

2013

Virginia's New River Valley: Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2013 Annual Report and 2014 Project Package



New River Valley Planning District Commission

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INTRODUCTION

The New River Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) documents the region's economic development program to help continue federal and local partnerships address the economic development of the region. The CEDS process includes analysis, vision, action plan, and evaluation. This process provides a program that helps create jobs, foster a more stable and diversified economy, and improve living conditions in the region.

This annual report summarizes the changing conditions in the region during fiscal year 2012. As a regional development strategy, Virginia's New River Valley Strategic Plan (Vision 2020: *Community First, prepared in 2003*) addresses the planning needs of the CEDS for the Economic Development Administration and the Area-wide Action Plan for the Appalachian Regional Commission. Figure 1 attempts a graphic depiction of the myriad of community and organization involvement necessary for the development of the regional strategic plan. Though no organization has this planning process as their central activity – strategic planning is a collaborative effort with all of these organizations and groups represented and actively engaged.

CEDS emerges from a continuous planning process. This Annual Report of the New River Valley CEDS seeks to document and evaluate the process, effectively updating the CEDS, while responding to the reporting requirements, review, and critique of the previous CEDS for the Economic Development Administration. Rather than a single stand-alone section, evaluation is integrated as a continuous feedback loop in each part of the process and report.

The CEDS Committee includes the Principles of the Investment Policy Guidelines in its project evaluation process. The Guidelines continue to be utilized in the development of CEDS projects.

Included in the FY09 work program was the preparation of the FY 09 major update of Vision 2020. The "new" CEDS, *Community First...Regional Partners in a Global Marketplace*, was led by the Commission and a Vision 2020 Steering Committee made up of 18 community and civic leaders. This year's (FY14) update was developed based on the goals, objectives, strategies, and projects related to seven priority areas of: 1) Coordinated Business Assistance and Entrepreneurial Support; 2) Preparation and Continued Support of Qualified Workforce; 3) Available Land, Quality Infrastructure, and Affordable Housing; 4) Attracting New Business to the Region; 5) Regional Marketing/Awareness to Promote the New River Valley; 6) Preserve Natural and Historic Areas; and, 7) Business Friendly Governance and Representation.

ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

The New River Valley Planning District Commission (PDC) was created in September 1969 by the City of Radford, the Counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski, and the Towns of Blacksburg, Christiansburg, and Pulaski. As key players in the regional economy, Virginia Tech and Radford University joined the Commission in July 2000 along with the Towns of Floyd, Narrows, Pearisburg, and Rich Creek. Twenty-four representatives of these entities make up the Board of Commissioners.

A CEDS Committee was formed with the approval of the PDC in FY 11. 15 public and private representatives from the New River Valley were identified and invited to participate on the CEDS Committee originally. Five new members were added to the CEDS Committee in FY 2012, and five more in 2013. The CEDS Committee was charged with the task of identifying projects, reviewing goals and objectives, and reviewing the projects and ranking criteria for those projects. Upon completing those tasks, the CEDS Committee made recommendations to the PDC for final approval of the CEDS. The PDC works closely with several other regional groups that take leading roles in pursuing economic development projects and funding to advance the quality of life in the New River Valley (see Figure 1, page 6). These include the New River Valley Economic Development Alliance, the New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board, the Partners for Self Sufficiency (an organization formed by the local departments of social services in the region), Virginia's First Regional Industrial Facility Authority, the New River Valley Land Trust, and the Community Foundation of the New River Valley.

This spring, memoranda were sent to all the localities that participate in the New River Valley Planning District (PDC), and to collaborative partners. Each was asked to submit a list of projects that they were working on or considering. Then each group reviewed the status of current projects, and planning for the future. Staff at the PDC compiled the information for this report. The minutes of the CEDS Committee and PDC meetings are attached in Appendix I. All of the Economic Development District's Board minutes are available on the web at www.nrvpdc.org.

New projects and programs emerged and were refined this year. These are included in this document. In addition to projects, the Goals and Objectives for the Vision 2020 process were updated. The updated Goals and Objectives are on the following pages, and the revised evaluation criteria are included in the Annual Project Package Report Section.

The staff for the CEDS Committee includes Kevin Byrd, Executive Director of the Planning District Commission; Bradley Mecham, Regional Planner; Kim Thurlow, Project Coordinator; and Carol Davis, Community Outreach Facilitator.

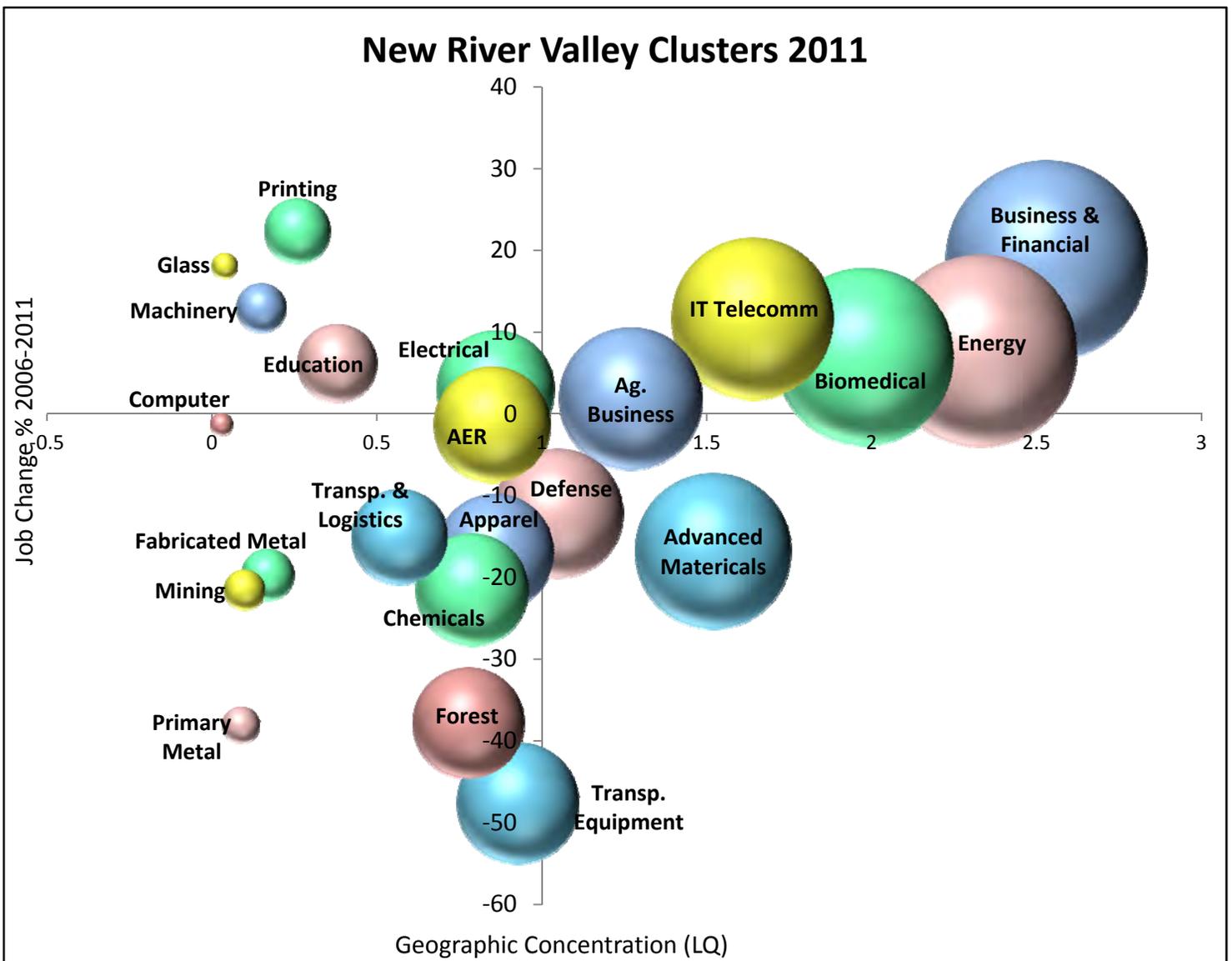
A list and description of the current CEDS Committee and PDC membership and current letters/resolutions from each of the localities that have participated in and supported the planning process are also attached in Appendices II and III, respectively.

