

Central Virginia Planning District Commission
Meeting Agenda
5:00 p.m., September 17, 2026



CVPDC Offices – 828 Main Street, 12th Floor
Lynchburg, VA

Electronic connection: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81075217973?pwd=xBbSMFbnaMYUky3VDzR44g5arkzuKK.1>

Dial In: (301) 715-8592

Meeting ID: 810 7521 7973

Passcode: 189102

- 1) Welcome Richard Conner, CVPDC Chair
- 2) Consideration of Requests for Electronic Participation..... Chair
- 3) Special Guest: Lyle Solla-Yates – UVA School of Architecture, City of Charlottesville Planning Commissioner
- 4) Regular Meeting Minutes: July 16, 2026 Chair
- 5) Organizational Reports Staff
 - a) Financial ReportSandy Dobyns
 - b) Executive Director’s ReportAlec Brebner & staff
 - i) Federal surface transportation reauthorization
 - ii) Long-Range Transportation Plan update
 - iii) Regional grant application updates
 - iv) Central Virginia CEDS update
 - v) GO Virginia Region 2 Active Projects Report
 - vi) Central Virginia housing policy event: 9:00-1:00, Wednesday, October 28, 2026, at the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance, 300 Lucado Pl., Lynchburg
- 6) Other BusinessChair & Commissioners
- 7) Adjournment..... Chair



Central Virginia Planning District Commission **Amended Meeting Agenda Brief Sheet** **5:00 p.m., September 17, 2026**

1) Welcome Richard Conner, CVPDC Chair

2) Consideration of Requests for Electronic Participation..... Chair

3) Special Guest: Lyle Solla-Yates serves on the Charlottesville Planning Commission, works and teaches about zoning at the University of Virginia School of Architecture, and contributed to "How to Streamline Housing Permitting in Virginia" with the Mercatus Center at George Mason University. His proposal to permit single-stair residential construction at the fourth floor was adopted for the 2024 Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code expected for release in 2027.

Lyle will present at our housing policy summit on October 28 and will introduce himself to the Commission at its September meeting.

4) Regular Meeting Minutes: July 16, 2026 Chair
The request of the Commission is approval of the minutes of the regular July meeting.

5) Organizational Reports Staff

a) Financial Report, Month Ending August 2026 (page __)Sandy Dobyns

b) Executive Director's ReportAlec Brebner & staff

i) Federal surface transportation reauthorization

ii) Long-Range Transportation Plan update

iii) Regional grant application updates

iv) Central Virginia CEDS update

v) GO Virginia Region 2 Active Projects Report

vi) Central Virginia housing policy event: 9:00-1:00, Wednesday, October 28,

2026, at the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance, 300 Lucado Pl., Lynchburg

Staff will present items that may be of interest to the Commission. Discussion is encouraged.
 No action is required.

6) Other Business Chair
 Commissioners may address the group with items of interest to the region.

7) Adjournment..... Chair



Central Virginia Planning
District Commission
828 Main Street, 12th Floor
Lynchburg, VA 24504
Office: (434) 845-3491
cvpdc.org

**Central Virginia Planning District
Commission Regular Meeting Minutes – Draft
July 16, 2026 @ 5:00 PM
Meeting Location: CVPDC Offices
828 Main Street, 12th Floor
Lynchburg, VA 24504**

Members Present:

Wynter Benda, City of Lynchburg
Reggie Bennett, Town of Altavista
Jeremy Bryant, Amherst County
Michael Campbell, Town of Appomattox
Richard Conner, Town of Appomattox, Chairman
Curt Diemer, City of Lynchburg
Tom Lawton, Campbell County
Frank Rogers, Campbell County
Gary Shanaberger, Town of Altavista
Nathan Simpson, Appomattox County
John Spencer, Appomattox County

Members Present Virtually:

Sara McGuffin, Town of Amherst

Staff Present:

Alec Brebner
Sandy Dobyns
Nathan Gregory
Kelly Hitchcock
Hannah Mitchell

Others Present Virtually:

Jerry Lovelace, Virginia Roanoke River Basin Advisory Committee
Andy Wells, Southside PDC

1. Welcome

Richard Conner called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

2. Consideration of Requests for Electronic Participation

Curt Diemer moved to approve electronic participation. Reggie Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Special Guests: Jerry Lovelace and Andy Wells, Southside PDC

Jerry Lovelace described the Roanoke River Basin Advisory Committee's state-funded work counseling DEQ and legislators on issues affecting the basin. Previous committee members have requested that the state reactivate the group and allow PDCs to reappoint members. Andy Wells noted that of the 6 affected PDCs, 3 offered resolutions of support. He asked the CVPDC to consider a similar resolution.

