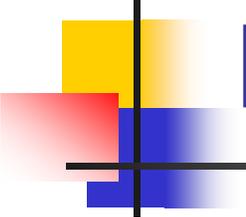


# Transportation and Housing Alliance Update

---

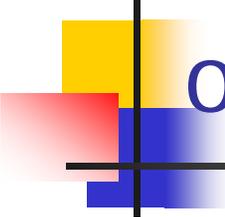
The Disability Commission  
11/27/2007



# The Transportation and Housing Alliance...

---

- (THA) is a statewide initiative linking public and private efforts in the areas of housing and transportation. The primary goal of the project was to develop a Transportation and Housing Alliance (THA) that would serve as a conduit of information, resources, technical assistance and education.



# The THA Steering Committee consists of the following members:

---

- Centers for Independent Living: Debe Fultz, disAbility Resource Center
- Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), Willie Fobbs III
- Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), Neil Sherman
- Fair Housing, Karen Reifenberger, Piedmont Housing Alliance
- Virginia Board for People with Disabilities (VBPD), Teri Barker Morgan
- Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board (VCTB), Marsha Fiol, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
- Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA), Bill Fuller
- Five Planning District Commissions:
  - Harrison Rue, Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (PDC 10)
  - Paul Berge, Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission (PDC 22)
  - Mark Gibb, Northern Virginia Regional Commission (PDC 8)
  - David Barrett, Mount Rogers Planning District Commission (PDC 3)
  - Eldon James, George Washington Regional Commission (PDC 16)



# Transportation and Housing Alliance

---

- An intended outcome of the THA was the development of a THA Toolkit to assess housing and transportation needs, project future needs and identify overlapping issues and opportunities.
- The key goal of using the Toolkit is a clear understanding of the current transportation and housing needs of people with disabilities and the augmentation of a well coordinated planning process.

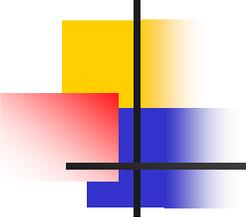


# Transportation and Housing Alliance

---

The THA Steering Committee developed a draft a list of policy recommendations at their June 18, 2007 meeting.

A summary of the recommendations follows...

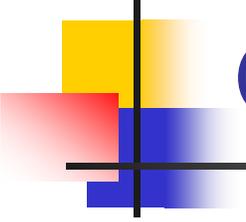


# VHDA's Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program

---

A) "Aging In Place" initiative: reward funding proposals containing these Universal Design elements with additional points:

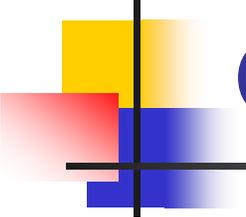
- Accessibility/visitability/Universal Design elements such as a zero step entrance, wider doorways, single lever controls, and more easily reached switches/outlets;
- Services such as transportation, health screenings for seniors, and recreational opportunities;
- "Walkable" communities stressing mobility and safe access to common destinations such as shops, parks, and other neighborhoods;
- Exterior design / landscaping that includes proper grading, sidewalks, and driveway design;
- And staff training for senior living facilities.



## VHDA's Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program

---

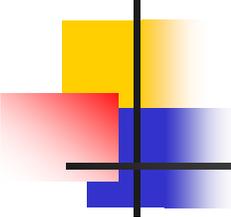
- B) Promote use of the THA Toolkit as the Market Study required for tax-credit project funding.



## VHDA's Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program

---

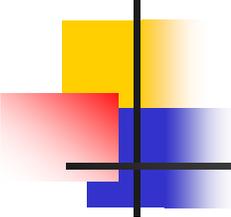
- C. Award bonus points or threshold points for any other VHDA-funded special needs housing similar to those outlined in 'A' above



# Other Housing Programs

---

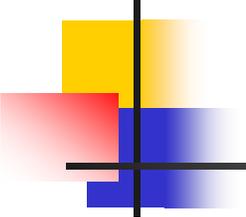
- A) Adopt Visitability Standards as part of the state housing code and/or local ordinances, or voluntary certification
- B) Replicate EasyLiving Home Certification Program in Virginia.



## Other Housing Programs

---

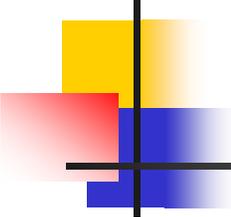
- C) Use the Toolkit as an assessment and planning tool to identify barriers for compliance with HUD regulations for accessibility for people with disabilities and individuals with incomes at 30% or less of median income to public housing and Section 8 housing programs.