**Figure 1
CEDS Strategy Participants 2013**



CLUSTER ANALYSIS

The New River Valley Planning District Commission worked with the Southern Rural Development Center (SRDC) at Mississippi State University to complete a cluster analysis of the New River Valley. According to the Economic Development Administration, economic clusters are geographic concentrations of interconnected industries and supportive organizations that make regions uniquely competitive for jobs and private investment. To perform the analysis, the SRDC researched employment concentrations within economic sectors throughout the region while measuring the job growth or loss within the specified cluster. As part of this analysis, pre- and post-recession time periods were evaluated to demonstrate the strengths and weaknesses of clusters within the NRV. Following is a chart that shows NRV economic sectors divided into quadrants. Those in the top right quadrant are considered to be the strongest in the region with strong job growth and a geographic concentration in that sector.



*AER – Arts, Entertainment and Recreation

The cluster chart shows five economic sectors that are growing in specialization and employment. These clusters are: 1) Business and Financial Services; 2) Energy; 3) Biomedical; 4) Information Technology and Telecommunications; and 5) Agribusiness. In cluster theory, the top right quadrant, or 'stars', highlights the standout industries that define the region's economy that also have potential to keep growing in specialization and bring additional employment. The top left quadrant shows 'emerging' clusters that lack geographic concentration, but can grow into the 'star' category due to high job growth. These 'emerging' clusters need strategies focused on developing the workforce and entrepreneurial assistance. The bottom right quadrant shows sectors that still have geographic concentration but are losing that concentration due to job losses. These sectors need special attention if there is to be potential for long-term success in that sector. Finally, the lower left quadrant shows economic sectors that do not have geographic concentration and have lost jobs. Generally speaking, these sectors lack competitiveness unless new industries can be attracted to the region and bolster that sector.

This analysis will serve as a guide for future strategy development with regards to workforce training, entrepreneurial development and resource allocation. This provides a base for discussion and development of future strategies.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Virginia's New River Valley

VISION 2020

“Community First...Regional Partners in a Global Marketplace”

Updated April 2013

The New River Valley Planning District Commission (Economic Development District) leads the continuous planning process for economic development in Virginia’s New River Valley region.

A major update to Vision 2020 was completed in 2003. The process started with a Celebration of the accomplishments in the Region since the 1995 version of the regional strategic planning document was prepared, and “Community First” emerged as a theme. During 2009 the Commission undertook the second major update of Vision 2020. There was considerable concern about the global economy, the decline in manufacturing, and the focus of education. “Community First” continued to be relevant, however it was broadened into a regional context recognizing the need to be both a supplier as well as a consumer in the global marketplace. Vision 2020 has since taken on the title “Community First...Regional Partners in a Global Marketplace”.

The Economic Development District works closely with localities and several regional groups that take key roles in pursuing economic development projects and funding to advance the quality of life in the New River Valley. The Goals and Objectives from the 2009 Vision 2020 update were revised in March 2013 and are presented here in the seven priority areas:

1) Coordinated Business Assistance and Entrepreneurial Support; 2) Preparation and Continued Support of Qualified Workforce; 3) Available Land, Quality Infrastructure, and Affordable Housing; 4) Attracting New Business to the Region; 5) Regional Marketing/Awareness to Promote the New River Valley; 6) Preserve Natural and Historic Areas; and, 7) Business Friendly Governance and Representation.

Priority 1: Coordinated Business Assistance and Entrepreneurial Support.

Goal: Establish an environment that fosters the growth of existing businesses and supports entrepreneurs from startup stage through maturation.

Objective 1: Optimize existing resources for entrepreneurs and small businesses and promote collaboration between these resources.

Objective 2: Increase the number of jobs created through entrepreneurial start-ups and expansions in the New River Valley.

Business Assistance and Entrepreneurial Support Key Strategies

- 1) Promote cooperation between the Radford Small Business Development Center, VT KnowledgeWorks, New River Community College, etc.
- 2) Create new and support existing financing opportunities for business/industry expansion, including venture capital.
- 3) Encourage the use of locally developed technology and intellectual property in manufacturing and other industries.
- 4) Organize creative financing programs and improve entrepreneurs' access to capital.
- 5) Increase small business support services through provision of community e-commerce space as well as trainings (social media, computer, etc.).
- 6) Link local industries with technology and research capabilities of Virginia Tech, Radford University, and New River Community College.

Priority 2: Preparation and Continued Support of Qualified Workforce

Goal: Prepare the New River Valley workforce for present and future employment in growing employment sectors.

Objective 1: Train and re-train workers for higher skills and productivity in the modern economy.

Objective 2: Improve the industry/education interface at all levels.

Preparation and Continuation of Qualified Workforce Key Strategies

- 1) Utilize the Community College or the One-stop Centers to assist businesses seeking trained employees or training of employees requiring enhanced skills.

- 2) To establish partnerships between industry/business and all levels of education by implementing an integrated workforce curriculum that provides students with more "real world" learning opportunities
- 3) Expand existing and explore new opportunities for business training and professional development programs.
- 4) Create a Youth Entrepreneurial Center for business and civic development and practice.

Priority 3: Available Land, Quality Infrastructure, and Affordable Housing

Goal: Maintain existing and deploy additional infrastructure to meet the needs of businesses and residents.

Objective 1: Create an affordable, accessible and interlinked public transportation network that connects population centers with major employment centers.

Objective 2: Strengthen the economic position of downtown commercial districts.

Objective 3: Improve the region's telecommunication network to attract new firms, assist existing firms, and educate citizens.

Quality Infrastructure Key Strategies

- 1) Coordinate and maximize the use of existing public and private transportation resources focused on employment mobility.
- 2) Seek diversification and mixed use redevelopment of downtown commercial districts.
- 3) Deploy a diverse network of fiber optics throughout the region to serve businesses and residents.
- 4) Create utility standards for service providers to follow and coordinate public digging to minimize costs and disturbances.
- 5) Seek creative and cooperative regional financing strategies for major infrastructure needs.
- 6) Ensure adequate public utilities are in place for businesses and residents.
- 7) Coordinate and adopt creative approaches to encourage the creation of affordable housing for all age groups.

Priority 4: Attracting New Business to the Region

Goal: Attract new industries that will complement the region's economy, strengthen inter-industry linkages, and utilize the region's labor force.

Objective 1: Develop and strengthen the role of international trade and commerce in the economy of the New River Valley.

Objective 2: Increase the region's supply of ready and available industrial and other economic development properties.

Attracting New Business Key Strategies

- 1) Seek firms with an international focus to utilize the strategic assets of the New River Valley International Airport, Foreign Trade Zone and Commerce Park.
- 2) Recruit outside firms seeking a trained and skilled labor force, low utility costs, high quality industrial space, and convenient highway access.
- 3) Recruit outside firms that currently have significant supplier relationships with New River Valley companies.
- 4) Develop regional properties tailored to the needs of targeted industry sectors.

Priority 5: Regional Marketing/Awareness to Promote the New River Valley

Goal: Expand the regional identity and brand to increase the marketability of the region for businesses and tourists.

Objective 1: Improve the region's ability to market itself and respond to the needs of new industrial, research, and technological prospects.

Objective 2: Realize the region's tourism development potential and ability to market itself as a culturally and naturally unique tourism destination.

Regional Marketing/Awareness Key Strategies

- 1) Expand multi-regional marketing campaigns involving the New River Valley Economic Development Alliance, and similar organizations throughout Western Virginia.
- 2) Study the feasibility of a Destination Marketing Organization or Convention and Visitors Bureau and develop implementation strategies based on findings.
- 3) Participate in, support, and encourage southwestern Virginia initiatives such as 'Round the Mountain, Crooked Road, and Heartwood Center.

- 4) Identify, develop, and package the region's inventory of historical assets and arts and cultural activities, natural features, and events to support external marketing.

Priority 6: Preserve Natural and Historic Areas

Goal: Preserve the natural and historic assets within the region to protect the character and quality of the regional environment.

Objective 1: Manage the impacts of existing and future land uses in order to preserve the character and quality of the regional environment.