4. Selection of PDC Officers for 2026-2027

Conner reviewed the FY27 slate of officers, including himself as Chair, John Sharp as Vice-Chair, and Michael Campbell as Treasurer.

Frank Rogers moved to approve the slate of officers as presented. Gary Shanaberger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Regular Meeting Minutes: May 21, 2026

Curt Diemer moved to approve the May 21, 2026, minutes, with a correction to note Greg Patrick as a proxy for Wynter Benda. Reggie Bennett seconded the motion. 10 members voted in favor, with 1 abstention by Tom Lawton. The minutes were approved.

6. CVPDC Virtual Meeting and Participation Policies

Alec Brebner presented the annual virtual meeting and participation policies.

Tom Lawton moved to adopt the CVPDC Virtual Meeting and Participation Policies as presented. Gary Shanaberger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Debris Management Planning – Grant Agreement with Va. DEQ

Brebner reported that Virginia DEQ invited PDCs affected by Hurricane Helene to apply for grant resources to develop debris management plans, a prerequisite for FEMA debris management reimbursement. Appomattox and Bedford Counties qualify for the program and may receive up to \$30,000 each, plus \$20,000 for the PDC, with no local match required. Brebner requested authorization to enter into a grant agreement. When asked, Brebner offered to follow up with details on appropriate uses and confirmed that legal counsel will review the contract before signing.

Frank Rogers moved to authorize Alec Brebner to enter into a grant agreement with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality on behalf of the CVPDC. Michael Campbell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Childcare Data Analysis – Grant Agreement with VECF

Brebner reported that the Richmond region PDC, PlanRVA, has been collaborating with the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation (VECF) on childcare data analysis. They requested the CVPDC's support to gather data for the CVPDC region and 8 additional

counties. The project would take about 3 months and have a \$12,000 budget. Brebner requested authorization to enter into a grant agreement.

Frank Rogers moved to authorize Alec Brebner to enter into a grant agreement with VECF and PlanRVA. Michael Campbell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Organizational Reports

a) Financial Report

Sandy Dobyns reported nothing out of the ordinary with the financials. Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates will conduct the annual audit in August.

b) Executive Director's Report

Brebner introduced new regional planner, Nathan Gregory.

Brebner invited all to attend an August 12th VAPDC regional training event, Finding Funding for the Future.

Brebner described an upcoming conference in Lynchburg with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's Center for Faith to discuss opportunity zones, including recent legislative changes.

Brebner noted receiving a survey from the Virginia Economic Development Partnership that seeks localities' input on opportunity zone tract prioritization.

Brebner reported on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Short Elliot Hendrickson is leading the update and is currently developing the strategic direction and action plan section. Brebner provided an overview of strengths and weaknesses outlined through public outreach efforts. The Commission may expect a draft for their review in September.

Jeremy Bryant left the meeting at 5:49 p.m.

10. Other Business and Regional Roundtable

Richard Conner opened discussion of ValleyLink's impact on the Central Virginia region.

11. Adjournment

Tom Lawton moved to adjourn the meeting. Gary Shanaberger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

X _____
Signature attest

Date

Central Virginia Planning District Commission
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
 July through August 2026

