

# COUNTY OF ALBEMARLE



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Secondary-Six Year Plan Priorities and Recommendations

Albemarle County Board of Supervisors April 3, 2024

#### VDOT Secondary Six-Year Plan Background

The Secondary Six Year Plan (SSYP) allocates funding for construction, maintenance, and improvement of roads in the state secondary system. The funds allocated to Albemarle County through the SSYP include state and federal funds for a variety of road improvement programs. The SSYP for Albemarle County is updated and approved annually and identifies the specific funding source, use, and levels allocated for the immediate fiscal year. The SSYP also identifies projected funding allocations for the next five fiscal years. The Albemarle County Priority List for Secondary Road Improvements, Unpaved Roads is a listing of all Secondary Roads that either the public, a county department, or the Board of Supervisors has requested be paved. This list is reviewed and approved by the Board annually and forms the basis of the SSYP for Albemarle County.

Two major funding sources can be directed towards projects, providing the Board of Supervisors with some latitude to fund its prioritized projects. The draft total annual allocation for FY 25 is set at \$1,224,892.

- **TeleFee Funds** – Funded through fees utility companies pay for infrastructure within VDOT right-of-way; TeleFee Funds can be used for a broad range of secondary road construction, maintenance, and improvements. An estimated \$285,663 is available for FY 25.
- **District Grant Unpaved Funds** – These funds must be used for hard surfacing of unpaved state secondary roads with more than 50 vehicles per day. An estimated \$939,229 is available for FY 25.

**Attachment A.1** is the Draft FY 25 – 30 SSYP. Following are the draft projected funding allocations from this plan:

| FISCAL YEAR | TELEFEE FUNDS | DISTRICT<br>GRANT<br>UNPAVED | TOTAL FUNDS |
|-------------|---------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| 2025        | \$285,663     | \$939,229                    | \$1,224,962 |
| 2026        | \$285,663     | \$963,821                    | \$1,249,484 |
| 2027        | \$285,663     | \$963,821                    | \$1,249,484 |
| 2028        | \$285,663     | \$963,821                    | \$1,249,484 |
| 2029        | \$285,663     | \$963,821                    | \$1,249,484 |
| 2030        | \$51,245      | \$1,017,428                  | \$1,068,673 |
| Totals:     | \$1,479,560   | \$5,811,941                  | \$7,291,571 |

## **VDOT Paving Programs**

### **Rural Rustic Road Program**

The Rural Rustic Road (RRR) Program is the preferred method for paving because it offers a flexible approach to paving unpaved roads that is less expensive than traditional reconstruction. To qualify as an RRR, several criteria must be met:

1. The Board of Supervisors must pass a resolution declaring the road to be a RRR;
2. The Board of Supervisors indicates that expected growth and traffic increase along the road in the near future is minimal;
3. The curves along the road should be generally adequate for the traffic and any increase in speeds expected after the improvement;
4. Roadway drainage must currently be sufficient or require only minor improvements;
5. The daily traffic volume must be under 1500 vehicles.

For roads with traffic volumes greater than 400 vehicles per day, 18-foot pavement width is desirable and some typical section improvements may be necessary. The local VDOT manager will determine whether this approach is suitable for a requested unpaved road.

### **Traditional Reconstruction with Additional Right of Way**

If significant improvements are needed or if significant development is proposed along the road, a more traditional approach is used to reconstruct the unpaved road and improve the alignment. A minimum 40-foot right of way is usually required for these projects, with additional right of way or easements acquired based on the proposed improvement.

## **Albemarle County Paving Priorities**

The *Albemarle County Unpaved Road Policies and Review Process* (**Attachment A.2**) outlines the process for the submission, review, prioritization, and construction associated with the paving of unpaved roads in the County. This document was updated in May 2022 based on Board of Supervisors direction, to clarify how paving requests are submitted and reviewed by staff. These changes included a requirement that requests for paving must be accompanied with documented support from two-thirds of the property owners that would be directly impacted by the hard-surfacing.