Objective 2: Increase the development and support of local family farms.

Preserve Natural and Historic Areas Key Strategies

- 1) Develop educational, networking and mentoring programs to support and encourage the continuation of family farms; including farmers markets and regional aggregation facilities.
- 2) Implement "Farms to School" programs, which would widen the market for locally grown produce and products.
- 3) Utilize tourism assets as a way to preserve open spaces, historic sites and key natural attractions.
- 4) Improve land use planning and practices to preserve the region's rural character.

Priority 7: Business Friendly Governance and Representation

Goal: Promote a business friendly environment through governments cooperating with businesses at the local level and advocating for them at the state and federal levels.

Objective 1: Bring a voice to the policy table on behalf of the region.

Objective 2: Ensure the safety of the region's citizens.

Governance Key Strategies

- 1) Seek representation on State Commissions and Committees.
- 2) Provide input to State from regional economic development organizations and planning districts.
- 3) Support police, fire, and medical operations throughout the region.
- 4) Provide youth programs and support.

EVALUATION OF PREVIOUS YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

The 2013 Project Package represented the priorities of the region as of May 2012. It is, therefore, imperative to look again critically at that list. First, it is ascertained whether or not the project is still desired by the named agency. If not, it will be dropped from the new list. If the project is still desired (indicated by an "X" in the table), it is evaluated in terms of status (see **New River Valley 2013 Annual Project Package Evaluation, page 31**). The status categories of "planning, funding, and completed" are explained below. If a project has been completed or is fully funded, it will not be included in the 2014 Project Package.

Planning

Planning, in this instance, is a general term used to indicate ongoing development of a project. This may include any of the following activities:

- ❑ holding project meetings
- ❑ studies including feasibility studies, engineering or architectural reports
- ❑ completion of required forms, permits, processes
- ❑ or any other activity indicating active pursuit of the project.

Funding

Funding is the critical yet often elusive component for bringing a project to fruition. The formal request for funding from Federal agencies is often a two-step process which begins with a pre-application. If the project is viewed favorably, the sponsoring agency is invited to submit an application. A project is considered "Funded" following award notification when grant agreements are completed.

Completed

A construction project is considered "completed" when the construction is entirely finished. A program (non-construction) is considered "completed" when it is implemented.

New River Valley 2013 Project Package Evaluation

Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Blacksburg	Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, Phase II Construction of support infrastructure for Phase II of Virginia Tech's CRC.	\$3,960,000	X	X		X	X	X	Complete 2012
Blacksburg	Huckleberry Trail Extension Assist in the construction of the Huckleberry Trail extension from Prices Fork to Glade Road. Will connect the Hethwood Community to the Heritage Park and then link to the National Forest. Grading, site amenities, and surfacing are needed for this project.	\$100,000	X	X		X	X		
Christiansburg	Phase II of the Route 114 widening project Widening Route 114 from Walters Drive Area to the New River Valley Mall Area	\$23,690,000	X	X	X	X	X		Project underway
Christiansburg	Interchange ramp at Route 460 Bypass and N. Franklin Street Connection of east bound 460 Bypass to west bound Business 460	\$1,000,000	X						
Christiansburg	Christiansburg Institute Cultural Experience, Cultural Learning Curriculum, Oral History, and Site preservation.	\$3,000,000	X						
Christiansburg	Upgrade of Waste Water Plant Upgrade waste water plant to accommodate 8 million gallons per day	\$10,000,000	X	X					
Christiansburg	Phase II, Huckleberry Trail Extension Extension of the existing Huckleberry Trail from the present terminus at the New River Valley Mall to the south side of Route 114, including pedestrian bridge.	\$822,305	X	X		X	X		VDOT
Christiansburg	Phase III, Huckleberry Trail Extension Extension of Huckleberry Trail from the south side of Route 114 near the New River Valley Mall to the Christiansburg Recreation Center	\$1,140,000	X	X		X	X		Town of Christiansburg
Christiansburg	Emergency Services Station Emergency Services Station located on Quin W. Stuart Blvd	\$2-\$3,000,000	X						
Christiansburg	Railroad Street Water Extension Installation of 400 LF of 6-inch water main	\$25,000	X						
Christiansburg	Phase IB of the Downtown Enhancement Project South side of East Main Street – new sidewalks, planting, paving.	\$1,489,647.36	X	X	X	X			
Christiansburg	Passenger Rail Station in Christiansburg To develop a passenger rail station in the Town of Christiansburg.	\$10,000,000	X						
Christiansburg	Public Works Complex Moving current complex out of the floodplain	\$10,000,000	X						
Dublin	Dublin Fire Department Expansion To add two bays.	\$750,000	X						

New River Valley 2013 Project Package Evaluation

Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Floyd County	Rocky Knob Interpretative Center Reg. Collaborative (Floyd Co) A bi-county commission is working on the development of a major tourism destination along the Blue Ridge Parkway. A lodge and interpretive center are planned.	\$10,000,000	X	X	X	X	X		VDOT administered
Floyd County	Jacksonville Center E-Commerce Project (Floyd Co) Establishment of an e-commerce catalog of crafts and products.	\$50,000	X	X					
Floyd County	Floyd Revolving Loan Fund Establish microlending fund for small businesses within Floyd County.	\$200,000	X	X		X			Received Rural Development funding
Floyd County	Marketing Floyd County Regional Commerce Center As a locality that already has advanced telecommunications infrastructure, access to higher education opportunities, available and affordable workforce, and available industrial space, Floyd County is seeking funding to create a model of promotion for Southwest Virginia.	\$50,000	X						
Floyd County	Multi-Tenant Facility for Floyd County To house growing businesses as well as meet space needs for governmental agencies and non-profits.	\$2,000,000	X	X	X	X	X		Funded by Tobacco Commission, ARC and EDA
Floyd County	Phase II Development of Floyd Regional Commerce Center Grade lots 1 and 2.	\$1,500,000	X	X					
Floyd County	Phase II Floyd Innovation Center	\$3,000,000	X						
Floyd County	Route 8 Improvements (South) (Floyd Co) Road Improvements on Route 8 southbound from Floyd, South.	\$1,500,000	X						
Floyd County	Regional Food Aggregating/Processing Center Value-added processing center for local produce and potentially local milk. The facility would serve as aggregator for larger buyers, as well as provide co-packing facilities and a commercial kitchen leasable by local food businesses.	\$2,000,000	X	X					
Floyd County	Trails for Floyd (pedestrian, biking, and hiking) Extension of trail corridors from the town to the county as outlined in the comprehensive plan.	\$5,000,000	X	X					
Floyd County	Floyd County Health and Human Services Complex One-stop-shop in Floyd that would enable citizens to access needed services	\$2,000,000	X						
Floyd County	Geo-engineering Studies Groundwater Resources in Floyd County To identify groundwater resources and calculate carrying capacity. Recharge areas and other important water resource areas would be mapped.	\$250,000	X	X					
Floyd County	Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Program for 8th-12th graders	\$300,000	X						

New River Valley 2013 Project Package Evaluation

Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Floyd County	Floyd County Innovation Program Business concept/plan competition.	\$50,000	X						
Floyd County	Trail Around Floyd Commerce Center To develop a walking trail around the new Commerce Center in Floyd.	\$400,000	X						
Floyd County	Engineering Studies on Extending Water and Sewer to areas of Floyd Co. To study water and sewer extensions and to understand hydrogeologic systems resources. Include protecting critical recharge and well-head areas.	\$250,000	X						
Floyd County/Floyd Town	Affordable Housing Implementation Construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing within Floyd County and Town.	\$340,000	X	X		X			
Floyd County/Town	Floyd Public Transit Study viability of public transit in county/town	\$25,000	X						
Floyd Town	Floyd Town Trails Program (final phase) New and upgraded sidewalks within the town.	\$300,000	X						
Floyd Town	Lineberry Memorial Park Development Design and construction of stage for performances.	\$1,500,000	X	X					
Giles County	Giles Multi-tenant Business Facility (Giles Co) A facility located in the Wheatland Eco Park.	\$2,000,000	X						
Giles County	Eggleston Water Extension Phase 2 (Giles Co) Extend water service to 160 residencies.	\$1,400,000	X						
Giles County	Route 635 Water Extension (Giles Co) Provide public water to approximately 150 residents in the Big Stoney Community of Giles County.	\$3,000,000	X						
Giles County	Clendennin Water Extension (Giles Co) Provide public water to approximately 50 residents in the Clendennin community of Giles County.	\$2,000,000	X						
Giles County	Ingram Village Sewer (Giles Co) Put in sewer lines.	\$2,000,000	X	X	X	X	X		
Giles County	Hoges Chapel Water Tank Replacement Project Replacement of 40 year old water tank and 23,000 feet of 10 inch water line	\$2,600,000	X	X		X			
Giles County	Public Transportation Connections to Blacksburg, Virginia Tech, and other major employment centers.	\$2,000,000	X	X					
Glen Lyn	Glen Lyn Park Modern bathhouse, wastewater hook ups, information center, and open-air theater. Water and sewer to each campsite at the park. Also a new location for a boat ramp and sidewalk connecting the Park to the Municipal Building.	\$800,000	X	X		X			

