



CVPDC
Central Virginia Planning District Commission

2021

ANNUAL REPORT



Central Virginia
Radio Communications
Board



Workforce
Development
Board



CVTPO
Central Virginia Transportation Planning Organization



Connecting the Region's Commuters

FROM THE CHAIR



Treney Tweedy, Chair
Central Virginia Planning District
Commission
Lynchburg City Council

Throughout the Pandemic, the Central Virginia Planning District Commission changed ways of doing business, but never stopped supporting our member localities. Zoom meetings replaced travel to localities, staff found that working from home is effective, and Commissioners kept in communications electronically. Now that we're meeting and traveling again, the PDC is working to help localities kick-start regional initiatives that plan for the future as well as save money and provide quality service.

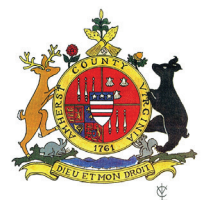
For over 50 years the CVPDC has been a focal point for communication and conversation among local governments in Lynchburg and surrounding counties and towns. The organization continues to seek new opportunities for local officials to build relationships and provide better service.

As the new year starts, the PDC will be working with the Town of Altavista updating the Town's comprehensive plan and Amherst County on trail development. You'll see consultants working with planners in Campbell, Bedford and Lynchburg conducting safety studies on 12 intersections that will position these communities to seek improvements through grant funds.

In the new year we'll be working with the Economic Development Administration, local governments and business leaders to start an 18-month process to update the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. We'll continue working with planners and environmental specialists on clean water, BMP, and soil conservation practices. Watch for housing projects in Amherst County, Bedford Town and Virginia Housing.

The Planning District Commission continues to be an important communications center for local governments in our region. And an important resource for innovation and regional cooperation for lower cost governmental services.

MEMBERS



ENVIRONMENT

Chesapeake Bay Watershed – Continued execution of the Virginia Chesapeake Bay Watershed 2021 PDC Locality Implementation Program activities to advance watershed planning projects to restore and maintain water quality within local, regional, and state waterways. TMDL study participation, regional urban watershed meetings, coordination and communication of state and national grant programming, assistance with grant development, and execution of the Middle James Vision Plan project represent some of the year's activities.



A Cleaner Tomorrow

Region 2000 Services Authority

Disposing solid waste for Appomattox, Campbell, Nelson and Lynchburg

- **Phase V cell construction** – New landfill cell opening 2022-2023
- **Landfill Gas to Energy** – watch for conversion of landfill gas to electricity in 2022-2023
- Still one of the lowest cost-of-service in Virginia





Protecting Our Region

PUBLIC SAFETY

Hazard Mitigation – In cooperation with regional partners, the regional hazard mitigation plan was completed. This plan, which sets a strategy to implement actions to minimize the impact of natural disaster events, was adopted first by FEMA in February 2021 and then adopted by all ten CVPDC localities. The CVPDC Hazard Mitigation Plan 2020 Update serves as the document that ensures our localities are eligible for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant programs.

Access to the full plan, including interactive maps at: www.cvpdc.org/AR21

Regional Vaccination Support – Assisted with meeting/communication coordination of the Central Virginia

Vaccination Task Force, a regional coalition of the region's first responders, communicators, and state agencies leading the local COVID-19 vaccination efforts.

Central Virginia Radio Communications Board – Interoperable emergency services communications in Lynchburg, Bedford and Amherst Counties

- Adding Campbell County in 2022
 - System will grow to over 3,000 communication devices and 20 communication towers
 - Interoperability is key – seamless communication throughout all member jurisdictions



Establishing Strong Communities

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- **Virginia Housing** – \$2 million in housing investment coming to the region in 2021-2024
- **Town of Bedford CDBG** – The CDBG Planning Grant was completed and, with a successful grant application, the Hilltop Community Revitalization Grant was awarded a DHCD Community Improvement Grant in the amount of \$963,983. Housing rehabilitations will begin in the fall of 2021.
- **Old Town Madison Heights CDBG** – Concluded the housing rehabilitation of 3 units, including 2 substantial reconstructions along with advancing project goals for additional housing and infrastructure community improvements.
- **Project Development Assistance** – Provided project and grant development assistance to Amherst County resulting in submission of two grant applications to expand park amenities along the James River.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy** – Our strategic plan for economic development that keeps the economic development and workforce development community working toward the same priorities. Look for an update starting in 2021-2022.*
- Investment of \$134,000 in Central Virginia Community College's Career and Technical Education Academy. Starts fall of 2021
- **Brownfield Assessment and Remediation** – Restoring blighted properties to use