The *Albemarle County Priority List for Secondary Road Improvements, Unpaved Roads* (**Attachment A.3**) is a listing of all Secondary Roads that have been requested to be paved by the public, county departments, or Board of Supervisors. This list is reviewed annually, approved by the Board, and forms the basis of the SSYP for Albemarle County. Based on Board feedback regarding the prioritized projects, VDOT will draft a revised SSYP each spring.

The following is a list of road segments that have (a) been requested to be added since the previous year's list or (b) moved to the top of the priority list and are proposed for paving in the next fiscal year.

- Sutherland Road (Rt. 697) – This road has had the necessary number of signatures and has met VDOT feasibility standards to be considered for Rural Rustic Paving. The cost estimate for this project is \$400,000.

- Henderson Lane (Rt. 805) - This road has had the necessary number of signatures and has met VDOT feasibility standards to be considered for Rural Rustic Paving. The cost estimate for this project is \$85,000.
- Glendower Road (Rt. 713) - This is a newly requested road. It has the necessary number of signatures and has met VDOT feasibility standards to be considered for Rural Rustic Paving. VDOT is still calculating the cost estimate for this project.
- Blair Park Road (Rt. 707) - This project has been prioritized as a road to be paved next year, but it still requires the necessary number of signatures to start preliminary engineering following a resolution from the Board of Supervisors. The project is estimated to cost \$110,000.
- Starlight Road (Rt. 813) - This project has been prioritized as a road to be paved next year, but it still requires the necessary number of signatures to start preliminary engineering following a resolution from the Board of Supervisors. The project is estimated to cost \$125,000.
- Burton Road (Rt. 711) - This is a newly requested road. It does not have the necessary number of signatures and has met VDOT feasibility standards to be considered for Rural Rustic Paving. VDOT is still calculating the cost estimate for this project.
- Burton Lane (Rt. 856) - This is a newly requested road. It does not have the necessary number of signatures and has met VDOT feasibility standards to be considered for Rural Rustic Paving. VDOT is still calculating the cost estimate for this project.
- VDOT's cost estimate for paving a 0.2-mile extension of the northern portion of Stony Point Road from Highfields Road to Pennybaker Lane is \$86,495.79. This portion could not be paved under the Rural Rustic restrictions, and would require more materials, a wider road, and tree clearing to be safe. This portion can be paved using District Grant Unpaved funds but would require a Board resolution to be added to the SSYP. The Board can vote to include this funding on this year's SSYP, although it would risk pushing a road that is on this year's SSYP to next year. If the Board chooses to use District Grant Unpaved paving funds on this project, staff recommends that the Board vote to add it to next year's SSYP.

### **SSYP Project Updates**

**Attachment A.4** is the most current SSYP (FY24 - FY29), which was approved by the Board on May 17, 2023. Notable projects in the current SSYP include:

- Stony Point Pass East and Stony Point Pass West (Rt. 600), Blenheim Road, (Rt. 795), Arrowhead Valley Road (Rt. 745), and Old Dominion Road (Rt. 721), which have been paved or will be in the very near future.
- Beam Road (Rt. 769), which is waiting for approval from VDOT Traffic Engineering before it is paved.
- Berkmar Drive Extended Project- This extension to Airport Road and roundabout are using \$1,479,560 in TeleFee funds through FY25, along with Revenue Sharing and local funds.

### **Recommendations:**

As part of the Draft FY 25-30 SSYP, staff recommends working to complete the paving of Sutherland Road (Rt. 697), Henderson Lane (Rt. 805), Glendower Road (Rt. 713), Blair Park Road (Rt. 707), Starlight Road (Rt. 813), Burton Road (Rt. 711), Burton Lane (Rt. 856), and the Stony Point Pass extension. Sutherland Road (Rt. 697) was approved in last year's SSYP, but

complicated drain work and available funding means that it will be completed this year. Henderson Lane, Burton Road, Burton Lane, and Glendower Road would require a Board resolution to approve paving under the Rural Rustic Road Program before work could be started. That resolution could be brought forward at the proposed public hearing for the approval of the Secondary Six Year Plan, which is scheduled for May 15, 2024.