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Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Glen Lyn	Glen Lyn Regional Wastewater Facility To combine wastewater from Rich Creek and Glen Lyn into a single operation. The Towns will undertake the project.	\$3,000,000	X						
Montgomery County	Development of Route 177 Corporate Park	\$20,000,000	X	X					
Montgomery County	Rt. 114 Widening From Christiansburg Town limits to Radford Army Ammunition Plant	\$63,000,000	X	X					
Montgomery County	Falling Branch Corporate Park - Stormwater Pond Stormwater pond for the Falling Branch Corporate Park in Montgomery County.	\$350,000	X	X		X	X	X	Complete 2012
Montgomery County	Expansion of Falling Branch Industrial Park Water, sewer, roads, and grading improvements	\$26,000,000	X	X	X	X	X		
Montgomery County	Southgate Parkway Construction of ramps on Route 460 at Southgate Parkway entrance to Virginia Tech.	\$155,000,000	X	X					
Montgomery County	Route 8 Widening Project Widening Route 8 from the Montgomery and Floyd County line to the Town of Christiansburg.	\$75,000,000	X						
Montgomery County	Route 177 Water and Sewer Improvements	\$6,000,000	X						
Narrows	Renovation of 12,000 sq. ft. Furniture Store Renovation of commercial space. Town hall administration and eight LMI residential second story units.	\$1,500,000	X	X		X	X	X	Complete 2012
Narrows	Replace Existing Water Lines and Collection System Piping and Upgrade Wastewater Plant The Town went online with the Giles County Public Service Authority and in response to the increased cost of purchasing water from the GCPSA, the Town has invested millions in improvements to their system to bring water loss down. Existing collection system piping is leaking and/or broken.	\$2,200,000	X						
Narrows	Town's Recreation Department (Old Narrows Gym Facility) This site is used by the Town's recreation department and the athletics department at Narrows High School.	\$1,101,675	X	X		X	X	X	Complete 2012
NRV	NRV Community Regional Broadband Network Interconnect government facilities, schools, industrial parks and businesses so that residents may be able to have advanced telecommunication services.	\$11,200,000	X	X	X	X	X	X	Complete 2012-2013
NRV	New River Valley Development Corporation Revolving Loan Fund Fund to provide assistance for business and non-profit development.	\$50,000	X	X	X	X	X		RBEG funding

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Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
NRV	Broadband Infrastructure Deploy last mile fiber.	\$8,000,000	X	X					NRVNWA exploring options
NRV	Develop a Career Pathways Task Force Investigate emerging sectors in the economy, develop multi-stage career development pathways with a range of entry/training and exit/career points to match those emerging employment sectors, and integrate the targeted career pathways approach within the public and post-secondary educational institutions.		X						
NRV	Create a Consortium of School Districts, Community College, Economic Development and Local Business Representatives - Develop a Pilot Program Integrated Workforce Curriculum To develop an integrated workforce curriculum spanning from kindergarten to post-graduate degrees focusing on current/future business and industry needs (including Career Pathways development).	\$250,000	X						
NRV	New River Valley Commerce Park-Water and Sewer Project To provide water and sewer and support other economic development.	\$6,000,000	X	X		X	X	X	Complete 2012
NRV	Regional Conference/Civic Center Determine feasibility and appropriate site, engineering and architectural plans for regional conference center.	\$15,000,000	X						
NRV	Small Business Development (Green/Nano/Bio) Program Develop educational program through the community college and university that support the development and/or recruitment of small businesses/industries in the green, nano and/or bio technology fields.	\$1,000,000	X						
NRV	Network of Manufacturing Companies Corporate roundtable headed by NRV Economic Development Alliance.	\$1,000,000	X	X		X	X	X	Complete 2012
NRV	Technology Magnet School: Workforce Development Designed to develop a specialized workforce in the NRV by providing advanced technology education to secondary schools. Federal funds will be used to purchase training equipment and construction of a facility.	\$8,000,000	X	X					
NRV	Green Challenge Waste to Energy Work with New River Resources Authority (NRRA) contractor to identify method of providing methane gas to commerce park.	\$2,000,000	X						
NRV	Intermodal Transportation Center Further explore the possibility of developing an intermodal transportation site on under-utilized US Army property near Dublin, Virginia.	\$8,000,000	X						RVARC Study
NRV	Tap into Additional Networks and Professional Organizations Research and encourage "continuing ed" requirements or periodic recertification so that the workforce can build their skill sets around emerging economic sectors.		X						

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Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
NRV	Creation of a Regional Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) Raise awareness of New River Valley assets	\$20,000	X						Study performed in 2000s
NRV	Regional Networking and Marketing of the Arts via Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) Use DMO to create a network of artisans and venues to promote New River Valley assets.	\$10,000	X						
NRV	Implementing Project NEEMO To further the commercialization of nanotech research and development focusing on smaller specialty materials companies.	\$21,000,000	X						
NRV	Support Farms to School program throughout the region. Create education opportunities for students and support a supply of fresh foods from local farmers.	\$20,000	X						
NRV	NRV Airport Parallel Taxiway To provide taxiway parallel to runway and offer an opportunity to provide air access to the Industrial Park (NRV Commerce Park).	\$6,000,000	X	X					
NRV	Support Tower Infrastructure for Wireless Internet Connectivity Tower placement studies and streamlining of the zoning process		X	X					Virginia Tech study completed, NRVNWA exploring options
NRV	Implement K-12 Curriculum on Organic Food Production	\$50,000	X						
NRV	Promote Civil War Historical Sites To promote civil war historical sites throughout the NRV.		X						
NRV	New River Valley Park and Ride Lot Development Development of new park and ride facilities.	\$1,500,000	X						
NRV	Route 114 Bridge To replace the Route 114 bridge that has structural damage.	\$20,000,000	X	X		X	X		Completion expected Fall 2013
NRV	Youth Planning Council Involve youth in discussing community development issues across the region.	\$20,000	X						
NRV	Promote Agricultural Tourism Program to encourage farmers to evaluate agricultural tourism to enhance incomes.		X	X					Giles, Montgomery and Pulaski Counties exploring grants
NRV	Connectivity of Trails, Regional Trail System Interconnect various local, state and federal trails to create a continuous network in southwest Virginia.	\$800,000	X						
NRV	Increase Shell Building Inventory Construct modern shell buildings to market to relocating or expanding businesses.		X						

