

I-81 Corridor Coalition Stakeholders,

I've included below a list of the things we've been working on during the last few months for your reference.

Also, please follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to see more about what we're up to.

We will be out of the office between Dec. 22 and Jan 2 for the holidays.

As always, please feel free to contact us with suggestions and comments or if you'd like more information on anything mentioned below.

Thanks for your continued support!

## RECENT AND ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- Discussion of "[Make 81 Safe](#)" initiative with Jennifer Aulgur of Senator Obenshain's office. They are working with Del. Todd Gilbert of VA, (10/09/2017)
- Tethered Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) demo on I-81. This UAV is tethered to provide for persistent aerial observation for crash incidents and other uses. The video collected was streamed live back to VDOT's TOC in Salem, VA. The video can be viewed [here](#). (10/10/2017)
- Kick-off meeting for at TRB panel on NCHRP 14-40, Comparison of Cost, Safety, and Environmental Benefits of Routine Mowing and Managed Succession of Roadside Vegetation Kick-off Panel Meeting, This project focuses on more resource-efficient maintenance of roadsides. (10/11/2017)
- Interview with the New York Times Magazine on the impacts of automated vehicle technology on the more than 1.5 million animal-vehicle conflicts and 150 human deaths that occur yearly. (10/12/2017)
- Organizing, participation and presentation in the AUVSI "[Cultivating Trust in Autonomous Systems](#)" symposium. Andy presented on Autonomous Infrastructure Inspection, (10/16-17/2017)
- TN/VA Border meeting – This was a very successful meeting at the Bristol Motor Speedway Bristol, TN. We had 19 individuals in attendance from TDOT, THP, VDOT and VSP. There was a lot of discussion regarding state border area response responsibilities, queue protection, incident clearing and detours. The truck parking issues with the ELD was discussed and how illegal parking would be handled. Everyone was upbeat and positive at the end of the meeting. (10/18/2017)
- Hosted a visit with ASCE President. Kristina Swallow, on research and I-81 CC activities (10/20/2017)
- Participation in the [VA Governor's Transportation Conference](#), (10/25/2017)
- Meeting with Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), regional MPOs, and Ashley McLeod, VP of Communications with the Virginia Maritime Association to discuss forming and hosting a SW VA Chapter of VMA - Wytheville VA, (11/01/2017)
- VA/WV/MD/PA Border meeting – This meeting was another successful meeting that lasted approximately 4 ½ hours in Frederick, MD. We had 24 in attendance with representation from

all 4 state DOT's, and Police from all but WV. The discussion was along the same lines of the previous meeting, with a lot of emphasis on the CHART trucks and their ability to handle an incident. Everyone there thought the meeting was a positive experience and would like to see them continue. (11/06/2017)

- Presentation of I-81 CC issues at the Bristol MTPO Executive Board Meeting, (11/09/2017)
- Presentation of I-81 CC issues at the Kingsport MPO Meeting, (11/09/2017)
- Presented to the NSTSCE on a proposed research effort to study visibility improvements offered by roadside fog "nets", (11/13/2017)
- Discussion with Chris Brazell Infrastructure Program Manager, Division of Community Investment at the ARC regarding partnership with Potomac Highlands Airport Authority (PHAA) and the National Transportation Center (NTC) at the University of Maryland, on development of an Autonomous Technology Center. (11/17/2017) Follow up meeting at VTTI scheduled for 12-21-17
- Meeting with Will Isenberg of VA DEQ about participation in an effort focused on best practices for winter maintenance and salt (chloride) impacts on water, (11/22/2017)
- Attendance and participation in the FHWA Incident Management Capability Maturity Framework training session held in Gray, TN, (11/28/2017)
- Discussion with representatives of Nanosonic Inc. on a 2nd phase of SBIR work related to repurposing EV batteries for stationary transportation uses. The 1st phase of work was recently completed. We also discussed DOT needs relate to phosphorous removal at discharge outfalls. (11/30/2017)
- We met with VDOT to discuss current and future UAS (drone) research to support highway operations. VDOT Chief of Innovation, Rob Cary; VTRC Director Cathy McGhee, SWRO District Engineer and I-81 CC Steering Committee chair, Ken King; SWRO Regional Operations Systems Manager, Tim Martin; and WWRO Regional Operations Engineer, Chris McDonald attended. (12/01/2017)
- Attended VDOT's Safety and Operations Research Advisory Committee meeting and presented on proposed projects on truck placarding reading automation for critical facilities (e.g. tunnels) UAVs for incident management and expedited clearance, and autonomous vehicle use case assessment (12/04/2017)
- Attended the Virginia Wildlife-Roadway Safety Collaborative meeting in Charlottesville. This group is focused on human safety and animal habitat where roads and habitat corridors cross, (12/07/2017)
- Attendance and panel participation at the [Disruptive Innovations in Transportation Conference](#), Richmond, VA, (12/13/2017)

#### **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

- ARC Discussion on Smart Roads and Unmanned Vehicle Systems at VTTI, 12-21-2017
- Transportation Research Board annual meeting – January