

2010 Legislative Program Virginia Association of Counties

Adopted by the VACo Membership – November 10, 2009

<u>Table of Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
OVERARCHING PRIORITY	2
VACo's PRIORITIES	5
VACo's POSITIONS:	
Administration of Government	8
Community Development and Planning	11
Environment & Agriculture	13
Finance	16
Health and Human Services	18
Telecommunications & Utilities	20
Transportation	21

Statements requiring federal action are noted: (Federal)

OVERARCHING PRIORITY

State and Local Fiscal Sustainability

During a period when the Commonwealth and its local governments are experiencing the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, VACo reaffirms its commitment to protecting state and local fiscal stability. Fiscal stability enables the Commonwealth to provide core public services critical to the long-term economic vitality of Virginia. Difficult financial times require government, at all levels, to evaluate its service delivery and determine the continued importance and viability of the programs created to meet critical service needs. The counties in Virginia stand ready to partner with the Commonwealth to make the tough decisions required and offer the following strategies to state leaders.

1. State Funding

VACo is concerned with protecting the reliability and sustainability of the Commonwealth's general fund which finances most core government functions mandated by the state but provided by local governments, including public primary and secondary education (K-12). The current economic environment threatens the sustainability of these critical functions if the Commonwealth significantly reduces its contribution to the state-local partnership without also reducing mandates.

Therefore, VACo opposes changes in Standard of Quality (SOQ) methodologies and the state and local division of financial responsibility that shift education costs to localities. The state should relax education mandates if it reduces general funding for public education. Additionally, SOQ funding to support the Standards of Learning (SOL) and Standards of Accreditation (SOA) is insufficient. Consequently, local leaders should have the flexibility to make reductions across state education categories when general funding is reduced.

2. State Tax Reform

VACo calls upon the Commonwealth to strengthen the stability of the general fund by initiating state tax reform. Significant tax reform will help to buttress the Commonwealth's general fund which, as referenced, finances most core government functions. Significant tax reform also will reduce pressure on local government leaders who continually must consider raising real estate tax rates to

fund K-12 public education, public safety, the Comprehensive Services Act, mental health and mental retardation, and other critical services.

Tax reform should include a restructuring of state income and sales and use taxes with the intent to stabilize and increase revenues to meet current and foreseeable core service demands. Reform also should include a revisiting of specific state tax reductions the Commonwealth enacted in better economic times that may no longer be affordable.

3. State Transportation Funding

A critical evaluation of the Commonwealth's transportation user fee structure is necessary to address infrastructure funding challenges. The Commonwealth historically has funded transportation services with dedicated non-general funds to reserve the use of the general fund for the additional core functions of government. Transferring state general funds to transportation neither adequately supports documented and recurring transportation infrastructure investment needs, nor serves to protect the Commonwealth's additional core services including public education, health care, mental health and retardation, and public safety.

4. Local Government Revenues

Local governments require sufficient and sustainable revenue streams to meet state mandates. VACo suggests that the Commonwealth grant counties and cities the option, by action of the local governing body without a referendum, the ability to increase the local sales and use tax by 0.5 percent to help offset state budget reductions affecting localities. If appropriate to a particular locale, the new dollars will help local leaders to adequately fund K-12 and other critical government services while lessening continuing pressure on local property taxes. VACo continues to support equal taxing authority for cities and counties.

5. Local Government Fiscal Policy

VACo supports additional actions to preserve local fiscal sustainability. Counties must be assured of reliable revenues and authorized to adopt and maintain practical financial policies, including tax assessment and collection laws, to provide public services and to comply with state and federal mandates. Conversely, VACo opposes mandated "one-size-fits-all" budget, revenue and investment policies that hinder local government's cost effectiveness.

More explicitly, VACo:

- Supports proposals ensuring the appropriate collection of applied and assessed taxes including Transient Occupancy Taxes from online transactions.
- Opposes the pending constitutional amendment mandating real property tax relief for specified disabled veterans.
- Opposes proposals reducing state and local grantor and recordation tax revenues.
- Opposes state mandated local investment policies.

6. Local Discretion to Manage State Budget Reductions

VACo supports sufficient local discretion to manage state mandated reductions for non-educational services. State K-12 reductions should not be combined with other non-K-12 reductions but rather should be categorized as education specific cuts from the Commonwealth. It must be recognized that many counties do not have the fiscal capacity to replace state mandated K-12 reductions with local funds on a continuing basis.

