

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the

SECRETARY of TRANSPORTATION

#### **OVERVIEW WEBINAR 1**

# GROWTH AND ACCESSIBILITY PLANNING (GAP) TECHNICAL ASSISSTANCE PROGRAM

Jitender Ramchandani, PMP, AICP November 18, 2020









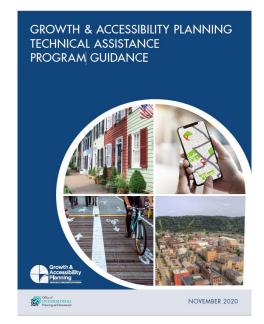




## **OVERVIEW AGENDA**

- Resources
- Context and Overview
- Goals of the GAP-TA Program
- Program Components
- Application
- Next Steps
- Q&As





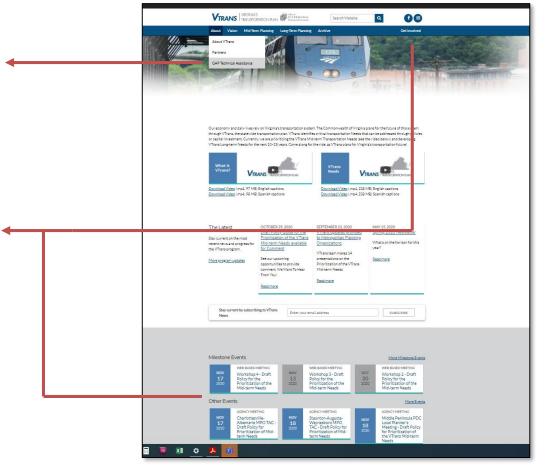




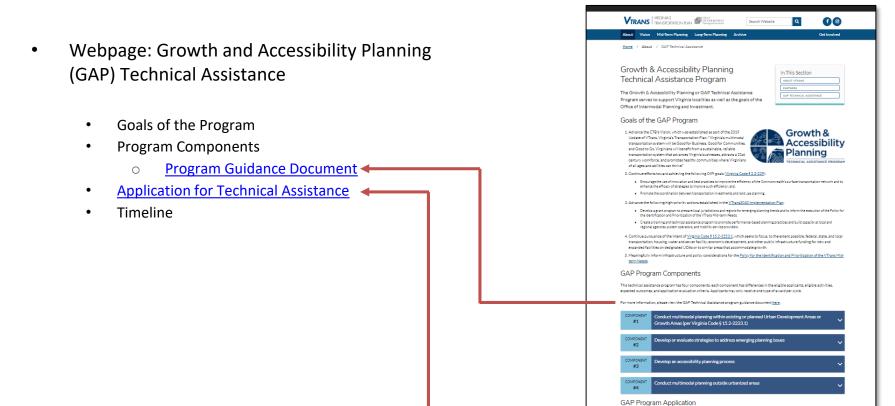


 Webpage: Growth and Accessibility Planning (GAP) Technical Assistance

 Slide deck and other relevant webinar details are available on "Events" page









To apply for a GAP Technical Assistance, please use the online application intake system at this <u>link</u>.

Timeline

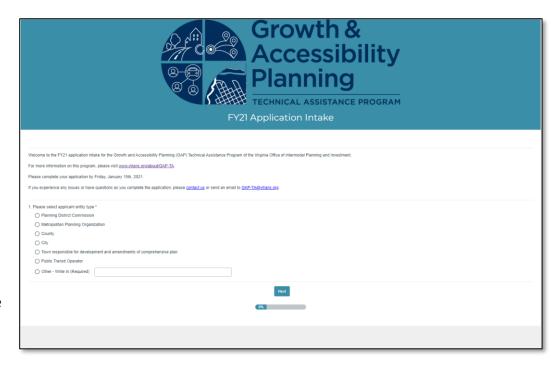
- GAP Program Guidance Document
  - Goals of the Program
  - Program Components
    - Program GuidanceDocument
  - Program Application
  - Program Details
  - Timeline