	Jul - Aug 26	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
4100 · Dues	186,748.00	186,748.00	0.00	100.0%
4150 · DHCD	0.00	114,971.00	-114,971.00	0.0%
4200 · Grant Revenue				
0000003 · CEDS	0.00	10,000.00	-10,000.00	0.0%
0000005 · Chesapeake Bay WIP III - DEQ	0.00	58,000.00	-58,000.00	0.0%
0000007 · DRPT/FTA	0.00	177,475.00	-177,475.00	0.0%
0000012 · VDOT PL	0.00	554,787.00	-554,787.00	0.0%
0000013 · VDOT Rural	3,759.45	58,000.00	-54,240.55	6.48%
0000014 · Virginia Housing	0.00	44,706.00	-44,706.00	0.0%
0000020 · SCRC	0.00	22,668.00	-22,668.00	0.0%
0000026 · Appomattox CVCC welding - GoVA	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00	0.0%
0000029 · FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan	0.00	116,000.00	-116,000.00	0.0%
0000030 · Bedford Hilltop Phase II	0.00	31,680.00	-31,680.00	0.0%
0000034 · DRPT - CAP	0.00	64,000.00	-64,000.00	0.0%
0000037 · Housing Summit	0.00	15,000.00	-15,000.00	0.0%
0000041 · Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed	0.00	10,500.00	-10,500.00	0.0%
0000042 · Brookneal Comprehensive Plan	0.00	15,000.00	-15,000.00	0.0%
0000043 · Mosley Heights Community Revita	0.00	34,100.00	-34,100.00	0.0%
0000047 · Virginia Housing - Capacity	0.00	15,000.00	-15,000.00	0.0%
Total 4200 · Grant Revenue	3,759.45	1,228,416.00	-1,224,656.55	0.31%
4250 · Revenue - WIOA services billed	7,741.58	60,000.00	-52,258.42	12.9%
4255 · Revenue - SA services	8,042.87	169,859.00	-161,816.13	4.74%
4260 · Revenue - Radio Board services	17,332.84	35,635.00	-18,302.16	48.64%
4300 · Interest Income	2,214.17	10,000.00	-7,785.83	22.14%
Total Income	225,838.91	1,805,629.00	-1,579,790.09	12.51%

	Jul - Aug 26	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Gross Profit	225,838.91	1,805,629.00	-1,579,790.09	12.51%
Expense				
5100 · Operations				
5002 · Full Time Salary	93,154.20	616,780.00	-523,625.80	15.1%
5040 · Part-time	4,843.10	47,905.00	-43,061.90	10.11%
5050 · Benefits	61,399.46	198,814.00	-137,414.54	30.88%
5101 · Accounting Services	1,712.80	9,000.00	-7,287.20	19.03%
5102 · Auditing Services	0.00	17,000.00	-17,000.00	0.0%
5103 · Printing and Binding	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
5104 · Legal Services	0.00	3,000.00	-3,000.00	0.0%
5106 · Advertising	1,000.00	4,000.00	-3,000.00	25.0%
5120 · Contractual Services	4,181.00	30,400.00	-26,219.00	13.75%
5140 · Insurance	3,561.14	4,000.00	-438.86	89.03%
5150 · Communication - Internet svcs	695.70	3,475.00	-2,779.30	20.02%
5152 · Telephone	705.16	5,920.00	-5,214.84	11.91%
5153 · Postage	206.00	1,400.00	-1,194.00	14.71%
5161 · Lease/ Rent of Building	12,962.00	78,732.00	-65,770.00	16.46%
5170 · Lease/Rent of Equipment	674.41	4,000.00	-3,325.59	16.86%
5210 · Furniture and Fixtures	604.27	1,500.00	-895.73	40.29%
5220 · Computer Equipment & Software	6,390.50	33,000.00	-26,609.50	19.37%
5230 · Office Expenses	298.82	5,000.00	-4,701.18	5.98%
5240 · Books and Subscriptions	39.98	500.00	-460.02	8.0%
5300 · Travel	4,213.64	10,000.00	-5,786.36	42.14%
5303 · Education and Seminars	2,905.12	5,000.00	-2,094.88	58.1%
5403 · Special Meetings	92.19	5,000.00	-4,907.81	1.84%
5404 · Dues and Subscriptions	7,987.40	13,000.00	-5,012.60	61.44%
5405 · Miscellaneous Expenses	82.60	1,000.00	-917.40	8.26%
Total 5100 · Operations	207,709.49	1,099,426.00	-891,716.51	18.89%

	Jul - Aug 26	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
6200 · Direct project expenses				
6201 · Consultants	73,955.95			
6202 · Contracted services	1,898.00			
6240 · Miscellaneous	240.00			
6280 · Website maintenance	2,326.25			
6200 · Direct project expenses - Other	0.00	697,553.00	-697,553.00	0.0%
Total 6200 · Direct project expenses	78,420.20	697,553.00	-619,132.80	11.24%
Total Expense	286,129.69	1,796,979.00	-1,510,849.31	15.92%
Net Ordinary Income	-60,290.78	8,650.00	-68,940.78	-697.0%
Net Income	-60,290.78	8,650.00	-68,940.78	-697.0%