VACo's PRIORITIES

Deployment of Universal Affordable Access to High Speed Internet Services (Federal)

VACo urges the Commonwealth to assist communities in their efforts to deploy universal affordable access to high speed Internet services (“broadband”) to residents, businesses, public safety agencies, schools, hospitals, community centers and libraries, particularly in underserved and rural areas. Widespread deployment of broadband should be a top priority for the Commonwealth to ensure competitive economic advantages, provide quality educational opportunities, and facilitate tele-medicine and other modern health care initiatives. State assistance should include economic incentives as well as statewide budgetary and statutory policies that facilitate broadband deployment and adoption, such as support for federal stimulus applications submitted by or on behalf of Virginia localities, support of local and regional authorities created under the Virginia Wireless Service Authorities Act, and the preservation of the powers granted under the Act, support for Virginia Resources Authority and other favorable financing mechanisms for broadband projects, and continued efforts to improve the quality and accuracy of the state’s broadband availability map.

Education Funding

VACo supports full state funding for public education programs, including the Standards of Quality, teacher salaries and retirement costs, the Standards of Accreditation, the Standards of Learning, incentive and categorical aid, and capital and maintenance support. VACo opposes changes in methodologies and the division of financial responsibility intended to shift education costs from the state to localities. Because state Standards of Quality funding to support the Standards of Learning and Standards of Accreditation is insufficient, local governments should have flexibility to make cuts across state education categories when general funding is reduced.

Health and Human Resources Funding

VACo supports state policies and funding to ensure the Commonwealth’s at-risk families have access to high quality and appropriate services. The Commonwealth should fully fund localities for state mandated human services and provide the necessary program flexibility to enable localities to provide comprehensive and case-tailored services.

Land Use/Growth Management Tools

Authority to plan and regulate land use should remain with local governing bodies and VACo opposes any legislation to weaken that authority.

Furthermore, the General Assembly should grant localities additional tools necessary to adequately meet citizens' increasing transportation, education, public safety and other vital public infrastructure needs that are driven by new development. Such additional tools may include broad impact fee authority for all counties, adequate public facilities provisions in subdivision ordinances, state funds for the purchase of development rights, and real estate transfer charges.

Sovereign Immunity

VACo opposes any substantive change in local governments' present defense of sovereign immunity for tort liability. VACo opposes bringing counties under the Virginia Tort Claims Act.

Stormwater

VACo supports further evaluation and analysis by the Commonwealth, with participation of local governments, of the Part II Amendments (technical criteria) to the Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) permit regulations and completion of an appropriate regulation by December, 2010. In addition, stormwater requirements on local governments related to new development, redevelopment and existing development must be cost-effective, affordable and manageable at the local level. The Commonwealth must assume any and all expenses imposed by these new regulations. The new VSMP regulations must have achievable objectives tested in "real world" situations, streamlined to minimize administrative reviews by state agencies, and provide localities with flexibility to make appropriate decisions about drainage and land use. Localities enforcing state regulations require full cost recovery through the fee schedule provided by the VSMP regulations.

Transportation Funding

VACo continues to maintain that an efficient transportation network is crucial to sustainable economic growth, a cleaner environment, and enhanced public safety and quality of life. VACo therefore urges the Governor of Virginia and the Virginia General Assembly to enact a transportation funding package to include dedicated, new, significant and recurring annual revenues to address the Commonwealth's documented transportation infrastructure needs. New revenues should include but not be limited to gas tax revenues. Dedicated, new, significant and recurring annual revenues are required to eliminate the road

maintenance shortfall; increase funding directed to interstate and primary highways, urban and secondary roads and transit projects; guard against the transfer of general funds to transportation; and address the unique transportation needs of specific regions of the Commonwealth including Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia.

Transferring state general funds to transportation neither adequately supports documented and recurring transportation infrastructure investment needs, nor serves to protect the Commonwealth's additional core services including public education, health care, mental health and retardation, and public safety.

Transportation Revenue Sharing

VACo supports restoration of the Revenue Sharing program to the structure that existed prior to the 2006 session with robust funding. Maintenance projects should be eligible for matching funds under the revenue sharing program.