## GAP Program FY 2021 Application

- Total 12 16 questions
  - Information
  - Type of Agency/Jurisdiction
  - Contact Info
  - Focus of the technical assistance request
  - The desired end output or outcomes
  - Preliminary outline
- Letter of support
- Map or shapefile of area where the proposed work will be performed



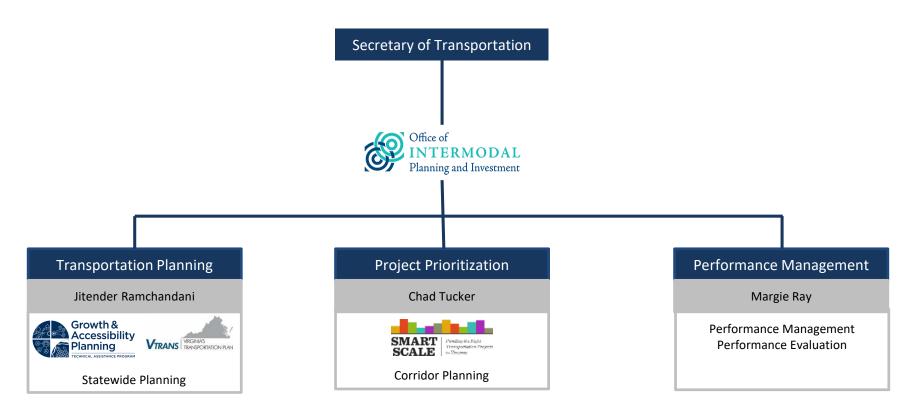




## **CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW**



## CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW | ABOUT OIPI





## CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW | ABOUT GAP-TA

- OIPI has offered technical assistance for nearly 10 years. GAP-TA is a continuation of that.
  - **2010:** OIPI/VDOT initiates a technical assistance program focused on Urban Development Areas (UDA)
  - 2020: OIPI's technical assistance program re-branded and expanded to include technical assistance for UDA and other planning activities



## CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW I GAP - TA COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS UDA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Stronger, more visible and meaningful connection between statewide planning and the technical assistance program
  - Three of the four program components are expected to inform the statewide planning process, especially <u>VTrans</u>
  - One GAP-TA component is meant to transfer lessons learned during statewide planning for use at local and regional levels
- Greater focus on performance-based planning which could be land use or transportation focused
  - Documentation of existing conditions, while important, is envisioned to be means to an end which is to develop strong evidence-based planning recommendations that are informed by public feedback.



## CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW I GAP - TA COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS UDA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

#### Greater adherence to the intended goals and purpose

- Deviation from the expected goals or outcomes, unless necessitated by data, are highly discouraged.
- The program goal is areawide planning which may form the basis for a specific funding application for state (e.g. SMART SCALE or Revenue Sharing), regional (e.g. RSTP, CMAQ, etc.), or federal funds.
  - It is not meant to develop applications per se or to perform roadway design work.
- There will be periodic check-ins with the recipients.

#### Greater consistency across technical assistance for different agencies and jurisdictions

 Intent to avoid varying or contradictory approaches taken by different OIPI consultants by ensuring reliance on same or similar datasets



## CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW I GAP-TA ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Nature of Technical Assistance: Planning Assistance provided by OIPI consultants

Task	Roles of Involved Entities				
	OIPI	OIPI's Consultant	Recipient		
Ensure there is local/regional support for the requested work			х		
Evaluate requests for technical assistance	х				
Once selection of technical assistance has been made:					
Select a suitable consulting team	x		X		
<ul> <li>Provide data and respond to requests</li> </ul>			X		
<ul> <li>Perform analysis and conduct work per the agreed upon scope</li> </ul>		x			
Ensure adherence to performance-based planning	x*	x	x		
<ul> <li>Ensure timely and consistent progress</li> </ul>		x	x		
<ul> <li>Manage consulting team on day-to-day basis</li> </ul>			x		
o Ensure adherence to budget, schedule, and requirements		x	x		
o Ensure continued local/regional support for the requested work			х		
Advise on consultant invoices (provide concurrence)			x		
Approve invoices, make payments	x				
o Technical Assistance closeout	х	х	х		



<sup>\*</sup>OIPI's role will be limited to discussions during quarterly coordination meetings.



