this summer have been much lower than usual. Air quality is benefiting from the cooler, wetter weather that has been experienced so far during this ozone season. Since the ozone air quality standard and Virginia’s performance is established based on a three year rolling average, the low numbers will be of benefit for several years. This will be very important should EPA lower the ozone standard as is expected sometime next year.

SWCB Approves Storm Water Regulation

The State Water Control Board at its June 17, 2013 meeting approved DEQ’s final proposed changes to the Storm Water Regulation that will become effective July 1, 2014. The regulation is at a 60 day public notice which ends September 13, 2013. Several members of the VAA Environmental Committee attended a number of Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings last spring to provide input into the final regulation. The asphalt plant sector will maintain its permitting requirements to monitor only for total suspended solids (TSS) in site runoff and will keep the target concentration at 100 ppm as a benchmark as opposed to a limitation. The current SWCB approved regulation adds additional runoff water sampling (twice a year instead of the previous once per year) for all of the storm water permits that will be reissued July 1, 2014. There is also a requirement for all sites discharging storm water to the Chesapeake Bay drainage system to sample twice a year for nitrogen and phosphorus in the first two years of the five year permit cycle. There are other changes that can impact asphalt plants. Among them is a new requirement that any plant expansion or new facility located in the Bay drainage system may not exceed the loadings present prior to the development of the site. As an example, if a forested area is cleared for a new asphalt plant, the company must document that it will not discharge pollutants (TSS) in greater concentrations than what was coming off the site as a forested area. It is not clear yet how this documentation would be done although it would probably involve the use of models. Other changes will be summarized and placed on the VAA website for members to review. A copy of the regulation is also on the web. The VAA is currently reviewing options on whether to provide written comments on the regulation during the public notice period or at a public hearing scheduled for August 29, 2013. VAA will keep you informed of all future developments.

VAA Golf Tournament Approaches

While the PGA has the FedEx Cup for the top golfers on tour to complete the golf season, the VAA has their annual Invitational Tournament for scratch golfers and hackers alike. The VAA Golf Tournament offers excitement, fun, and competition attracting approximately 120 golfers each October. This year the tournament will be held on October 9th at Independence Golf Club in Powhatan, Virginia. Home to the VSGA, Independence provides a challenge to the best golfers and opportunities for competitive scores for Captain’s Choice Teams.

The VAA accepts VAA member and non-member players for the tournament. There will be a shotgun start at 12:30 pm followed by a barbeque dinner. For more information or to register, contact the VAA Office or go to the VAA website at: www.vaasphalt.org. Join us for a great day of golf!
**NEWS & NOTES**

**New EPA Administrator.** Congress has confirmed Gina McCarthy as the new EPA Administrator replacing Lisa Jackson who served in the Obama Cabinet for many years. Ms. McCarthy’s previous position was as Assistant Administrator of the EPA Office of Air and Radiation. Ms. McCarthy is not expected to change the Obama Administration’s Policies.

**AST Regulations**—The Governor’s Office has approved DEQ’s revisions to the Above Ground Storage Tank Regulation that was completed last year. The regulation now goes to a final public notice until October 11, 2013. The regulation has very little impact on asphalt facilities. It primarily deals with large tank farms located in Fairfax County. A copy of the revised regulation (9 VAC25-91) can be found on the VAA web site.

**NXL Hires Malcolm T. Kerley, P.E. as New President.** NXL is pleased to announce that former VDOT Chief Engineer, Malcolm T. Kerley, P.E. will become the new President of NXL.

Mal brings to NXL more than 40 years of transportation engineering experience. During his time as VDOT’s Chief Engineer, he was responsible for all engineering aspects of the Department, including overseeing the pre-construction design activities of four divisions and the construction oversight for all VDOT projects.

"Mal is recognized in Virginia and nationwide as a leader in the transportation industry, said NXL’s founder and former President Nico De Leon. "With his vast knowledge, experience, and sound judgment, Mal will be a transformational leader for the firm. With Mal as the new President of the firm, a new and exciting chapter for NXL has begun." Mr. De Leon will still be an integral part of NXL in his new roll as the company’s Chief Executive Officer.

**OSHA Silica Ruling**

Provided by NAPA website

On August 23, 2013, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued a 750-page ruling related to worker exposure to silica dust.

As with all occupational health standards enforced by OSHA, there is an affirmative duty to ensure workers are protected from exposure to hazardous conditions, including potential emissions from various practices and processes. The proposed Silica Standard requires employers to understand work practices that have the potential for silica exposure, including milling, stock-pile management, baghouse inspection, and other common plant and paving activities. In general, OSHA identifies potential silica exposure in many construction and other industrial activities, and the agency has identified compliant operations and strategies that mitigate exposure to silica, e.g., use of milling machines with spray systems, as well as flexible alternative compliance paths.

OSHA’s release of their proposed Silica Standard, the first occupational exposure standard from the agency in decades, includes a flexible alternative compliance path for roadway milling operations that exempts those operations from some burdensome regulations. NAPA intends to work with OSHA to remove the respiratory requirement by demonstrated engineering controls and best practices. This new standard is up for public comment until December 11, 2013. Learn more about the OSHA ruling at www.asphaltpavement.org.