Unfunded Mandates

VACo opposes unfunded mandates by the Commonwealth. When funding for a mandated program is altered, the mandate should be suspended until full funding is restored. When legislation with a cost to localities is passed by the General Assembly, the cost should be borne by the state, and the legislation should contain a sunset clause providing that the mandate is not binding on localities until funding by the Commonwealth is provided. Furthermore, VACo opposes the shifting of fiscal responsibility from the state to localities for existing programs. Any unfunded mandate or shifting of responsibility should be accompanied by a full fiscal and program analysis to determine the relative costs to the state and to the locality and to assure the state is meeting its full funding responsibility before taking effect.

Water Quality Improvement Funding

VACo supports additional state funding and technical assistance to help localities improve water quality in a manner consistent with tributary strategies, implementation of Total Maximum Daily Loading goals, and water quality standards established by the State Water Control Board. VACo strongly opposes the imposition of a state fee, tax or surcharge on water, sewer, solid waste or any other service provided by a local government or authority.

VACo's POSITIONS

Administration of Government

Aid to Localities

VACo requests the Commonwealth to use the most current population statistics available for the purposes of determining state aid to those localities that experience population growth. While the results of the 2010 Census will be available in the near future, many population shifts occur in the ten-year period between the decennial enumerations. During that period, population statistics from the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service or the American Community Survey are available for use by the Commonwealth. Those localities that have remained stable or have lost population should be held harmless and funded based on the last U.S. Census results.

Annexation Moratorium

VACo supports full funding of the Commonwealth's HB 599 commitments. VACo also supports the continuation of the current moratorium on city annexations regardless of whether those commitments have been met. The moratorium has promoted more intergovernmental cooperation between cities and counties; has allowed counties to plan for future growth and economic development within their borders; and has allowed counties to be able to protect their tax base in order to provide needed services to citizens.

Dillon Rule

VACo supports relaxation of the Dillon Rule to provide counties greater autonomy in areas including land use, local revenue measures and other issues of local concern. Examples include but are not limited to, the authority to regulate parking, to change BPOL taxes and to provide tax relief to certain citizens. The general assembly should extend powers and authorities currently granted to some local governments by existing statute, to all other local governments.

Elected Officials

VACo seeks to work with the General Assembly in a bipartisan effort to address the issues that arise when an elected official faces prosecution for crimes of moral turpitude. This includes a process for appointing a temporary replacement to

carry out the duties and responsibilities of the office until the legal process is complete.

Election Costs

VACo supports legislation to look at alternatives that would minimize the costs of primary elections.

Eminent Domain

VACo supports legislation preserving the necessary powers of local governments and governmental agencies to avoid and abate blighted conditions through redevelopment, and preserving condemnation authority provided for public purposes such as schools, parks, roads and other purposes as set out in the Code of Virginia.

Freedom of Information Act Electronic Meetings

VACo supports amendments to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act that allow regional authorities, boards, bureaus, districts, political subdivisions, commissions or agencies of local governments to conduct electronic meetings under the same provisions as state public bodies. VACo also supports legislation allowing localities and regional bodies to conduct electronic meetings in the event of an emergency.

Funding and Staffing of Constitutional Officers and State-Mandated Positions

VACo urges the Commonwealth to meet its full funding obligations for constitutional officers and other state mandated positions. A JLARC study of funding and staffing of constitutional officers and other state mandated positions should be conducted. The study should examine Compensation Board funding as well as alternative funding methods and insure local involvement in changes to funding and staffing of these positions. In particular, the Compensation Board should seek the approval of local governing bodies prior to authorizing new positions or changing reimbursement of fringe benefits and other funding. The study should also examine jail issues including staffing, funding, construction, per diems, operational costs, and benefits. A full fiscal and program analysis should determine state and local responsibilities and whether state funding responsibilities are being met.

Grievance Hearings

VACo supports legislation authorizing localities to utilize an administrative hearing officer in lieu of the three-member panel. VACo also supports providing immunity to local government employees, officers, volunteers, administrative

hearing officers and panel members for claims arising out of participation in personnel grievance procedures.

Homeland Security Emergency Preparedness and Volunteer Recruitment & Retention (Federal)

VACo urges the General Assembly to maintain current state funding and make certain that localities, often the first responders, are included in the planning process for homeland security and emergency preparedness measures. Federal funds received for homeland security and emergency preparedness must flow through the state to local agencies, departments and authorities to pay for eligible costs. In furtherance of this goal, VACo supports legislation that provides a local option for increased incentives for the recruitment and retention of volunteer public safety personnel who are crucial in these situations.