## GOALS OF THE GAP-TA PROGRAM



- Advance the <u>CTB's Vision</u>, which was established as part of the 2019 Update of VTrans, Virginia's Transportation Plan:
  - "Virginia's multimodal transportation system will be Good for Business, Good for Communities, and Good to Go. Virginians will benefit from a sustainable, reliable transportation system that advances Virginia businesses, attracts a 21st century workforce, and promotes healthy communities where Virginians of all ages and abilities can thrive."





- Continue efforts toward achieving the following, pursuant to <u>Virginia Code § 2.2-229:</u>
  - Encourage the use of innovation and best practices to improve the efficiency of the Commonwealth's surface transportation network and to enhance the efficacy of strategies to improve such efficiency
  - Promote the coordination between transportation investments and land use planning.





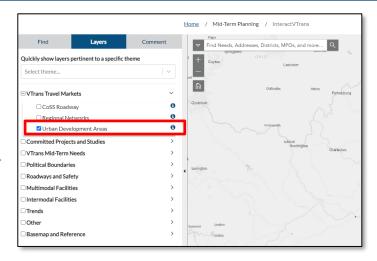
- 3. Advance the following CTB's high-priority actions established in the <a href="VTrans2040">VTrans2040</a> Implementation Plan:
  - Develop a grant program to prepare local jurisdictions and regions for emerging planning trends and to inform the execution of the VTrans Policy for the Identification and Prioritization of Mid-term Needs.
  - Create a training and technical assistance program to promote performance-based planning practices and build capacity at local and regional agencies, system operators, and mobility service providers.



Know more about the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)



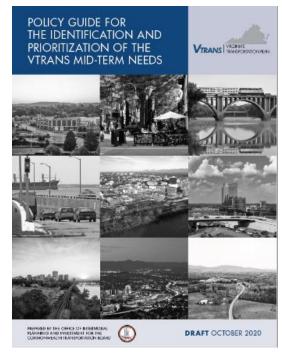
4. Continue pursuance of the intent of <u>Virginia Code §</u> 15.2-223.1, which seeks to focus, to the extent possible, federal, state, and local transportation, housing, water and sewer facility, economic development, and other <u>public infrastructure funding</u> for new and expanded facilities on designated UDAs or to similar areas that accommodate growth.







 Meaningfully inform infrastructure and policy considerations for the execution of the <u>VTrans</u> <u>Policy for the Identification and Prioritization</u> of Mid-term Needs.



More info at:

vtrans.org/mid-term-planning/mid-term-needs-prioritization





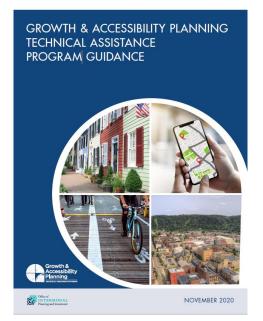
## **GAP-TA PROGRAM COMPONENTS**



#### **PROGRAM COMPONENTS**

- The program is now called Growth and Accessibility
   Planning (GAP) Technical Assistance Program
  - Conduct multimodal planning within existing or planned UDAs or Growth Areas
  - Develop or evaluate strategies to address emerging planning issues
  - 3. Develop an accessibility planning process
  - 4. Conduct multimodal planning outside urbanized areas







## PROGRAM COMPONENTS | ELIGIBILITY BY GAP-TA PROGRAM COMPONENT

Conduct multimodal planning within existing or Develop or evaluate strategies to Develop an accessibility Conduct multimodal planning planned UDAs or Growth Area address emerging planning issues outside urbanized areas planning process **Entity Component 1 Component 2 Component 3 Component 4** Planning District Commission (PDC) Χ Χ Х Metropolitan Planning Organization Х Х (MPO) County Х Х Х Х City Χ Х Χ Χ Towns, pursuant to Virginia Code Х Х Х Х § 15.2-2223 and § 33.2-319 Transit Operator, pursuant to Virginia Х Х Code § 58.1-638(A)(4)(b)(2) Maximum duration (from the date of 12 months 9-30 months 15 months 9 months consultant notice to proceed)



 Purpose: Conduct multimodal planning within existing or planned UDAs or Growth Areas.