**Mark Your Calendar**

- Fall Asphalt Conference
  October 7-9, 2013
  Richmond, VA

- VAA Invitational Golf Tournament
  October 9, 2013
  Independence GC
  Richmond, VA

- SEAU PG Annual Meeting
  November 10-14, 2013
  Baton Rouge, LA

- TRB Annual Meeting
  January 12-16, 2014
  Washington, DC

- Advanced Asphalt Mix Design Workshop
  January 23, 2014
  Richmond, VA

- NAPA Annual Meeting
  February 2-5, 2014
  Boca Raton, FL

- Regional Asphalt Seminar
  Fredericksburg
  February 20, 2014

- Regional Asphalt Seminar
  Richmond
  February 25, 2014

- Regional Asphalt Seminar
  Blacksburg
  March 11, 2014

- VAA Annual Meeting
  April 3-5, 2014
  Williamsburg, VA.

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**Construction Storm Water Permits**

The Department of Conservation and Recreation is in the process of completing regulations, guidelines and procedures that will transfer most of the responsibility for the control of runoff from disturbed land through permitting to localities. The Chesapeake Bay drainage area will have tighter requirements for the discharge of sediment. The program’s administration is being transferred to DEQ for implementation. VDOT is also developing new procedures that will place much of the site planning and permitting burden on localities and contractors. VDOT intends to have advertisements that include their changes this fall for work to be initiated next year. A fact sheet on the new regulations is available on the VAA web site.
VDOT News and Research

Sunset of Construction Directive Memoranda—Effective August 1, all applicable Construction Division CD’s memo have been retired and replaced with Construction Division Instructional and Informational Memorandums (IIM). Those CD’s that were still in effect have been renumbered. To get a complete list of the new IIM’s, visit the VDOT website at http://www.virginiadot.org/business/const/construction_iim.asp.

High RAP Projects—In an effort to better utilize existing RAP piles and reduce the overall cost of asphalt mixes without compromising quality, VCTIR, VDOT and VAA members have produced and placed mixes with 40% or more RAP. The first project was performed on SR 3 in Fredericksburg District utilizing 40% and 45% RAP. Traditional lab testing and performance lab testing on the materials showed promising results for further test sections. The second project was done in partnership with the City of Hampton. Again, the traditional lab tests for the mix containing 45% RAP compared well with the lower RAP mix. More projects are planned for later in 2013 and for 2014.

SHRP2 R06—SHRP2 was established by Congress in 2005 to investigate highway congestion and crashes. Since the establishment, numerous projects have been undertaken. The R06 project has many facets; one of which deals with mix uniformity. Two VAA member contractors assisted VCTIR in evaluating and collecting data for the project being conducted by the Texas Transportation Institute. The goal of the project was to assess temperature uniformity behind the paver and density behind the rollers. Information on this project’s results will be available at the completion of the R06 study.

Updates to MOI Section 600—Over the past few years, new asphalt mixes have been added to the VDOT toolbox. The new mixes including SM-4.75 and porous asphalt mixes (PAM), will be included in the MOI along with guidance on when and where these materials should be used.

Roland Elected SABAP Chairman

John Roland, President of JVR Environmental, has been appointed by the Air Pollution Control Board to a three year term on the State Advisory Board on Air Pollution (SABAP). The SABAP was reconstituted last April with a new charter and new members. The Advisory Board provides technical and regulatory assistance to the State Air Pollution Control Board and DEQ staff. Roland, who previously served as the VAA Director of Engineering and Environmental Affairs, was elected as the Board’s first Chairman for a three year term. Roland has been providing the Virginia Asphalt Association with consulting services for the last several years.

VDOT Staff Changes

Over the last few months, several changes have occurred in the VDOT staff.

In June, Mr. John Lynch, P.E. was named the new Culpeper District Administrator. Mr. Lynch comes to Culpeper from the NOVA District where he served in various roles, most recently as the Regional Transportation Project Director for the NOVA Mega Projects and the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project Manager. Prior to VDOT, John worked for private consulting firms and CalTrans.

Mr. Robert “Rob” Crandol, P.E. is the new Asphalt Program Manager in the Materials Division. Rob has held several positions within VDOT, most recently at the Richmond District Office. Rob has over 20 years with VDOT; his career started in the Staunton District Materials office.

In July, Mr. David Kaulfers, P.E. returned to the Materials Division after an assignment with the Army Corp of Engineers. As one of the Assistant State Materials Engineers, Dave will be overseeing the Pavement and Asphalt Sections. The Pavement Section was overseen by Dr. Mohamed Elfino, P.E. The Asphalt Section was overseen by Mr. Bill Bailey, P.E.

The VDOT Construction Division has hired Mr. Patrick O’Leary, P.E., Esq. to lead the specifications section. Prior to joining VDOT, Pat worked as a lawyer in the Attorney General’s office.

Finally, Mr. William “Bill” Bailey, P.E., who has led the Asphalt Section since 1998, will be focusing on other areas in the Materials Division. During Bill’s time as Assistant State Materials Engineer over the Asphalt Section, he oversaw the transition from the Marshall Mix Design process to the SUPERPAVE system and the development of the MITIS/PLAIDS system. With the restructuring of management in the Materials Division, Bill will continue to oversee other testing sections at Elko.