Immigration Reform (Federal)

VACo maintains a strong commitment to ensuring the security and safety of our communities. Legislative reforms must recognize the contributions of immigrants to a complex economy as well as the costs associated with welcoming immigrants into our communities. The U.S. Congress must enact comprehensive immigration reform that provides a funding stream sufficient to address the fiscal impact on state and local governments for any guest worker program and earned legalization program. The states and local governments require a national immigration system that is fully funded at the federal level recognizes the realities of the marketplace, eases the fiscal stress on states and localities and properly secures our borders. It is important that the federal government establish a clear and understandable path to citizenship for those who are eligible.

Sheriffs' Departments Staffing Standards

VACo supports legislation to change the Compensation Board's minimum staffing standards to fund at least 10 deputy sheriffs per county. The current standard provides one deputy per 1,500 people, with a minimum state funding level of five deputies per county. In a county with a small population but a large land area, five deputies are simply not adequate to perform 24-hour law enforcement, court security and other legally required duties.

Community Development & Planning

Affordable Housing (Federal)

VACo supports increased federal and state funding and appropriate incentives to assist localities with their affordable housing.

Alternative Onsite Sewage Systems

VACo supports authority for counties to exempt areas within their jurisdiction from the installation of alternative onsite sewage systems due to environmental conditions or other appropriate concerns. VACo also supports requirements for the annual inspection of alternative onsite sewage systems.

Civil Penalties for Local Ordinance Violations

VACo supports legislation granting localities general authority to prescribe civil penalties for violations of local ordinances, such as noise ordinances.

Reimbursement for Offsite Improvements

VACo supports allowing localities to require a future developer to reimburse the initial developer a pro rata sum for offsite improvements provided by the initial developer.

Economic and Workforce Development

VACo supports increased state funding and support for workforce training and economic development programs as effective means for making the necessary investments in infrastructure and human capital.

Cost of Growth

VACo supports local authority for conditional zoning (i.e., voluntary proffers) and broad impact fees in order to fund fully the public infrastructure and human capital. Current residents should not be expected to bear the cost of new growth through increased real estate taxes.

Impacts of Federal Projects and BRAC (Federal)

VACo supports increased federal and state funding to mitigate the land use, environmental, and transportation impacts on counties affected by major federal projects, including the most recent recommendations of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC).

Planning Districts

VACo supports the overall funding of Virginia's planning district commissions at a level of \$0.35 per capita or a minimum of \$100,000 per commission, whichever is greater.

State Corporation Commission - Public Service Corporations:**Locating Utilities**

VACo supports requiring public utilities to provide written notice to those residing or owning property within the affected areas and to hold a public input meeting in that area before they apply to the SCC for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct or enlarge any facility.

State Project Approval

VACo supports authority for counties to approve any projects that are constructed within their jurisdiction using state funds.

Water and Sewer Fees

VACo supports authority for counties to enact water and sewer availability fees and mandatory water and sewer connection policies.

Environment & Agriculture

Agriculture Production

VACo supports increased availability of local food for purchase. To accomplish this, VACo supports the establishment of farmers' markets and the use of food stamps for purchases at farmers' markets; policies to increase direct delivery of food from growers to consumers'; and funding for the design and construction of regional processing facilities to facilitate delivery of locally produced food.

Biosolids

VACo contends that the land application of biosolids, when conducted properly, provides important benefits to the public and Virginia's agricultural sector. To reduce risks that might occur as a result of improper land application, however, VACo supports an effective statewide program and regulations governing land application of biosolids that protect the environment, public health and safety. VACo also supports the ability of local governments to monitor compliance with such regulations and the ability of local governments to submit recommendations for site-specific conditions into the permitting process.

Energy Efficiency

VACo endorses aggressive initiatives among all levels of government to reduce dependence upon foreign sources of energy, to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, and to improve energy efficiency. VACo also supports production of renewable energy in Virginia through the implementation of Renewable Portfolio Standards of 20 percent by 2020.

Invasive Species

VACo supports adequate funding to implement the Virginia Invasive Species Management Plan.

Land Conservation

VACo supports targeted initiatives to facilitate the protection of 400,000 additional acres of land for conservation purposes by 2010. VACo also supports a Purchase of Development Rights program with state funding for the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation, and that provides incentives for landowners of all income levels to participate in the program. Such programs preserve prime soils for food production and protect important forestal land and environmentally sensitive areas in the Commonwealth.