WORKFORCE

Workforce Board Staff – Responding during the Pandemic in these ways:

- Conducted “Wagner-Peyser” front-line customer service duties at the one-stop workforce center for 12 months while Virginia Employment Commission staff addressed unemployment claim issues.
- Provided in-person employment services very few pandemic-related disruptions and closings.
- Created free, public job bank for regional career exploration.
- Highlighted career opportunities and job openings through active social media engagement.
- Hosted numerous in-person and virtual job fairs.
- Responded to employer needs by connecting them with clients/ job seekers to fill open positions.
- Marketed training opportunities and career services under a “Foundations for the Future” program, resulting in 90 new referrals for job seekers interested in services.



* Additional Information can be found at www.cvpdc.org/AR21





TRANSPORTATION

Connect Central Virginia 2045 – a collective vision for the region’s future transportation system. The plan considers all modes of surface transportation: including cars, trucks, public transit, biking, walking, and more.*

Connect Central Virginia 2045 Dashboard – See Demographics, Performance Measures and 2045 Project Summaries.*

Smart Scale and Transportation Alternative Program Applications

- Amherst Town
- Amherst County
- Bedford County
- Campbell County
- Lynchburg

Rustburg Village Highway Corridor Improvement Study.*

Bedford Town Independence Blvd and Rt. 221 Corridor Study.*

Transit: Bus routes changed frequently during the pandemic as ridership in some areas have fluctuated wildly. We worked with GLTC to keep the most accurate bus route schedule available on websites and to the public.

- Inventory/Assessment of bus stops for handicapped accessibility
- Maintain Google Map database for bus stops
- Trails – Connecting Trails and communicating with neighbors

Amherst County applied for and was awarded participation in the National Park Service – Rivers, Trails and Conservation Technical Assistance Program. During a portion of 2020 and through 2021 the Middle James Vision Plan, a comprehensive action plan to increase interaction and experiences along the James River in and around Amherst County/Lynchburg will be developed.

A Lynchburg Team, made up of Central Virginia Health District, Centra, Lynchburg City, Community Access Network and CVPDC representatives, participated in the Virginia Department of Health’s Virginia Walkability.



* Additional Information can be found at www.cvpdc.org/AR21

Members of the Central Virginia Planning District Commission:

ALTAVISTA

Wayne Mitchell, Town Council
Vacant, Town Manager

AMHERST COUNTY

Jimmy Ayres, Board of Supervisors
Dean Rodgers, County Administrator

AMHERST TOWN

Mayor Dwayne Tuggle, Town Council
Sara Carter, Town Manager

APPOMATTOX COUNTY

Trevor Hipps, Board of Supervisors
Susan Adams, County Administrator

APPOMATTOX TOWN

Mayor Richard Conner
Gary Shanaberger, Town Manager

BEDFORD CITY

Bruce Johanasson, Town Council
Bart Warner, City Manager

BEDFORD COUNTY

John Sharp, Board of Supervisors
Robert Hiss, County Administrator

BROOKNEAL

Mayor Champ Nowlin
Russell Thurston, Town Manager

CAMPBELL COUNTY

Charlie Watts, Board of Supervisors
Frank Rogers, County Administrator

LYNCHBURG

Treney Tweedy, Council Member
Wynter Benda, City Manager

REGIONAL BUSINESS ALLIANCE

Megan Lucas, CEO

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Vacant

VIRGINIA SENATE

Hon. Mark Peake, Virginia Senate

Staff

CENTRAL VIRGINIA PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

Gary Christie, *Executive Director*
Rosalie Majerus, *Deputy Director of Finance*
Kelly Hitchcock, *Deputy Director of Planning*
Tonya Hengeli, *Financial Services Professional, HR*

Philipp Gabathuler, *Senior Planner*
Ada Hunsberger, *Regional Planner*
Matt Perkins, *Special Projects Manager*

VIRGINIA CAREER WORKS – CENTRAL REGION

Traci Blido, *Director*
Lori Cumbo, *Operations Coordinator*
Tim Saunders, *Business Engagement and Outreach Coordinator*
Gina Dudley, *Workforce Administrative Technician*

REGION 2000 SERVICES AUTHORITY

Clarke Gibson, *Director*
Felicia West, *Business Manager*
Larry Hall, Jr., *Operations Manager*
Robert Arthur, *Environmental Compliance and Safety Manager*



FINANCIALS: 2021-2022

The PDC brought in \$24.75 in grants for each \$1 in local dues