Central Virginia Planning District Commission
Balance Sheet
As of August 31, 2026

	Aug 31, 26
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1010 · Local Govt Investment Pool	344,065.68
1012 · LGIP - Radio Communications	333,741.91
1012B · No Business Mtn Planning	445,829.73
1013 · VIP - Radio	236,404.15
1020 · Petty Cash	79.32
1021 · Truist Bank	456,058.09
1027 · No Business Mountain Escrow Acc	250,000.00
1028 · Regional Radio Bank of the Jame	991,700.96
Total Checking/Savings	3,057,879.84
Accounts Receivable	337,835.94
Total Current Assets	3,395,715.78
Fixed Assets	
1800 · Fixed Assets	92,412.72
1815 · Regional Radio CIP	0.00
1820 · Regional Radio Fixed Assets	10,242,594.79
1831 · Leased Land GASB 87	193,430.19
1832 · Leased Building GASB 87	667,380.80
1850 · Accumulated Depreciation	-92,412.72
1851 · Accumulated Amortization GASB 8	-186,119.16
1852 · Accumulated Depreciation GASB 8	-323,545.46
Total Fixed Assets	10,593,741.16
Other Assets	
1750 · Deferred Outflow - pension	33,108.00
1752 · Def Outflow group life contribu	7,871.00
1753 · Deferred Outflow OPEB Health In	116.00
Total Other Assets	41,095.00
TOTAL ASSETS	14,030,551.94

Aug 31, 26

LIABILITIES & EQUITY**Liabilities****Current Liabilities****Accounts Payable**

2000 · Accounts Payable 15,637.58

Total Accounts Payable 15,637.58**Other Current Liabilities**

2040 · Prepayment of Contract Services 4,271.00

2060 · Accrued Leave 62,073.84

2073 · Deferred inflow - diff between 57,967.00

2076 · OPEB Group life Liab 27,932.00

2077 · Def inflows - Group life 12,543.00

2080 · Accrued Radio Bond Int Payable 2,404.35

2100 · Payroll Liabilities 9,195.40

2200 · 2012 Bond Debt Payable-RegRadio 1,053,000.00

2501 · Current Lease Liability GASB 87 91,773.45

Total Other Current Liabilities 1,321,160.04**Total Current Liabilities** 1,336,797.62**Long Term Liabilities**

2070 · OPEB Liability 10,394.45

2071 · Net Pension Liability -699,796.00

2075 · Def Inflow - OPEB Chg Assumptio 32,689.00

2502 · Noncurrent Lease Liability GASB 289,956.56

Total Long Term Liabilities -366,755.99**Total Liabilities** 970,041.63**Equity**

2900 · Radio Planning Reserves 237,500.00

3000 · Opening Bal Equity 157,600.08

3900 · Retained Earnings 11,632,266.67

Net Income 1,033,143.56**Total Equity** 13,060,510.31**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY** 14,030,551.94

GO Virginia Region 2 Active Projects - Central VA Subregion			
Program Metrics to Date			
Total Projects Funded	Totals Funds Allocated	Matching Funds Allocated	Jobs Created
64 (46 Projects Completed)	\$23,774,736	\$22,484,232	972