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Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
NRV	Support Public Private Partnerships for Agriculture Infrastructure Needs		X						
NRV	Develop a Slaughterhouse or Regional Meat Processing Plant for Meat Processing and Production Develop facility to support local farmers		X						
NRV	Implement the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Program in Regional K-12 Schools Energy education in our schools.	\$100,000	X						
NRV	Develop Region-Wide Bike Paths Used as both a tourism asset and an alternative/green method of transportation.	\$10,000,000	X						
NRV	Create Regional Revolving Loan Fund for Energy Audits and Retrofits Fund for New River Valley businesses and residents.		X						
NRV	Support Carpooling Efforts/Initiatives throughout the New River Valley Support the expansion and marketing of Ride Solutions while exploring potential for carpooling app		X						
NRV	NRV Commerce Park Electric Transmission Extension Extension of 138kVA electric transmission line approximately two miles from the current crossing of Lee Highway, Route 11, near Morgan's Cut in Pulaski County, west along Route 11 and north to the Commerce Park site, south of the New River Valley Airport.	\$2,500,000	X						
NRV	Additional resources for power to the Commerce Park Extend power to the NRV Commerce Park to attract businesses.		X						
NRV	Extension of Rail to Commerce Park Rail siding extension from Norfolk Southern mainline about 3,500 feet to the Commerce Park boundary and 3,500 feet to a potential building site.	\$4,600,000	X						
NRV	Create a Network of Growers and Producers in the Region Link New River Valley farmers markets to increase profitability.		X						
NRV	Create Formal Regional Leadership Organization Create formal leadership organization, hold community awareness workshop, and establish certified leadership development program.	\$20,000	X						
NRV	Centralize Marketing of Energy Efficiency Options Create a "one stop shop" where people can evaluate typical "payback" on upgrades, find a qualified energy auditor/retrofitter, navigate various funding/financing options.		X						

New River Valley 2013 Project Package Evaluation

Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
NRV	Study Data from Various Wind/Solar Demonstration Projects around the NRV Evaluate effectiveness of wind and solar projects to inform potential future projects.		X						
NRV	Incorporate "Green" Training into Secondary and Post-secondary Vocational Construction Programs Change current curriculum in Construction Trades to include "retro fitting" remodeling for energy efficiency in homes.	\$500,000	X						
NRV	Conduct Farming Visioning with Agriculture Stakeholders, Farm Bureau and Extension		X						
NRV	Support "Communities in Schools" Program Connect community resources with schools to help students achieve success.		X						
NRV	Develop and Implement a Program to Support Small Family Farms Using "Cultivating Success" Farm Mentoring Project as a model. This will also include a revolving loan fund for farm start-ups and networking between local farmers and buyers.		X						
NRV	Creation of Utility Standards Create utility standards for service providers to follow while coordinating digging between localities and service providers to install conduits or other potential uses		X						
NRV	Creation of a Fund to Remove Derelict Structures Tax advantages to remove structures alongside an education program on "how to"		X						
NRV	Access to Capital Host workshops to educate businesses on capital access opportunities in the region, i.e. 460 Angels		X						
NRV	TransDominion Express - Capital Costs A statewide project to provide passenger rail transportation from Bristol through the New River Valley, and on to Richmond and Washington, D.C.	\$9,300,000	X						
NRV	Support Co-Working Spaces for Businesses Utilization of underused facilities		X						
NRV	Creation of an Interactive CEDS Map with Project Identification GIS map to track progress of CEDS projects within the region.		X						
Pearisburg	Whitt-Riverbend Park Trail Construct 1.1 mile loop trail and rest room.	\$80,000	X	X	X	X			
Pearisburg	Pearisburg Fire Station Construct new fire station in Pearisburg.	\$1,500,000	X	X		X	X	X	Complete 2012

New River Valley 2013 Project Package Evaluation

Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Pearisburg	Water and Sewer Improvements Tie into Riverbend water tank. Upgrade lines to Riverbend and Virginia Heights. Water and sewer replacement on Easton Road and various other water line improvements.		X	X					
Pulaski County	Preparation of New Graded Building Site at NRV Commerce Park A site to accommodate a graded building pad of a building footprint of at least 50 acres.	\$2,000,000	X	X					
Pulaski County	County Administration Building Renovations Energy efficiency improvements to the Pulaski County Administration Building (i.e. window replacement and insulation)	\$150,000	X	X		X	X	X	Complete 2012, Virginia DMME funding
Pulaski County	Exit 101 Interchange Improvements and Connector Route 11 Provide interstate access to the proposed Veteran's Cemetery and Route 11 with an urban 3 lane typical on 4 lane right of way.	\$16,500,000	X	X					
Pulaski County	Shell Building-Industrial Park Construction of a shell building at the New River Valley Commerce Park	\$1,500,000	X	X					
Pulaski County	New River Trail Extension	\$5,000,000	X						
Pulaski County	New Facility, Sheriff's Department New Sheriff's Department facility for Pulaski County.	\$900,000	X						
Pulaski County	Skyview Subdivision Sewer (Pulaski Co) Provide sewer to 148 residences.	\$500,000	X	X		X	X		
Pulaski County	New Facility or major renovations for Pulaski Library To replace or update existing building.	\$3,000,000	X	X		X	X	X	Library renovation complete in 2012, Virginia DMME funds
Pulaski County	Newbern Area Enhancements Creation of Wilderness Road Exhibit and other area enhancements.	\$75,000	X						
Pulaski County	Pulaski County Dispatch/Communications To upgrade Pulaski County's dispatch/communications system.	\$1,600,000	X						
Pulaski County	Maple Shade Government Center Complete renovation.	\$2,000,000	X	X		X	X	X	Complete 2012
Pulaski County	Snowville Fire Department Fire Station replacement	\$2,100,000	X						
Pulaski County	Indoor Recreation - Wellness Center Indoor Recreation-Wellness Center for the citizens of Pulaski County.	\$7,000,000	X						
Pulaski Town	Brownfields Redevelopment Redevelopment of existing industry and housing.	\$1,000,000	X						

New River Valley 2013 Project Package Evaluation

Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Pulaski Town	Town of Pulaski Business Park Expansion The acquisition and site preparation of greenspace for industrial growth.	\$2,000,000	X						
Pulaski Town	Dora Hwy Neighborhood Revitalization This neighborhood project grant is under consideration by the Department of Housing and Community Development; Comprehensive community project-sewer, water, street, new housing infill.	\$3,000,000	X	X		X	X		Nearing completion
Pulaski Town	Raymond F. Ratcliffe Memorial Museum Construction of transportation museum to house Brockmeyer train set and historic vehicles.	\$1,000,000	X	X		X	X	X	Complete 2013
Pulaski Town	Calfee Park Renovations (Pulaski Town) Improvements to bring the facility up to baseball standards. Visitor dugouts, dressing rooms, and infrastructure improvements are needed.	\$1,000,000	X						
Pulaski Town	Intensifying Blight Elimination Program The Town was awarded an EPA Brownfields Grant application in 2010.	\$200,000	X	X	X	X	X		
Pulaski Town	Dalton Building Reuse Update Dalton Building into a hotel and restaurant		X						
Pulaski Town	Rt. 99 Water/Sewer Extension Extend water and sewer lines to Exit 94, to encourage commercial development.	\$1,500,000	X						Retail feasibility study completed
Pulaski Town	Public Safety Facility A modern centralized facility located out of the flood plain and away from rail tracks.	\$5,000,000	X						
Pulaski Town	Sewer Collection/Pump Station Improvements Infrastructure improvements at Stations 4A and 4B	\$2,000,000	X						
Pulaski Town	Water Filtration Plant Improvements Modernization of the current water filtration plant.	\$1,000,000	X						
Pulaski Town	Enhance Bob White Boulevard and East Main Street Intersection		X						
Pulaski Town	Bicycle Lane and Trail Improvements Improving bike accessibility for critical pathways throughout the Town.	\$1,000,000	X	X					
Radford	Passenger Rail Station in Radford To develop a passenger rail station in the City of Radford.	\$10,000,000	X						
Radford	High Meadows Development (Radford) Improve the water system to include line work and a water tank.	\$806,000	X						
Radford	Arnold and Pershing Sewer Line Replacement 525 linear feet of 8" sanitary line would be replaced in an existing easement between Arnold Avenue and Pershing Avenue.	\$96,750	X				X		