#### Eligible Entities

- Cities
- Counties
- Towns responsible for development and amendments of comprehensive plans per <u>Virginia Code § 15.2-2223</u> and maintain their own infrastructure and qualify to receive payments pursuant to <u>Virginia Code §33.2-319</u>
- **Duration** (from the date of Contractor Notice to Proceed)
  - Up to 12 months

# Intent: Support and promote the intent of Virginia Code § 15.2-2223





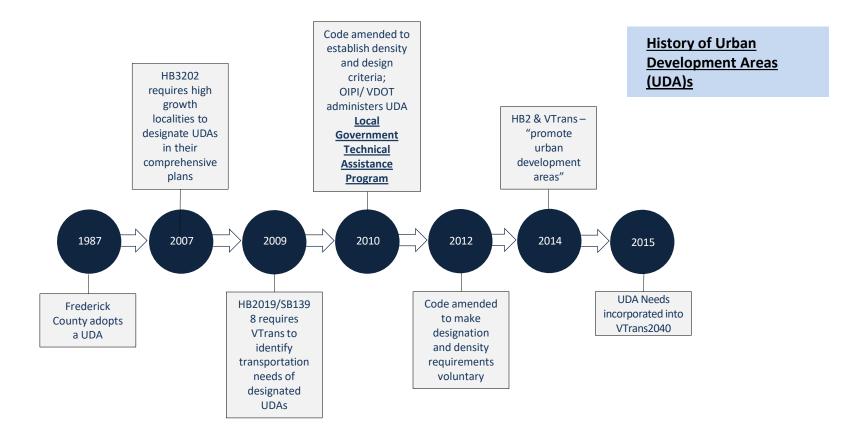
- Eligible Activities: Support the intent of the <u>Virginia Code § 15.2-2223.1</u>, namely support "traditional neighborhood design" by planning for:
  - Pedestrian-friendly road design
  - Connectivity of road and pedestrian networks
  - Preservation of natural areas
  - Mixed-use neighborhoods, including mixed housing types, with affordable housing to meet the projected family income distributions of future residential growth
  - Reduction of front and side yard building setbacks
  - Reduction of subdivision street widths and turning radii at subdivision street intersections
  - Planning for food access and addressing food deserts



#### Expected Outcomes

- Designation of growth areas per <u>Virginia Code § 15.2-2223.1</u> (required, if not a UDA)
- Need identification and planning for multi-modal transportation infrastructure
- Reconfirmation of existing sidewalk and bicycle lanes by direction or a complete inventory of existing sidewalks and bicycle lanes by direction
- A comparative assessment of existing square footage, permissible square footage, and revised permissible square footage
- A set of location-specific multimodal improvements identified based on performance-based planning to potentially inform the execution of the VTrans Policy for the Identification and Prioritization of Mid-term Needs







#### Characteristics of UDAs or Growth Areas

- Are designated by a locality with a comprehensive plan/zoning authority
- May be sufficient to support 10-20 years of projected growth
- May be appropriate for higher residential densities and commercial floor area ratios (FAR)
- Shall incorporate principles of traditional neighborhood design (TND)
  - Pedestrian friendly road design
  - Mixed use neighborhoods, mixed + affordable housing
  - Connected local street / pedestrian networks
  - Reduced front/ side yard building setbacks
  - Preserved natural areas
  - Reduced street widths and intersection turning radii