Project Details (Chronological by start date)	Committed Outcomes	Project Synopsis
Center for Entrepreneurship Startup Ecosystem <i>Implementation</i> Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance 3/14/23-3/14/27* \$240,192	42 jobs created 20 businesses served \$400k capital raised	The Center of Entrepreneurship (C.Entr) increases the number of growth-oriented startups by creating an entrepreneurial center of excellence for the Greater Lynchburg region that will serve as an anchor and catalyst for the region’s entrepreneurial ecosystem. C.Entr provides new and serial entrepreneurs with access to capital and resources to help take their products to market. This initiative provides dedicated physical space at LRBA to support entrepreneurs.
Appomattox County Welding Institute Workforce Development <i>Implementation</i> Central VA PDC 6/30/24-6/30/27* \$565,000	54 Student Trained 70 Credentials Awarded	Appomattox County, in partnership with Central Virginia Community College (CVCC) is increasing capacity for career and technical education through a new facility for welding training. CVCC plans to offer students the opportunity to receive portable credentials in welding and pipefitting at the facility. The facility will help meet demand for welding courses not currently met through the existing training centers of CVCC.
Say YES to LYH Talent Portal Workforce Development <i>Implementation</i> Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance 10/01/25 - 9/30/27 \$99,999	50 Jobs Created 20 New Businesses Served	The primary deliverable of this grant is the launch of SayYestoLYHRegion.org, an innovative digital talent hub designed to attract, develop, and retain talent in the Lynchburg Region. This online platform will serve as a centralized resource that connects job seekers, students, educators, and employers with high-impact tools and information to support career exploration, workforce entry, and advancement.
Vector Space Robotics Facility Workforce Development <i>Planning</i> Vector Space 11/5/25 - 11/4/26 \$97,200	Feasibility Study, Architectural Plans, Program Curriculum, Interior Floor Plans, Sustainability Report, Budget for Implementation	This study will assess the need for expanded robotics education in Lynchburg to boost talent retention and strengthen the workforce pipeline through enhanced STEM programming. Activities include site visits, focus groups, credential exploration (CTE, CAD), curriculum development, dual enrollment pathways, and employer internships.
Randolph College Mechanical Engineering Program Development Workforce Development <i>Implementation</i> Randolph College 5/1/2026 - 4/30/2028 \$686,340	40 people trained 15 job placements 20 new interns placed 1 new program implemented 40 credentials awarded 15 students completing a dual enrollment program	This project will expand Randolph College’s mechanical engineering capacity by developing industry aligned labs, curriculum, and partnerships to create a scalable pathway from education to employment in order to produce workforce ready graduates with high demand skills in advanced manufacturing and materials engineering for Region 2.
AM2 Initiative to Grow Advanced Manufacturing in Regions 2 & 3 Cluster Scale-up <i>Statewide Implementation</i> NRV Regional Commission 5/1/26 - 11/1/2028 \$4,230,160	\$2M raised by businesses served 100 jobs created 40 unique businesses served 25 interns placed 10 people trained 4 apprenticeships created 3 new mentors 1 existing business expanded 1 new business attracted	Improve collaboration amongst manufacturers, streamline and facilitate access to services, and help to attract and grow regional manufacturers. Assist existing manufacturers in designing, refining, & testing technologies and processes to improve manufacturers’ efficiency and productivity. Accelerate the commercialization timeline for regional manufacturers to promote sustained economic vitality and global competitiveness. Strengthen the manufacturing career pipeline by creating curriculum and quality work-based learning opportunities from high school through graduate school.

*DHCD approved a contract extension.

Closed Project Details	Final/Committed Outcomes	Closeout Reporting from Subgrantee
Beacon of Hope Lynchburg Career Accelerator Workforce Development <i>Implementation</i> 7/31/23 - 3/01/26* \$540,000	261/112 Internships Completed 98/44 Certificates Awarded 60/24 Businesses Served 31/0 Mentors Engaged 18/0 Jobs Filled 18/0 Upskilled Employees Playbook for Opportunity Youth Playbook for Promise Pausers Playbook for 2Gen Populations	Beacon of Hope strengthened connections between high schools, the community college, and regional employers by supporting re-enrollment and credential attainment, expanding paid summer internships for high school students and pauser cohorts, and increasing outreach through trusted community networks. Employer partnerships grew, driven by hiring managers and partners who experienced firsthand the quality and preparation of program participants. Program graduates secured meaningful employment and earn promotions, creating a powerful form of outreach and advocacy for the program from both the individuals themselves and the employers who hired them. The relationships forged through this initiative strengthened confidence in

GO Virginia Region 2 Active Projects - New River Valley Subregion			
Program Metrics to Date			
Total Projects Funded	Totals Funds Allocated	Matching Funds Allocated	Jobs Created
64 (46 Projects Completed)	\$23,774,736	\$22,484,232	972

