

COUNTY OF ALBEMARLE



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Secondary-Six Year Plan Priorities and Recommendations

Albemarle County Board of Supervisors March 16, 2022

VDOT Secondary Six-Year Plan Background

The Secondary Six-Year Plan (SSYP) allocates funding for the construction, maintenance, and improvement of roads in the state secondary system (roads with a route number of 600 or higher). 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 planned program funding for the next five (5) fiscal years; however, these allocations are projections only.

There are two major funding sources for prioritized projects.

- **TeleFee Funds** – Funded through utility companies’ fees for infrastructure within VDOT right-of-way; can be used for a broad range of secondary road construction, maintenance, and improvements.
- **District Grant Unpaved Funds** – must be used for hard surfacing of unpaved state secondary roads with greater than 50 vehicles per day

The draft total annual allocation for FY 23 is \$1,032,531. The majority of these funds must be used for unpaved roads. Other sources of funds are available for improvements to the secondary roads that are outlined in the Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP) and awarded through various grant programs and other funding apportionments.

Attachment A.1 is the FY 23 – 28 SSYP. The following is the draft projected funding allocations for the FY 2023 - 2028 SSYP:

FISCAL YEAR	TELEFEE FUNDS	DISTRICT GRANT UNPAVED	TOTAL FUNDS
2023	\$338,068	\$694,463	\$1,032,531
2024	\$338,068	\$751,383	\$1,089,451
2025	\$338,068	\$751,383	\$1,089,451
2026	\$338,068	\$953,550	\$1,291,618
2027	\$338,068	\$953,550	\$1,291,618
2028	\$338,068	\$953,550	\$1,291,618
Totals:	\$2,028,408	\$5,057,879	\$7,086,287

VDOT Paving Programs

Rural Rustic Road Program

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

1. The Board of Supervisors must pass a resolution declaring the road to be an 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. The 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 Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) manager will determine whether this approach is suitable for a requested unpaved road.

Pave-In-Place Program

The pave-in-place approach might be considered if:

1. The traffic is under 750 vehicles per day;
2. Only minor improvements are needed to accommodate traffic; and
3. Needed improvements can be made within the available, existing right of way. Easements might be necessary for spot improvements.

Under the pave-in-place option, the road is improved to a minimum standard of 18 feet of pavement with 2-foot shoulders.

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 most recently updated in May 2016.

The *Albemarle County Priority List for Secondary Road Improvements, Unpaved Roads* (**Attachment A.3**) is a listing of all Secondary Roads whose paving has been requested by the public, County departments, or Board of Supervisors. Reviewed and approved annually by the Board, this list forms the basis of the SSYP for Albemarle County. Based on Board direction regarding the prioritized projects, VDOT will draft a revised SSYP each spring.

SSYP Project Updates

Attachment C is the most current SSYP (FY22 - FY27), which was approved by the Board on May 19, 2021. The following list identifies some notable projects in the current SSYP:

- **Rio Mills Connector (Rt. 643)**- Provided matching funds out of TeleFee allocation combined with Smart Scale funds to fully fund project, which was completed and opened in early 2021.
- **Coles Rolling Road (Rt. 712) Phase 1 & 2** – Both phases of this Rural Rustic Paving Project were fully funded in FY 20 and 21 respectively and are now complete
- **Wesley Chapel Road (Rt. 671)** – This Rural Rustic Paving Project was fully funded in FY 21 and is now complete.
- **Reservoir Road (Rt. 702)** - This Rural Rustic Paving Project was fully funded in FY 21 and is now complete.
- **Burnt Mill Road (Rt. 784)** - This Rural Rustic Paving Project was fully funded in FY 21. The project is currently in design and environmental review with preliminary work expected to begin in Spring 2022 and paving expected to occur in Fall 2022.
- **Hammocks Gap Road (Rt. 612)** – Initial funding for this Rural Rustic Paving Project came in FY 21 and it was fully funded in FY 22. The project is currently in design and environmental review, with preliminary work expected to begin in Spring 2022 and paving expected to occur in Fall 2022.
- **Harris Creek Road (Rt. 720)** - This Rural Rustic Paving Project was fully funded in FY 22. The project is currently in design and environmental review with preliminary work expected to begin in Spring 2022 and paving expected to occur in Fall 2022.
- **Berkmar Drive Extended Project**- This project is utilizing TeleFee funds through FY25 totaling \$2,288,226, along with Revenue Sharing and local funds to construct this extension to Airport Road and roundabout. Construction is expected to begin in early 2024.

Recommendations

Staff recommendations on the Draft FY 23-28 SSYP include working to complete the paving of Harris Creek Road (Rt. 720), Hammocks Gap Road (Rt. 612), and fully fund Red Hill School Road (Rt. 784) as the highest priorities. Staff also recommends funding and sending notifications to the adjacent landowners along Cove Garden Road (Rt. 633) to determine support for paving the road. Paving Cove Garden Road under the Rural Rustic Road Program would require a Board Resolution, which could be brought forward at the proposed Public Hearing for approval of the Secondary Six Year Plan scheduled for May 18, 2022.

ATTACHMENTS

- A.1. - Draft FY 2023-2028 Secondary Six-Year Plan
- A.2. - Albemarle County Unpaved Road Policies and Review Process
- A.3. - Draft Albemarle County Priority List for Secondary Road Improvements, Unpaved Roads