Dispersed Development Pattern	Compact, TND Development Pattern
Separate, dispersed land uses = long trips	Mixed, proximate land uses = shorter trips
Automobiles are the only viable option for most trips	Transit, biking, walking, rideshare are viable choices
All travelers have to use arterial "spines" of 6+ lanes	Distributed street grid provides many paths
Bottlenecks generate crashes, delays, GHG emissions	Alternate paths and modes prevent / alleviate bottlenecks
Dependence on automobile = high personal travel costs	Options to owning a car = lower personal travel cost
Expanding / maintaining major roads = high public costs	Efficient, multipurpose infrastructure is cost-effective



#### Noteworthy Items

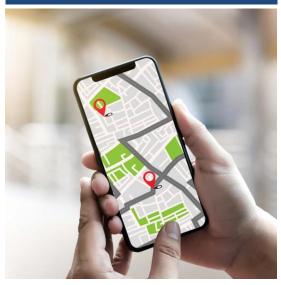
- The choice to designate a UDA is completely voluntary and at the discretion of each locality. It is, however, <u>expected</u>
   <u>if a locality receives GAP-TA assistance from Component 1: Conduct multimodal planning within existing or planned UDAs or Growth Areas.</u>
- The term UDA is not required
  - Many designated areas consistent with <u>Virginia Code 15.2-2223.1</u> have used different terms: Strategic Growth Area,
     Designated Growth Area, Development District, Transit Supportive Area, Mixed Use/Residential Area, etc.
- UDAs encompass a wide variety of land uses and densities
- The key is to reduce the impacts of growth on transportation networks by promoting efficient development patterns featuring TND



## PROGRAM COMPONENTS | COMPONENT 2 (STRATEGIES FOR EMERGING PLANNING ISSUES)

- Purpose: <u>Develop</u> or <u>evaluate</u> strategies to address emerging planning issues
- Eligible Entities
  - MPOs
  - PDCs
  - Transit operators, pursuant to <u>Virginia Code § 58.1-638(A)(4)(b)(2)</u>
  - Cities
  - Counties
  - Towns responsible for development and amendments of comprehensive plans per <u>Virginia Code § 15.2-2223</u> and maintain their own infrastructure and qualify to receive payments pursuant to <u>Virginia Code §33.2-319</u>
- Duration (from the date of Contractor Notice to Proceed)
  - Develop strategies: Up to 9 months
  - Evaluate strategies: Up to 30 months







## PROGRAM COMPONENTS | COMPONENT 2 (STRATEGIES FOR EMERGING PLANNING ISSUES)

- Eligible Activities: Including, but not limited to, the following:
  - Land use and transportation impacts of proliferation of shared mobility<sup>1</sup>
  - Utilization of newly available public or private datasets to modify existing processes or to develop new processes to address one or more well-defined land use or transportation planning need or challenge
  - Utilization of mobile computing, including, but not limited to cell phone apps or applications to address one or more well-defined land use or transportation planning need or challenge
  - Planning for the projected proliferation of electric vehicles including, but not limited to modifying building codes, on- and off-street parking considerations, etc.



## PROGRAM COMPONENTS | COMPONENT 2 (STRATEGIES FOR EMERGING PLANNING ISSUES)

#### Expected Outcomes

A product that could be a mobile application, building code, a contract, or a process that is <u>scalable</u>, <u>replicable</u>, <u>and developed using sound data-driven planning</u> to ensure it can be utilized or deployed by other jurisdictions.



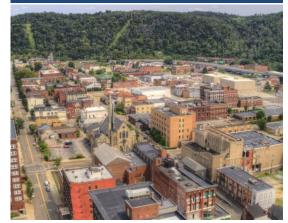
## PROGRAM COMPONENTS | COMPONENT 3 (DEVELOP ACCESSIBILITY PLANNING PROCESS)

- Purpose: Develop an accessibility planning process
- Eligible Entities
  - MPOs
  - PDCs
  - Cities
  - Counties
  - Towns responsible for development and amendments of comprehensive plans per <u>Virginia Code § 15.2-2223</u> and maintain their own infrastructure and qualify to receive payments pursuant to <u>Virginia Code §33.2-319</u>
- Duration (from the date of Contractor Notice to Proceed)
  - Up to 15 months

#### Intent:

Allow MPO, PDCs, and others to develop performance-based planning processes that these entities can utilize to develop products (e.g. list of priority projects, etc.) on recurring basis.