Project Details (Chronological by start date)	Committed Outcomes	Project Synopsis
Project VITAL Cluster Scale Up <i>Statewide Competitive</i> Roanoke-Blacksburg Innovation Alliance (RBIA) 1/01/25-1/01/28 \$4,987,029	42 Employees Upskilled 406 Jobs Created/Filled 100 Businesses Served 55 Entrepreneurs Engaged 15 Mentors Engaged \$50 Capital Raised	RBIA, with partners including VT, Carilion, and Virginia Western, leads the state-wide Project VITAL grant in Region 2, a three-pillar initiative to grow biotechnology. The project supports startups through mentoring, compliance assistance, and lab-to-market initiatives; expands access to capital with training, investor connections, and a proof-of-concept grant program; and strengthens talent pipelines through K 12 outreach, higher education programming, internships, and commercialization fellowships.
GO TEC Launch in the New River Valley and Roanoke County Workforce Development <i>Implementation</i> Montgomery County Public Schools 7/01/25-7/01/27 \$994,213	1136 People Trained 1 Program Implemented	Great Opportunities in Technology and Engineering Careers (GO-TEC) is launching in Region 2, starting with New River Valley and Roanoke County schools, to give students hands-on experience in high-demand fields through partnerships with education and industry. The program introduces middle schoolers to career pathways in precision machining, welding, IT/cybersecurity, robotics, automation, mechatronics, and advanced materials.
New River Valley Sites Advancement Site Development and Infrastructure <i>Planning</i> New River Valley Regional Commission 8/15/25-8/14/26 \$94,400	Updated Site Inventory and One Page Site Reports, Roadmap Report for elevating sites on the VBRSP site readiness scale , Site Selection Investment Report	This project will update and expand upon the 2019 VBRSP assessment by evaluating industrial sites across 5 New River localities. Infrastructure and site improvements, land ownership changes, and shifting market conditions have impacted site readiness, making an updated assessment necessary. This will identify infrastructure gaps, environmental constraints, and site development needs, providing a clear path for advancing sites through the VBRSP tiers.
VTI Workforce Pathways Plan for ACE Technology Workforce Development <i>Planning</i> VT Transportation Institute 11/15/25-11/14/26 \$99,999	Strategic plan for regional implementation of D2D Workforce Pathways Program for ACE technologies	VTI leads a supply-chain focused partner base through the Dock to Door Coalition (D2D). The project goals are to define and pilot a process for inventorying assets that support electric vehicle (EV) deployment in the community. The inventory will result in a database that can be used to identify gaps where new programs are needed, identify existing programs D2D partners and the community can benefit from, and build engagement opportunities between D2D partners and the community around EV workforce needs.
Project RISE Entrepreneurship & Innovation <i>Implementation</i> Virginia Tech Foundation 12/9/25-12/8-27 \$648,000	35 Jobs Created 10 New Businesses Created 40 Businesses Served 40 New Mentors Providing Assistance 20 Patents Filed 10 Patents Awarded	Project RISE will add critical momentum to the Entrepreneur Resource Center (ERC) to create a place-based regional hub for startup support and commercialization. ERC will provide technical assistance and commercialization funding to help advance technologies toward market readiness supporting activities such as prototype development and customer discovery. Workshops, events, and digital networking will link founders with regional resources, mentors, and investors.
SBDC Business Preparedness NRV Helene Business Recovery Initiative <i>Implementation</i> Roanoke/NRV Small Business Development Center 1/12/26 - 1/11/28	1 New Program Implemented 50 Businesses Served 2 New Mentors Providing Assistance	The “Ready for Anything: Strategies for Business Continuity and Sustainability in the NRV” program will build capacity, support existing businesses, and strengthen continuity planning and disaster resilience across the New River Valley.
AM2 Initiative to Grow Advanced Manufacturing in Regions 2 & 3 Cluster Scale-up <i>Statewide Implementation</i> NRV Regional Commission 5/1/26 - 11/1/2028 \$4,230,160	\$2M raised by businesses served 100 jobs created 40 unique businesses served 25 interns placed 10 people trained 4 apprenticeships created 3 new mentors 1 existing business expanded 1 new business attracted	Improve collaboration amongst manufacturers, streamline and facilitate access to services, and help to attract and grow regional manufacturers. Assist existing manufacturers in designing, refining, & testing technologies and processes to improve manufacturers’ efficiency and productivity. Accelerate the commercialization timeline for regional manufacturers to promote sustained economic vitality and global competitiveness. Strengthen the manufacturing career pipeline by creating curriculum and quality work-based learning opportunities from high school through graduate school.

*DHCD approved a contract extension.