Local Regulation of Timbering

VACo supports legislation amending Section 10.1-1126.1 of the Code of Virginia to state explicitly that, once a subdivision plan is submitted for local approval at the request of the property owner for a development project, any timbering on the property is subject to local development regulations.

Non-point Source Pollution

VACo supports a well-financed state program to address the problem of non-point source runoff from agricultural operations that would effectively encourage implementation of priority best management practices such as nutrient management planning, use of cover crops, continuous no-till farming, development of forested riparian buffers, and livestock stream exclusion.

Onsite Wastewater Systems

VACo supports a legislative study of problems encountered by all localities when enforcing requirements relating to onsite sewage systems, including the five-year pump-out requirement by localities subject to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act. VACo also supports legislation ensuring that, potential buyers of real property are told about the type, size and maintenance requirements and associated costs of the wastewater system(s) on the property prior to the signing of the initial sales contract.

Recycling

VACo supports the development of more aggressive strategies by the state to develop markets for recycled materials.

Southern Rivers Watershed Enhancement Program

VACo supports continued funding for the Southern Rivers Watershed Enhancement Program to improve water quality in non-Chesapeake Bay watersheds.

Virginia Outdoors Foundation

VACo supports legislation that would increase the general fund appropriation to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, permit an increase in transfer fees, or provide full funding to the Foundation through alternative means.

Waste Management Flow Control

VACo supports broad authority for local governments to adopt flow control ordinances.

Water Supply Planning

VACo supports additional adequate appropriations to ensure full funding by the Commonwealth for the development of state-mandated water supply plans.

Finance

County Authorities Including Equal Taxation

VACo supports granting counties the authority cities and towns retain to enact local excise taxes including the cigarette tax, admissions tax, transient occupancy tax and meals tax. VACo also supports granting counties specific powers enumerated to cities and towns under the Uniform Charter Powers Act.

Employment Benefits

VACo calls on the state to fully fund state mandated retirement and employment benefits without using funds intended for other purposes (for example, the Literary Fund). Full state funding of mandated benefits includes those required by the Commonwealth for particular classes of employees, including teachers, as well as emergency service, fire and police officials.

Land Preservation Tax Credits

VACo urges the Commonwealth to assess the long-term fiscal impact of its land preservation tax credit (LPTC) program on the state and its local governments, and to ensure appropriate coordination with affected local governments. The program protects specific lands from future development in exchange for a defined state income tax credit. The Commonwealth's land preservation tax credit continues to reduce general fund revenues, and includes a broad definition of eligible lands in an attempt to protect vital properties. However, the policy also affects state and local revenues. Regarding the latter point, lands should not be preserved without consideration of local comprehensive plans and the state should ensure that applications for LPTC are consistent with local land use plans.

Study of Tax Authority for School Boards

Without advocating either for or against any proposal to authorize tax authority for school boards, VACo supports a legislative study of the issue.

Transient Occupancy Tax

VACo supports the authority of counties to apply an existing Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) to short term rentals – single family residences rented out for continuous occupancy for fewer than 30 days. Additionally, regarding the

TOT, and as with all local taxes, VACo supports proposals ensuring the appropriate collection of applied and assessed taxes.

Virginia's Inclusion in the Streamlined Sales Tax Project Agreement

VACo supports Virginia's inclusion in the Streamlined Sales Tax Project Agreement (SSTP). Inclusion in the multi-state agreement, however, must not compromise the Commonwealth's ability to establish and administer state specific tax policies. Enacted by approximately 20 states and voluntarily enforced by more than 1100 national businesses, the agreement authorizes participating states to collect their existing yet often times unenforceable use taxes from out of state vendors. Virginians currently purchasing more than \$100 dollars of goods from out-of-state vendors are required, by statute, to remit the use tax to the Commonwealth. If enacted by the federal government, General Assembly and governor, the SSTP would require vendors to remit the required use taxes. The change would result in increased fairness for taxpayers and competing vendors as well as increased annual revenue collections to the state and localities.

Health & Human Resources

Aging/Long-Term Care

VACo supports efforts that allow the elderly to remain at home in a safe and secure environment. VACo urges the General Assembly to provide sufficient funding for companion services, in home services and home delivered meals.