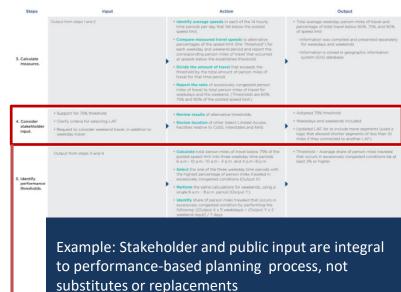
It is NOT to develop LRTPs or RLRTPs.





## PROGRAM COMPONENTS | COMPONENT 3 (DEVELOP ACCESSIBILITY PLANNING PROCESS)

- **Eligible Activities:** Including, but not limited to, the following:
  - Identification, validation, calibration, and selection of performance measures and associated thresholds for a performance-based planning process
  - Development of a detailed performance-based planning process template
  - Identification and assignment of roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders in the performance-based planning process
  - Development of data structure and document templates for the performance-based planning process





- Support for 75% threshold
- · Clarify criteria for selecting LAF
- Request to consider weekend travel, in addition to weekday travel
- Review results of alternative thresholds.
- Review location of other Select Limited Access Facilities relative to CoSS, Interstates and NHS.
- Adopted 75% threshold
- . Weekdays and weekends included
- Updated LAF list to include more segments (used a logic that allowed shorter segments of less than 10 miles if they connected to another LAF)



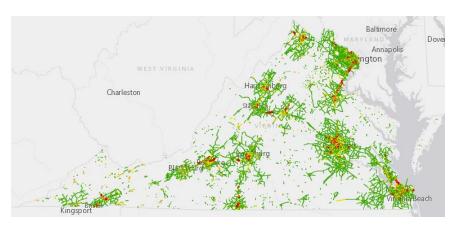
## PROGRAM COMPONENTS | COMPONENT 3 (DEVELOP ACCESSIBILITY PLANNING PROCESS)

#### Expected Outcomes

 A planning process that the recipient of the GAP Technical Assistance Program can utilize for future updates of, for example, Long-Range Transportation Plans (LRTPs), Comprehensive Plans, Rural Long-Range Transportation Plans, Bicycle-Pedestrian Plans, etc.

#### Example:

Policy for the Identification and Prioritization of VTrans Mid-term Needs



#### More information:

- VTrans Mid-term Needs
- VTrans Mid-term Needs Prioritization



## PROGRAM COMPONENTS I COMPONENT 4 (MULTIMODAL PLANNING OUTSIDE URBANIZED AREAS)

- Purpose: Conduct multimodal planning outside urbanized areas
- Eligible Entities
  - PDCs
  - Transit operators, pursuant to <u>Virginia Code § 58.1-638(A)(4)(b)(2)</u>
  - Cities
  - Counties
  - Towns responsible for development and amendments of comprehensive plans per <u>Virginia Code § 15.2-2223</u> and maintain their own infrastructure and qualify to receive payments pursuant to <u>Virginia Code §33.2-319</u>



Up to 9 months





## PROGRAM COMPONENTS | COMPONENT 4 (MULTIMODAL PLANNING OUTSIDE URBANIZED AREAS)

#### • Eligible Activities: Support planning for:

- Pedestrian-friendly road design
- Connectivity of road and pedestrian networks
- Preservation of natural areas
- Mixed-use neighborhoods, including mixed housing types, with affordable housing to meet the projected family income distributions of future residential growth
- Reduction of front and side yard building setbacks
- Reduction of subdivision street widths and turning radii at subdivision street intersections
- Planning for food access and addressing food deserts