New River Valley 2013 Project Package Evaluation

Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Radford	Radford Village Water Line Replacement 3,225 linear feet of 6" main water line would be replaced with an 8" service throughout the Radford Village residential area improving service reliability and water flow to forty homes.	\$117,500	X	X	X	X	X		
Radford	Wildwood Park Entrance Improve the Park entrance with parking facilities, a kiosk, pergola, new gate, and interpretive exhibits.	\$150,000	X						
Radford	Miscellaneous drainage project Design and construction of drainage improvements identified in 1993 Facility Plan in various locations throughout the city. The improvements would prevent runoff damage to public and private properties.	\$75,000	X						
Radford	Smartway Service Extension to the City of Radford and Radford University To connect Radford and Radford University to the existing network.		X	X					
Radford	University Drive Bridge Improvements and repairs needed to the 25 year old University Drive Bridge which includes deck repairs, waterproofing, painting, fencing, and sidewalk repairs and corrosion maintenance.	\$531,000	X						
Radford	Street Rebuild - Park/Second Avenue Park Road and Second Avenue would be rebuilt from Walker Street to Windstream Court. Improvements would include safety improvements, bike lanes, sidewalks, curb and gutter, turn-lanes, storm drainage, etc.	\$6,055,705	X						City of Radford funds
Radford	Soccerfield/Football field To construct two playing fields adjacent to the Radford Riverfront.	\$400,000	X	X					
Radford	Third Avenue Parking Lot The public parking lot located adjacent to Grove Avenue and Third Avenue would be improved to include a stormwater system, paving, landscaping, traditional light poles and hanging baskets. This project is needed to improve the lot's aesthetic appeal.	\$250,000	X						
Radford	Radford Ingles Overlook and Amphitheater Amphitheater engineering and construction for outdoor events.		X						
Rich Creek	Rich Creek Downtown Enhancement Project Ensure the stability and success of downtown Rich Creek.	\$1,250,000	X	X		X	X		VDOT Transportation Enhancement

NEW ANNUAL PROJECT PACKAGE REPORT

Project Evaluation Criteria - Reviewed March 2013

As stated in the Organization and Management section of this report, the PDC Board members reviewed and updated the project evaluation criteria.

PROJECT TYPE (Points)

Priority Level 1 (8)

- Water, sewer and communication utilities
- Employment Creation/Retention
 - Technology and Industrial
- Entrepreneurial/Small Business Assistance
- Regional/Local School & Educational Facilities & Programs
- Transportation Planning
- Housing Production
- Technology Career Facilities
- Clean Energy Projects
- Tourism
- Community Facilities¹
- Marketing/Promotion of Assets
- Senior Care Facilities

Priority Level 2 (6)

- Primary/Arterial Roads & Transportation Maintenance
- Passenger Rail and Airport Service
- Facilities for Protected Populations
- Comprehensive Community Development²
- Employment Creation/ Retention- Commercial
- Mixed Use Development
- Central Business District Revitalization
- Green Building Projects and Natural/Cultural Resources Protection
- Public Transportation Connections

Priority Level 3 (4)

- Secondary Roads
- Community Centers/Recreation
- Other Economic Development
- Homeownership Program
- Drainage/Flood Control

Priority Level 4 (2)

- Other Housing
- Other Community Facilities
- Other Community Services Facilities³
- Community Development Programs
- Drought Management

¹ Water services, wastewater services, drainage improvements, and street improvements.

² Targets neighborhood improvements including; housing, water, sewer, streets, drainage, sidewalks, solid waste/garbage, debris removal, street lighting, recreation, police/fire protection, and other neighborhood specific items.

³ Targets LMI persons needs for day care facilities, facilities for protected populations, community centers, health clinics, hospitals, and skill-building facilities for youth and the unemployed.

OTHER CRITERIA

While “project type” links the project criteria to the CEDS’ Goals and Strategies, there are other important factors in ranking individual projects. These factors are represented in the criteria listed below:

- Investment Relationship
- Regional Participation
- Relationship
- Per Capita Income
- Unemployment Rate
- Relative Jurisdictional Stress
- Relationship to Private Investments
- Relationship to Previous Investments
- Readiness to Initiate Project
- Public Private Partnership
- Relationship to “Green”
- Relationship to Natural Resources

1. Investment Relationship: The project is a significant investment in relation to the economy of the Planning District.

Points

- 4 A. Proposed investment directly supports high skill/high wage jobs.
- 3 B. Proposed investment results in an environment to support high skill/high wage jobs.
- 2 C. Proposed investment results in jobs having a regional average wage.
- 1 D. Proposed investment is to support high skill/high wage jobs.
- 0 E. Does not support job creation with above average wages.

2. Regional Significance: The significance of a project is in relation to the number of jurisdictions participating or impacted in reference to services and money invested.

Points

- 5 A. Four or More Jurisdictions Participating or Impacted
- 3 B. Three Jurisdictions Participating or Impacted
- 2 C. Two Jurisdictions Participating or Impacted
- 1 D. One Jurisdiction Participating or Impacted

3. Proposed Investment is Proactive: The proposed investment looks beyond the immediate economic horizon and is aimed at strengthening the relationships among business clusters.

Points

- 5 A. Project Relates Directly to Two or More existing or emerging Regional Economic Clusters
- 2 B. Project Relates Directly to One existing or emerging Regional Economic Cluster.
- 0 C. Project Does not Relate to a Regional Economic Cluster

4. Per Capita Income: Utilizing the latest available data, per capita income will be used in evaluating project significance. City-County/Town rank will be utilized, while in cases of multiple jurisdictions, the average rank will be determined.

Points

- 3 A. If less than or equal to 60% of State per capita income
- 2 B. If 61 - 74% of State per capita income
- 1 C. If 75 - 99% of State per capita income
- 0 D. If greater than or equal to the State per capita income

5. Unemployment Rate: Utilizing the latest annual average figures available, unemployment rates will be used in evaluating project significance. City-County/Town will be utilized, while in cases of multiple jurisdictions, the average rank will be determined.

Points

- 3 A. If 10% or more above State average (formerly 50%)
- 2 B. If 5 - 10% above State average (formerly 25-49%)
- 1 C. If 1 – 5% above State average (formerly 1-24%)
- 0 D. If equal to or below State average

6. Relative Jurisdictional Stress: A composite index prepared by the Commission on Local Government to compare the relative strengths of the jurisdictions in the State.

Points

- 2 A. High stress
- 1 B. Above average stress
- 0 C. Below average stress

7. Relationship to Private Investments: Capital investments from private sources relate to the significance of the project.

Points

- 5 A. Direct Private Capital Investment
- 3 B. Direct Relationship to Private Capital Investment
- 2 C. Indirect Relationship to Private Capital Investment
- 1 D. Minimal Indirect Relationship to Private Capital Investment

8. Relationship to Previous Investment

Points

- 2 A. New Service or Facility; Expansion of Service from an Existing Service
- 1 B. Replacement of Existing Service or Facility

9. Readiness to Initiate Project

Points

- 5 A. Jurisdictional Commitment and Final Plans and Specifications-Application Filed
- 4 B. Jurisdictional Commitment - Preliminary Plans and Specifications-Pre-application Filed
- 2 C. Jurisdictional Commitment, but no Plans and Specifications-Desired Project
- 1 D. No Jurisdictional Commitment, but Preliminary Plans and Specifications- Pre-application/Application
- 0 E. No Jurisdictional Commitment and no Plans and Specifications- No Pre-application/Application

10. Public Private Partnership

Points

- 3 A. Significant Public Private Partners
- 1 B. A Public Private Partner
- 0 C. No Public Private Partner

11. Relationship to “Green” Practices

Points

- 5 A. Project directly creates “green” jobs
- 4 B. Project implements “green practices” with certification
- 2 C. Project implements “green practices”
- 1 D. Project results in recycling or reuse
- 0 E. Little or no “green” commitment

12. Relationship to Natural Resources

Points

- 5 A. Project sets aside land for conservation
- 3 B. Project compliments natural assets
- 0 C. Project does not benefit natural resources
- 2 D. Project is a detriment to natural resources

In addition to the above criteria, all of the projects are reviewed for relationships to regional markets in order to maximize the return on taxpayer investment. Proposed projects are proactive trying to anticipate the economic changes in the region and continue to diversify the economy.

The environmental impact of each project will be evaluated on a project-by-project basis.

Evaluating Projects

Projects remaining from the 2012 Project package as well as new project ideas are evaluated and ranked using the above criteria. While all the criteria are important, several are based directly on the most current economic data. For a summary of that data, see Tables 1, 2 and 3 below. For the scores and ranked projects, see the **New River Valley 2013 Annual Project Package, page 41**.

