

### *Sec. 1.01* **Legal Status of the Survey**

The State Highway Commissioner is authorized by the Revised Code of Virginia **§33.2-1011. (Effective October 1, 2014)** ([see Figure 1-A](#)) to make surveys for highway purposes. The code states, "The State Highway Commissioner, through his duly authorized officers, agents, or servants, may enter upon any land in the Commonwealth for the purposes of making examination and survey thereof, with a view to ascertainment of its suitability for highway purposes, or for any other purpose incidental thereto. Such officers, agents, or servants shall exercise care to protect any improvements, growing crops, or timber in making such examination or survey."

This authority should never be used arbitrarily, but should be thoroughly tempered with proper respect for private property and for the rights and feelings of the individual.

### *Sec. 1.02* **Authorization and Assignment of Surveys**

#### *Sec. 1.02.1* Authorization

All surveys for highways on all systems, including closed surveys for determination of ownership or for purchase, are to be authorized by the State Location and Design Engineer or his representative. This authorization will be in the form of a memorandum in which the scope of the project, length, type of survey required and any other pertinent data will be outlined. Supplemental data, made available to assist in performing the survey, will be furnished also.

Supplemental survey data, or information, shall include but is not limited to: National Geodetic Survey (NGS) field survey control, both horizontal and vertical, U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps, photographs of the area, existing road plans, and prints of adjacent projects in the planning stage. As schedules permit, the Global Positioning System, as initiated by the District Survey Engineer, shall be used to provide field survey control to the project based upon published government control.

After the location approval by the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the Federal Highway Administration, survey authorization for Interstates will be made in accordance with tentative construction schedules. Survey authorization for Principal-Minor Arterial System projects will be made in accordance with established construction or planning schedules. Prior approval must be given by the Federal Highway Administration on projects where Federal-Aid for preliminary engineering is requested.

Survey authorization for the Secondary System (Arterial-Collector-Local Roads) will be made when requested by the Secondary Roads Division, in accordance with planning schedules and the Secondary System Contract Advertisement Schedule.

The integrated Project Manager (iPM) provides a central management system for project development information. In addition to basic location and status information, iPM also includes division-specific comments, project contacts, project documents, meeting dates, project schedule, and action items. It provides direct managerial information on a large number of projects to 12