## PROGRAM COMPONENTS | COMPONENT 4 (MULTIMODAL PLANNING OUTSIDE URBANIZED AREAS)

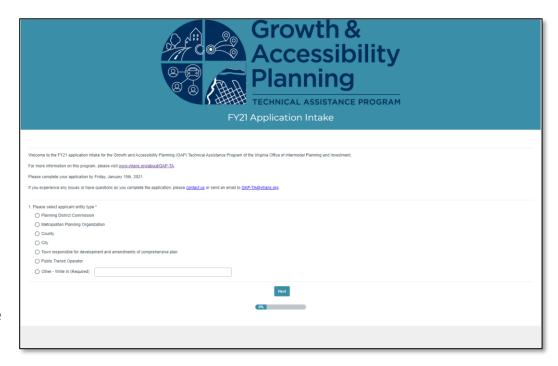
#### Expected Outcomes

- Need identification and planning for multi-modal transportation infrastructure
- Reconfirmation of existing sidewalk and bicycle lanes by direction or a complete inventory of existing sidewalks and bicycle lanes by direction
- A comparative assessment of existing square footage, permissible square footage, and revised permissible square footage
- A set of location-specific multimodal improvements identified based on performance-based planning to potentially inform the execution of the VTrans Policy for the Identification and Prioritization of Mid-term Needs



## **NEXT STEPS I FY 21 PROGRAM APPLICATION**

- Complete GAP Program FY 2021
   Application
  - Requested Info
    - Information
    - Type of Agency/Jurisdiction
    - Contact Info
    - Focus of the technical assistance request
    - The desired end output or outcomes
    - Preliminary outline
  - Letter of support
  - Map or shapefile of area where the proposed work will be performed



Intake Period: November 18, 20201
 January 15, 2021



#### **NEXT STEPS | FY 21 PROGRAM APPLICATION**

## About online application for GAP-TA:

- Approximately 12-18 questions
- Takes less than 15 minutes, if the following items are prepared in advance:
  - Letter of support
  - Focus of the technical assistance request (multiple choice question)
  - The desired end output or outcomes (500 words)
  - o Preliminary outline (1000 words)
  - Map or a shapefile
- An entity or jurisdiction can apply for more than one type of technical assistance. At this time, we anticipate limiting one award per entity or jurisdiction.
  - An entity or jurisdiction can utilize one application for submitting technical assistance requests for multiple GAP TA Components. For example, a county can apply for Component 1 and Component 4 in the same application.



## **NEXT STEPS | FY 21 PROGRAM APPLICATION**

- Applications do not have to be completed in one session.
  - Utilize Save and Continue Later option.
- Before submission, there will be an opportunity to review application, if needed, make edits.
- Once an application is submitted, an email from <u>noreply@alchemer.com</u> will be sent to the email addresses listed as the <u>primary and secondary</u> contact.
  - It will include a PDF copy of the submitted application
  - OIPI will also receive a copy of that email





## **NEXT STEPS I TIMELINE**

Phase	Date	
Application Intake Opens	November 18, 2020	We are he
Application Intake Ends	January 15, 2021	
Application Evaluation Completed	January 29, 2021	
Applications Notified	February 5. 2021	
Requests for Proposals from OIPI consultants	February 19, 2021	
Proposals Due	March 19. 2021	
Task Order Award	April 2, 2021	
Kickoff Meeting	April 2021	
Quarterly Update Meetings	Dates to be determined with the recipients at a later date	



## **NEXT STEPS I POINTS OF CONTACT**

- Please complete application by January 15, 2021
  - Email: GAP-TA@vtrans.org
- For questions and clarifications, please contact **Katie Schwing** or **Chris Wichman**

Name	Phone	Email	VTrans Primary Contact:
Jitender Ramchandani	804.489.4295	Jitender.Ramchandani@oipi.Virginia.gov	Chris Wichman  Katie Schwing
Katie Schwing	804.786.2362	Kathryn.Schwing@oipi.Virginia.gov	Chris Wichman (TJPDC)/Katie Schwing (RRRC
Chris Wichman	804.316.4278	Chris.Wichman@oipi.Virginia.gov	N ~

Legend





# **Questions and Comments**

