Good evening,

As you have likely heard, there is the potential for some federal stimulus funds to come Vermont’s way in the coming months. While we do not have any details of what this might look like or what magnitude of funding such a package might entail, we are starting to prepare for the potential opportunity. With that said, we know that we have a large number of paving needs around the state. From preservation treatments, to reclamations, to treating the interstate to prevent the rutting distress from causing safety concerns and lastly, some areas of very poor pavements. Our pavement management system does a very good job at analyzing our pavement distresses and triggering treatments within a fiscal constraint. However, one pressure that we always have is balancing the miles of very poor road versus the fiscal constraint while implementing good asset management strategies (like preservation).

We need your help! We are in between the last prioritization of very poor pavements by RPC’s and our maintenance districts and VPSP2 being implemented. And as we anticipate a potential federal stimulus package, we want to get your input. We recently asked each district to provide their input and today we ask you for yours. Attached is the input provided to us by the districts. They began with a blank sheet and provided us with input based on the general rules as described below. We know that some of you have worked with the districts in the past to align these lists and we would encourage you to reach out to the district project manager in your area to discuss their prioritization and your work. The following is the basic guidance that we provided to our districts:

- Provide your five greatest leveling needs and your three highest patching needs.
  - The leveling category is for those routes needing full width leveling in that are longer than 1 mile and up to about 5 miles (if completing a route goes 6 miles, include it!)
  - The patching category is for those routes where some patches of a lane here or there would “get us by” for a few years and address the worst spots. Length is flexible.
  - If a route might benefit from both, leveling and patching, list them in both categories with the corresponding mileage.

Please fill in your regional priority next to the roads that are identified. It is understood that your priority may not align with the districts and you may also want to add roads that the district did not identify. Please feel free to do so.

We recognize that district and regional boundaries do not overlap perfectly. We ask that you do your best to use the district boundaries, but we recognize that some may need comment, caveats, etc. Keep in mind that we do not have any details of a potential stimulus package might bring, so get this as close as you can – make sure your biggest regional concerns are listed. We may have to come back to this list for revisions later, but for now, we want to be proactive in our thinking.

This request has a short turn around time and we recognize that this puts pressure on your staff and the TAC process. With that said, we would request that you have your rankings back to us by Friday, April 17th.

Matthew Langham will be for your point of contact for this effort, please return your ranking to him at matthew.langham@vermont.gov.
If I can be of assistance to you, please feel free to contact me as well.

Thank you,

Kevin

Kevin S. Marshia, P.E.
VTrans Asset Management Bureau
Good morning,

A few comments coming back from RPC/planning related to the request that I sent out last evening. Hopefully the following will help clarify that request:

1. This list is an attempt to get ahead of a potential stimulus, it is **NOT** a stimulus list. VTrans is having conversations as it relates to preparation for a potential stimulus, but are doing so with little to no details available to us from the federal side of things. It is anticipated that any stimulus program would cut across many programs.

2. While I referenced the potential stimulus in my email, it was in the context of explaining why we were providing such a short turn around time for our request. With the potential out there to receive additional funds, paving is one of (but not the only) area in which we can obligate funds quickly. Having your information as soon as practical will help inform our initial decisions that may come our way in the paving area.

3. And perhaps most importantly, the intent of this request is to allow input from our districts and regional planning partners in a manner similar to what we have done in the past. We have plenty of very poor roads and historically the state funded district leveling program has seen large increases (not anticipated on the state fund part at this time) and substantial decreases due to many factors affecting our state fund revenue. We were due to ask for this prioritization and had intended to do so anyhow, as a way to receive your input prior to VPSP2 being fully implemented. This is just an abbreviated way to get that input, in case we need it!

I hope that this helps to clarify the intent of this request. What the future may bring from a potential stimulus perspective is still largely unknown, but will hopefully produce a significant amount of funds that we can invest in our transportation infrastructure.

Please let me know if you have additional questions or concerns. Stay healthy!

Thank you,

Kevin