GO Virginia Region 2 Active Projects - Roanoke-Alleghany Subregion			
Program Metrics to Date			
Total Projects Funded	Totals Funds Allocated	Matching Funds Allocated	Jobs Created
64 (46 Projects Completed)	\$23,774,736	\$22,484,232	972

Project Details (Chronological by start date)	Committed Outcomes	Project Synopsis
Strengthening Entrepreneurs Impact Start Up Ecosystem <i>Implementation</i> Roanoke-Blacksburg Innovation Alliance 12/01/23-8/30/26* \$577,800	70 jobs created/filled 35 existing businesses expanded 8 new businesses created 58 businesses served 58 entrepreneurs engaged 50 mentors engaged	The project supports companies in the technology and biotechnology sectors to grow and scale through the following activities: 1) Launching OnRAMP, a pre-accelerator program to improve barriers to entry for early-stage startup companies, 2) Enhancing the Exit RAMP program, and 3) Enhancing the I&E report by collecting data on early-stage startups.
Project VITAL Cluster Scale Up <i>Statewide Competitive</i> Roanoke-Blacksburg Innovation Alliance (RBIA) 1/01/25-1/01/28 \$4,987,029	42 Employees Upskilled 406 Jobs Created/Filled 100 Businesses Served 55 Entrepreneurs Engaged 15 Mentors Engaged \$50 Capital Raised	RBIA, with partners including VT, Carilion, and Virginia Western, leads the state-wide Project VITAL grant in Region 2, a three-pillar initiative to grow biotechnology. The project supports startups through mentoring, compliance assistance, and lab-to-market initiatives; expands access to capital with training, investor connections, and a proof-of-concept grant program; and strengthens talent pipelines through K 12 outreach, higher education programming, internships, and commercialization fellowships.
GO TEC Launch in the New River Valley and Roanoke County Workforce Development <i>Implementation</i> Montgomery County Public Schools 7/01/25-7/01/27 \$994,213	1136 People Trained 1 Program Implemented	Great Opportunities in Technology and Engineering Careers (GO-TEC) is launching in Region 2, starting with New River Valley and Roanoke County schools, to give students hands-on experience in high-demand fields through partnerships with education and industry. The program introduces middle schoolers to career pathways in precision machining, welding, IT/cybersecurity, robotics, automation, mechatronics, and advanced materials.
VTI Workforce Pathways Plan for ACE Technology Workforce Development <i>Planning</i> VT Transportation Institute 11/15/25-11/14/26 \$99,999	Strategic plan for regional implementation of D2D Workforce Pathways Program for ACE technologies	VTI leads a supply-chain focused partner coalition (Dock to Door Coalition (D2D)). The project goals are to define and pilot a process for inventorying assets that support electric vehicle (EV) deployment in the community. The inventory will result in a database that can be used to identify gaps where new programs are needed, identify existing programs D2D partners and the community can benefit from, and build engagement opportunities between D2D partners and the community around EV workforce needs.
Project RISE Entrepreneurship & Innovation <i>Implementation</i> Virginia Tech Foundation 12/9/25-12/8-27 \$648,000	35 Jobs Created 10 New Businesses Created 40 Businesses Served 40 New Mentors Providing Assistance 20 Patents Filed 10 Patents Awarded	Project RISE will add critical momentum to the Entrepreneur Resource Center (ERC) to create a place-based regional hub for startup support and commercialization. ERC will provide technical assistance and commercialization funding to help advance technologies toward market readiness supporting activities such as prototype development and customer discovery. Workshops, events, and digital networking will link founders with regional resources, mentors, and investors.
AM2 Initiative to Grow Advanced Manufacturing in Regions 2 & 3 Cluster Scale-up <i>Statewide Implementation</i> NRV Regional Commission 5/1/26 - 11/1/2028 \$4,230,160	\$2M raised by businesses served 100 jobs created 40 unique businesses served 25 interns placed 10 people trained 4 apprenticeships created 3 new mentors 1 existing business expanded 1 new business attracted	Improve collaboration amongst manufacturers, streamline and facilitate access to services, and help to attract and grow regional manufacturers. Assist existing manufacturers in designing, refining, & testing technologies and processes to improve manufacturers' efficiency and productivity. Accelerate the commercialization timeline for regional manufacturers to promote sustained economic vitality and global competitiveness. Strengthen the manufacturing career pipeline by creating curriculum and quality work-based learning opportunities from high school through graduate school.

*DHCD approved a contract extension.