Transportation and Housing Alliance Plans:  
Promote the use of the Toolkit as part of  
recurring and ongoing planning efforts,  
including, but not limited to:

---

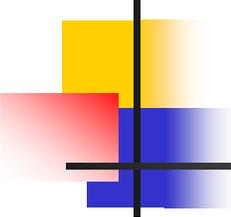
- Comprehensive Plans (Counties and Cities)
- Regional Long-Range Transportation Plans (PDCs)
- Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transportation Plans
- Consolidated Plans for Housing (HUD Grantees)
- Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
- Continuum of Care Plans (HUD Grantees and applicants)
- Coordinated Human Services Mobility Plan (Transit Providers)



## Recommendations, continued

---

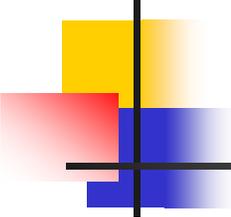
- Revise local ordinances to allow accessory dwelling units and mixed-use, mixed-income developments
- Link transportation and land use in local and regional plans by conducting scenario and corridor planning and applying Transit-Ready Development principles, so that future development provides more housing opportunities and neighborhoods that are fully accessible or 'Livable for a Lifetime.'



## Recommendations, continued

---

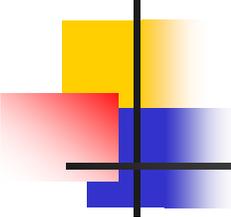
- Promote use of the Toolkit in transit and TDM Programs, such as RideShare and TeleWork.
- Promote use of Toolkit in planning for public facilities and services – by demonstrating need and identifying preferred locations for libraries, health facilities, workforce training centers, etc.



## Recommendations, continued

---

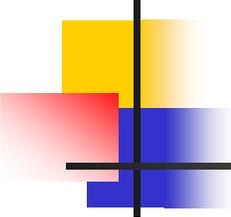
- Use the Toolkit to help determine appropriate stops for mobile services such as libraries, medical and dental clinics, etc.
- Use the Toolkit to provide better data on where various populations live and work to the Virginia Workforce Council in the realignment of Local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIBs)



## Recommendations, continued

---

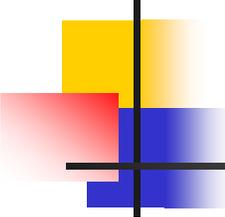
- Continue the partnerships formed in using the Toolkit to improve communications between agencies, providers, and clients, and to better target and leverage the full range of funding for housing, transportation, and services.



# Transportation and Housing Alliance

---

- The THA Toolkit, First Edition, has been completed and posted on the TJPDC web site at [www.tjpd.org](http://www.tjpd.org)

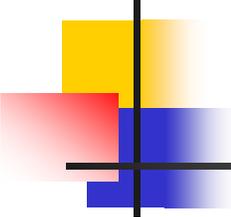


## THA Part II: *Continuation*

---

A 2 year continuation of the project to implement the Toolkit began in July of 2007. Information and learning gathered from the continuation will be used to produce a 2<sup>nd</sup> generation of the Toolkit.

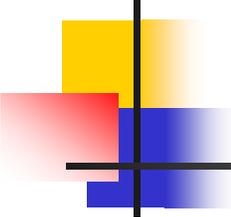
The long term goal is to influence changes in the areas of transportation and housing public policy that result in improved community infrastructure and coordinated programs in localities and statewide and that ensure the routine consideration of persons with disabilities in transportation and housing planning processes.



## THA Part II: *Continuation*

---

- During the continuation, through a competitive RPF process, grant funds will support twelve (12) Planning Projects utilizing the THA Toolkit to integrate the needs of people of all abilities into housing and transportation solutions and provide better linkages to employment and services.



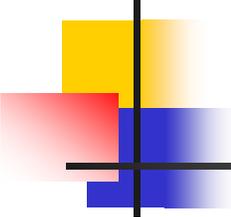
## THA Part II: *Continuation*

---

- Project activities and deadline:

(NOTE: Medicaid Infrastructure Grant Funds incorporated)

(See Handout)



## THA Part II: *Continuation*

---

- First round of proposals that will be funded include:

(See Handout)