Table 1
Per Capita Income

Jurisdiction	2007-2011	% of VA	Population
Floyd County	\$21,298	64.5%	15,390
Giles County	\$21,891	66.3%	16,928
Montgomery County	\$22,861	69.2%	95,194
Pulaski County	\$21,623	65.4%	34,736
City of Radford	\$16,723	50.6%	16,685
New River Valley	\$21,822	66.0%	178,933
Virginia	\$33,040	100%	8,185,867

Source: 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates

Table 2
2012 Unemployment Rates

Jurisdiction	Percent
Floyd County	5.7%
Giles County	5.8%
Montgomery County	5.1%
Pulaski County	6.2%
City of Radford	6.7%
New River Valley	5.6%
Virginia	5.2%

Source: Virginia Workforce Connection, March 2013

Note: 10% above the Virginia Level would be 5.72% or more; 5-10% would be 5.46% to 5.719%

Table 3
2013 Fiscal Stress Scores by Locality

Jurisdiction	Fiscal Stress
Floyd County	Below Average
Giles County	Above Average
Montgomery County	Above Average
Pulaski County	Above Average
City of Radford	High

Source: Virginia Commission on Local Governments, January 2013.

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
44	Giles County	Giles Multi-tenant Business Facility (Giles Co) A facility located in the Wheatland Eco Park.				\$2,000,000	2014	Giles County IDA
42	NRV	New River Valley Development Corporation Revolving Loan Fund Fund to provide assistance for business and non-profit development.	\$25,000		\$25,000	\$50,000	2014	New River Valley Development Corporation
37	NRV	Broadband Infrastructure Deploy last mile fiber.				\$8,000,000	2013-2015	New River Wireless Authority
37	NRV	Develop a Career Pathways Task Force Investigate emerging sectors in the economy, develop multi-stage career development pathways with a range of entry/training and exit/career points to match those emerging employment sectors, and integrate the targeted career pathways approach within the public and post-secondary educational institutions.					2014	WIB, Education Providers
37	NRV	Create a Consortium of School Districts, Community College, Economic Development and Local Business Representatives - Develop a Pilot Program Integrated Workforce Curriculum To develop an integrated workforce curriculum spanning from kindergarten to post-graduate degrees focusing on current/future business and industry needs (including Career Pathways development).				\$250,000	2014	
36	Pulaski County	Preparation of New Graded Building Site at NRV Commerce Park A site to accommodate a graded building pad of a building footprint of at least 50 acres.	\$990,000	\$885,000	\$125,000	\$2,000,000	2015	
35	NRV	Creation of a Regional Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) Raise awareness of New River Valley assets				\$20,000	2014	

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
34	Pulaski Town	Town of Pulaski Business Park Expansion The acquisition and site preparation of greenspace for industrial growth.	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	2015	EDA, Town of Pulaski
34	NRV	Regional Conference/Civic Center Determine feasibility and appropriate site, engineering and architectural plans for regional conference center.	\$7,000,000		\$8,000,000	\$15,000,000	2015	Virginia's First and Partners
34	NRV	Small Business Development (Green/Nano/Bio) Program Develop educational program through the community college and university that support the development and/or recruitment of small businesses/industries in the green, nano and/or bio technology fields.	\$500,000		\$500,000	\$1,000,000	2014	Universities, NRCC, School Divisions
32	Floyd County	Rocky Knob Interpretative Center Reg. Collaborative (Floyd Co) A bi-county commission is working on the development of a major tourism destination along the Blue Ridge Parkway. A lodge and interpretive center are planned.	\$8,000,000		\$2,000,000	\$10,000,000	2015	Rocky Knob
32	NRV	Technology Magnet School: Workforce Development Designed to develop a specialized workforce in the NRV by providing advanced technology education to secondary schools. Federal funds will be used to purchase training equipment and construction of a facility.	\$4,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$8,000,000	2015	New River Community College & School Divs
31	Christiansburg	Phase II of the Route 114 widening project Widening Route 114 from Walters Drive Area to the New River Valley Mall Area		\$23,690,000		\$23,690,000	2014	VDOT, Christiansburg
31	Floyd County	Jacksonville Center E-Commerce Project (Floyd Co) Establishment of an e-commerce catalog of crafts and products.				\$50,000	2014	Jacksonville Center, Inc.

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
31	Floyd County	Floyd Revolving Loan Fund Establish microlending fund for small businesses within Floyd County.	\$200,000			\$200,000	2013	Floyd IDA
31	Giles County	Public Transportation Connections to Blacksburg, Virginia Tech, and other major employment centers.	\$1,600,000		\$400,000	\$2,000,000	2013	Giles County
31	NRV	Green Challenge Waste to Energy Work with New River Resources Authority (NRRRA) contractor to identify method of providing methane gas to commerce park.	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000 (private)	\$2,000,000	2014	VA's First Regional Industrial Facility Authority
31	NRV	Intermodal Transportation Center Further explore the possibility of developing an intermodal transportation site on under-utilized US Army property near Dublin, Virginia.	\$4,000,000		\$4,000,000	\$8,000,000	2014	VA's First/US Army
31	NRV	Tap into Additional Networks and Professional Organizations Research and encourage "continuing ed" requirements or periodic recertification so that the workforce can build their skill sets around emerging economic sectors.					2014	WIB, Local Businesses
31	NRV	Regional Networking and Marketing of the Arts via Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) Use DMO to create a network of artisans and venues to promote New River Valley assets.				\$10,000	2014	
30	Pulaski Town	Brownfields Redevelopment Redevelopment of existing industry and housing.	\$500,000		\$500,000	\$1,000,000	2014	Pulaski Town and EPA

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
30	Christiansburg	Interchange ramp at Route 460 Bypass and N. Franklin Street Connection of east bound 460 Bypass to west bound Business 460		\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000	2014	VDOT, Christiansburg
30	NRV	Implementing Project NEEMO To further the commercialization of nanotech research and development focusing on smaller specialty materials companies.	\$7,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$21,000,000	2014	VA's First Regional Industrial Facility Authority-Participation Committee
30	NRV	Support Farms to School program throughout the region. Create education opportunities for students and support a supply of fresh foods from local farmers.				\$20,000	2013-2014	
30	NRV	NRV Airport Parallel Taxiway To provide taxiway parallel to runway and offer an opportunity to provide air access to the Industrial Park (NRV Commerce Park).	\$5,880,000		\$120,000	\$6,000,000	2013	Airport Commission
30	NRV	Support Tower Infrastructure for Wireless Internet Connectivity Tower placement studies and streamlining of the zoning process					2013	
30	Pulaski Town	Raymond F. Ratcliff Memorial Museum Construction of transportation museum to house Brockmeyer train set and historic vehicles.				\$1,000,000	2013	Town of Pulaski, VDOT
29	Floyd County	Marketing Floyd County Regional Commerce Center As a locality that already has advanced telecommunications infrastructure, access to higher education opportunities, available and affordable workforce, and available industrial space, Floyd County is seeking funding to create a model of promotion for Southwest Virginia.			\$50,000	\$50,000	2013	Floyd County

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
29	Floyd County	Multi-Tenant Facility for Floyd County To house growing businesses as well as meet space needs for governmental agencies and non-profits.	\$1,600,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$2,000,000	2013	Floyd County
29	NRV	Implement K-12 Curriculum on Organic Food Production				\$50,000	2014	
29	NRV	Promote Civil War Historical Sites To promote civil war historical sites throughout the NRV.					2014	Southwest Virginia Cultural Heritage Foundation
29	NRV	New River Valley Park and Ride Lot Development Development of new park and ride facilities.	\$750,000	\$750,000		\$1,500,000	2013	VDOT
29	NRV	Route 114 Bridge To replace the Route 114 bridge that has structural damage.		\$20,000,000		\$20,000,000	2013	VDOT
29	Rich Creek	Rich Creek Downtown Enhancement Project Ensure the stability and success of downtown Rich Creek.		\$1,000,000	\$250,000	\$1,250,000	2014	Rich Creek Town
28	Pulaski Town	Dora Hwy Neighborhood Revitalization This neighborhood project grant is under consideration by the Department of Housing and Community Development; Comprehensive community project-sewer, water, street, new housing infill.				\$3,000,000	2013	Town of Pulaski, DHCD, CHP

