

ENTER BY AUGUST 1!

2025 CALL FOR ENTRIES

INAUGURAL LOCALITY AWARDS COMPETITION

Shine a spotlight on your locality and project successes!

The Virginia Department of Transportation's Local Assistance Division is thrilled to announce its first Virginia Locally Administered Projects (LAP) Awards Competition, celebrating the outstanding achievements and innovative projects undertaken by our local partners. This is your chance to showcase your hard work and be recognized for your dedication to improving transportation in your communities. **Local governments of all sizes are encouraged to compete for coveted LAP Awards across seven categories.** The entries will be judged based on the scope and results of the project in relation to the community's size, thereby putting all localities on a level playing field. **Entries are due by August 1, 2025.**

We're seeking projects that demonstrate excellence in one or more of the following areas:



Innovation: Projects that utilize creative solutions, new technologies, or unique approaches to address transportation challenges.



Collaboration: Initiatives that highlight successful partnerships between localities, regional organizations, or other stakeholders.



Community Impact: Projects that have a significant positive effect on the quality of life, accessibility, or economic vitality of the community.



Efficiency & Effectiveness: Initiatives that demonstrate efficient use of resources and achieve significant results.



Sustainability: Projects that incorporate environmentally responsible practices and contribute to long-term sustainability.

AWARD CATEGORIES

- ✓ Excellence in Regional Transportation
- ✓ Community Impact
- ✓ Safe and Accessible Streets
- ✓ Active Transportation/ Bicycle and Pedestrian
- ✓ Environmental Excellence/ Stewardship
- ✓ Operations and Maintenance Excellence
- ✓ Project Management Excellence

Project of the Year

One category winner will be selected as **Project of the Year**. This award recognizes overall successful project delivery, including management, on-time completion, and meeting objectives.

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RULES AND ELIGIBILITY

Enter by August 1, 2025

How to Enter

Eligibility is open to all localities within the Commonwealth of Virginia that have successfully delivered a VDOT Six-Year Improvement Plan (SYIP) locally administered transportation project during the period of January 2024 to July 2025. Projects must have completed construction to qualify. Consultant-supported locally administered projects are welcome and may be submitted on behalf of a locality, however the applicant must be the local government.

- » Each locality may submit a maximum of three nominations across any of the award categories.
- » Submissions must include a project description (between 500-1000 words), clearly outlining the project goals, activities, outcomes, and how it meets the criteria for the chosen category.
- » Required supporting documentation including a minimum of two high-quality photos that could be accompanied by video(s). Before and after documentation and photography is ideal. If you want to include a video, please provide a link to the video in your supporting materials. The video should be posted publicly to a readily accessible website or platform (i.e., YouTube, Vimeo, etc.). Video(s) should be no more than five minutes in duration, cumulatively, or include bookmarks that are specifically referenced for use/consideration.
- » All submissions must be received electronically by August 1, 2025, via the following submission link [click here or scan the QR code below](#).

Award Category Descriptions

- » **Excellence in Regional Transportation:** For projects that address regional needs and foster collaboration among multiple jurisdictions.
- » **Community Impact Award:** For projects that significantly benefit the community, enhance quality of life, or demonstrate exemplary public involvement and outreach during the project lifecycle.
- » **Safe and Accessible Streets:** For projects that lead to the improvement of safety for all road users, particularly pedestrians and bicyclists. Projects in this category should go beyond minimum ADA requirements to include targeted outreach and unique approaches to accessible design.
- » **Active Transportation/Bicycle and Pedestrian Project:** For projects that create or improve infrastructure for walking, biking, and other non-motorized forms of transport, promoting healthier, more sustainable communities.
- » **Environmental Excellence/Stewardship:** For projects that demonstrate a strong commitment to protecting and enhancing the natural environment, incorporating sustainable practices, or minimizing environmental impact. This may include efforts in clean air, water quality, habitat preservation, or climate resilience.
- » **Operations and Maintenance Excellence:** For projects that demonstrate exceptional strategies for the ongoing management, efficiency, and longevity of transportation infrastructure.
- » **Project Management Excellence:** Honors projects that have demonstrated exceptional planning, execution, and management while meeting project goals. Example: A complex infrastructure project completed efficiently and effectively due to strong project management.

EVALUATION PROCESS

A panel of experienced transportation professionals from VDOT and external organizations will evaluate submissions based on the outlined criteria. The judging process will involve:

- » **Initial Screening:** Ensuring all submissions meet eligibility and formatting requirements.
- » **Detailed Review:** Each submission will be evaluated based on the strength of the project description and supporting documentation in relation to the award criteria.
- » **Deliberation:** The judging panel will meet to discuss the top-scoring submissions and select the winners for each category.

Winners will be alerted prior to the September 2025 Local Programs Workshop and formally announced at a special ceremony during the opening plenary on September 16.

Don't miss this opportunity to gain recognition for your locality's outstanding contributions to transportation!



Scan to enter



LOCAL PROGRAMS WORKSHOP
Networking for Success