Behavioral Health Care

The Commonwealth should continue to provide funding sufficient to allow community services boards to adequately meet the charge of providing services through a community-based system of care.

Healthcare

VACo supports continued state funding for offered dental care, school nurses and preventive services and maternal and child health programs through local health departments and local school systems. VACo encourages the state to prepare for emergency health services and develop incentives that would alleviate the nursing shortages felt in many communities.

Healthcare Reform (Federal)

VACo asks that the Commonwealth participate in health care options for the uninsured that may become available because of national health reform efforts.

Health Planning

VACo supports a health resources and planning process that assures providers accept a certain percentage of patients who are uninsured and underinsured.

Pretrial Services Programs

VACo supports sufficient state general funding that will expand and enhance local pretrial services programs that reduce the predisposition jail population, while maintaining public safety through the community supervision.

Prevention Services

VACo supports sufficient state general funding that can be used for startup costs associated with community-based service programs. VACo recognizes that model programs such as Healthy Families, CHIP of Virginia, and the Resource Mother program are model programs that are operated throughout the state and

requests the General Assembly to provide additional funding for these and other home-based activities. Reductions in prevention programs will put numerous youth at risk of high-end CSA placements.

Telecommunications & Utilities

Communication Taxation

VACo is resolved to help ensure that the dollars generated by the new statewide communications sales and use tax reform law, on a locality-by-locality basis, are revenue neutral in the early years and escalate in the out years.

Interoperability (Federal)

VACo supports the state's goal that by 2015 agencies and their representatives at the local, regional, state and federal levels are able to communicate using compatible systems, in real time, across disciplines and jurisdictions, to respond more effectively during day-to-day operations and major emergency situations. Local governments require new dedicated federal and state funding sources to achieve this goal.

Water and Sewer Lateral Markings

VACo supports legislation to clarify that local government entities are not obligated under the Underground Utility Damage Prevention Act to go onto private property where there is no easement to mark known or unknown water and sewer lines.

Transportation

Billboards

VACo supports a requirement that proposed billboards in the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) right of way conform to local zoning and other applicable ordinances and local approval processes.

Bridges

VACo requests that adequate state funding be provided for repair and replacement of substandard bridges throughout the Commonwealth.

Inter-Directional Signage Program

VACo supports a requirement that any signs installed under VDOT's Inter-directional Sign Program, including the Tourist Oriented Directional Signs Program, conform to local ordinances, including any local approval processes.

Parking

VACo supports authority for counties to adopt ordinances regulating - including prohibiting - the parking of boats, RVs, utility trailers, campers, etc. on subdivision streets.

Pedestrians

VACo supports revisions to Virginia's pedestrian laws clarifying the responsibilities of drivers and pedestrians in order to reduce the number of pedestrian injuries and fatalities that occur each year. In addition, VACo supports a requirement that drivers stop for pedestrians in crosswalks when a pedestrian is within the half of the roadway that the vehicle is traveling and the speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less.

Rail Enhancement Fund Approval

VACo supports authority for counties to approve Rail Enhancement Fund projects funded by the state that are constructed within their jurisdictions.

Rest Stops (Federal)

VACo supports federal legislation to allow commercialization of rest stops on the interstate highway system in Virginia.

Road Construction and Maintenance

VACo opposes any legislation or regulations that would require the transfer of responsibility to counties for construction, maintenance or operation of new and existing roads. In addition, VACo supports amendments to Section 33.1-75.3 of the Code of Virginia that would require VDOT to administer all projects financed by VDOT and prohibit VDOT from requiring localities to administer any project without the consent of the local governing body. If VDOT cannot administer the projects due to limited resources, then VDOT's consultant services shall be utilized or the locality shall use VDOT's consultant services, should the locality choose to do so, on locally administer projects financed by VDOT.

Securities for Subdivision Streets

VACo supports authority for a local governing body to determine requirements for developer securities for the construction of subdivision streets.

Separation of Federal Funds

VACo supports granting each county the authority, working with VDOT, to determine the percentage of federal funds applied to all secondary road projects within their jurisdiction. In addition, for any locally administered road projects, the county should be allowed to use all state funds, as long as they can obligate their federal funds on other projects.

Service Contracts

VACo supports administrative changes allowing all localities to use professional service contracts similar to other agencies of the Commonwealth (i.e. General Services.)

VDOT Cooperation

VACo requests full cooperation and responsiveness from VDOT in addressing local government concerns.

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