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
28	Floyd County	Phase II Development of Floyd Regional Commerce Center Grade lots 1 and 2.	\$1,000,000		\$500,000	\$1,500,000	2014	Floyd County, Economic Development Authority of Floyd County
28	Floyd County	Phase II Floyd Innovation Center	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$3,000,000	2015	Economic Development Authority of Floyd County
28	Glen Lyn	Glen Lyn Regional Wastewater Facility To combine wastewater from Rich Creek and Glen Lyn into a single operation. The Towns will undertake the project.				\$3,000,000	2014	Glen Lyn
28	Montgomery County	Development of Route 177 Corporate Park	\$15,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$20,000,000	TBD	Montgomery County EDA
28	NRV	Youth Planning Council Involve youth in discussing community development issues across the region.	\$10,000		\$10,000	\$20,000	2013	NRVPDC
28	NRV	Promote Agricultural Tourism Program to encourage farmers to evaluate agricultural tourism to enhance incomes.					2013	Virginia Tourism Corporation/Round the Mountain
28	NRV	Connectivity of Trails, Regional Trail System Interconnect various local, state and federal trails to create a continuous network in southwest Virginia.	\$400,000		\$400,000	\$800,000	2013	Trail Operators

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
28	NRV	Increase Shell Building Inventory Construct modern shell buildings to market to relocating or expanding businesses.					2014	
28	NRV	Support Public Private Partnerships for Agriculture Infrastructure Needs					2014	
28	Pearisburg	Whitt-Riverbend Park Trail Construct 1.1 mile loop trail and rest room.		\$60,000	\$20,000	\$80,000	2013	Pearisburg Town
28	Pulaski County	Exit 101 Interchange Improvements and Connector Route 11 Provide interstate access to the proposed Veteran's Cemetery and Route 11 with an urban 3 lane typical on 4 lane right of way.	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000		\$16,500,000	2020	Virginia's First/Army
27	Giles County	Hoges Chapel Water Tank Replacement Project Replacement of 40 year old water tank and 23,000 feet of 10 inch water line		\$2,600,000		\$2,600,000	2014	Giles County
27	Blacksburg	Huckleberry Trail Extension Assist in the construction of the Huckleberry Trail extension from Prices Fork to Glade Road. Will connect the Hethwood Community to the Heritage Park and then link to the National Forest. Grading, site amenities, and surfacing are needed for this project.			\$100,000	\$100,000	2013	Town of Blacksburg
27	Christiansburg	Christiansburg Institute Cultural Experience, Cultural Learning Curriculum, Oral History, and Site preservation.	\$1,500,000		\$1,500,000	\$3,000,000	2014	Christiansburg Institute

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
27	Christiansburg	Upgrade of Waste Water Plant Upgrade waste water plant to accommodate 8 million gallons per day	\$10,000,000			\$10,000,000	2013	Christiansburg
27	Floyd County	Route 8 Improvements (South) (Floyd Co) Road Improvements on Route 8 southbound from Floyd, South.		\$1,500,000		\$1,500,000	2013	VDOT
27	Floyd County/Floyd Town	Affordable Housing Implementation Construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing within Floyd County and Town.	\$340,000			\$340,000	2012-2013	Floyd County, Floyd Town, and HOME
27	NRV	Develop a Slaughterhouse or Regional Meat Processing Plant for Meat Processing and Production Develop facility to support local farmers					2013	Rural Development-Sustain Floyd Planning Grant
27	NRV	Implement the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Program in Regional K-12 Schools Energy education in our schools.				\$100,000	2013	
27	NRV	Develop Region-Wide Bike Paths Used as both a tourism asset and an alternative/green method of transportation.	\$5,000,000		\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	2014	NRVPDC, Localities
27	NRV	Create Regional Revolving Loan Fund for Energy Audits and Retrofits Fund for New River Valley businesses and residents.						

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
27	NRV	Support Carpooling Efforts/Initiatives throughout the New River Valley Support the expansion and marketing of Ride Solutions while exploring potential for carpooling app						
27	Pulaski County	Shell Building-Industrial Park Construction of a shell building at the New River Valley Commerce Park	\$750,000	\$750,000		\$1,500,000	2013	Pulaski County
27	Pulaski County	New River Trail Extension				\$5,000,000		VDOT, Pulaski County
27	Pulaski Town	Calfee Park Renovations (Pulaski Town) Improvements to bring the facility up to baseball standards. Visitor dugouts, dressing rooms, and infrastructure improvements are needed.	\$1,000,000			\$1,000,000	2018	Pulaski Town
27	Radford	Passenger Rail Station in Radford To develop a passenger rail station in the City of Radford.				\$10,000,000	2020	Radford City, MPO, DRPT
26	Christiansburg	Phase II, Huckleberry Trail Extension Extension of the existing Huckleberry Trail from the present terminus at the New River Valley Mall to the south side of Route 114, including pedestrian bridge.	\$657,844		\$164,461	\$822,305	2013	Montgomery County and Town of Christiansburg
26	Christiansburg	Phase III, Huckleberry Trail Extension Extension of Huckleberry Trail from the south side of Route 114 near the New River Valley Mall to the Christiansburg Recreation Center	\$228,000		\$912,000	\$1,140,000	2013	Montgomery County, Town of Christiansburg

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
26	Floyd County	Regional Food Aggregating/Processing Center Value-added processing center for local produce and potentially local milk. The facility would serve as aggregator for larger buyers, as well as provide co-packing facilities and a commercial kitchen leasable by local food businesses.	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$2,000,000	2014	Floyd County
26	NRV	NRV Commerce Park Electric Transmission Extension Extension of 138kVA electric transmission line approximately two miles from the current crossing of Lee Highway, Route 11, near Morgan's Cut in Pulaski County, west along Route 11 and north to the Commerce Park site, south of the New River Valley Airport.	\$1,250,000	\$1,000,000	\$250,000	\$2,500,000	2015	VA's First Regional Industrial Facility Authority
26	NRV	Additional resources for power to the Commerce Park Extend power to the NRV Commerce Park to attract businesses.					2015	
26	NRV	Extension of Rail to Commerce Park Rail siding extension from Norfolk Southern mainline about 3,500 feet to the Commerce Park boundary and 3,500 feet to a potential building site.	\$2,300,000	\$750,000	\$1,210,000	\$4,600,000	2014	Virginia's First Regional Industrial Facilities Authority
26	NRV	Create a Network of Growers and Producers in the Region Link New River Valley farmers markets to increase profitability.						
26	Pulaski County	New Facility, Sheriff's Department New Sheriff's Department facility for Pulaski County.				\$900,000	2013	Pulaski County - Sheriff
25	Christiansburg	Emergency Services Station Emergency Services Station located on Quin W. Stuart Blvd	\$3,000,000			\$2-\$3,000,000	2014	Christiansburg

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
25	Christiansburg	Railroad Street Water Extension Installation of 400 LF of 6-inch water main				\$25,000	2013	Christiansburg
25	Narrows	Replace Existing Water Lines and Collection System Piping and Upgrade Wastewater Plant The Town went online with the Giles County Public Service Authority and in response to the increased cost of purchasing water from the GCPA, the Town has invested millions in improvements to their system to bring water loss down. Existing collection system piping is leaking and/or broken.				\$2,200,000	2013	Town of Narrows
25	NRV	Create Formal Regional Leadership Organization Create formal leadership organization, hold community awareness workshop, and establish certified leadership development program.				\$20,000	2013	Leadership Organizations
25	NRV	Centralize Marketing of Energy Efficiency Options Create a "one stop shop" where people can evaluate typical "payback" on upgrades, find a qualified energy auditor/retrofitter, navigate various funding/financing options.						
25	NRV	Study Data from Various Wind/Solar Demonstration Projects around the NRV Evaluate effectiveness of wind and solar projects to inform potential future projects.						
25	Pulaski County	Skyview Subdivision/Fairgrounds Area Sewer (Pulaski Co) Provide sewer to NRV Fairgrounds & 148 residences.	\$500,000			\$500,000	2013	Pulaski County
25	Pulaski County	Newbern Area Enhancements Creation of Wilderness Road Exhibit and other area enhancements.		\$53,387	\$21,613	\$75,000	2013	Pulaski County

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
25	Pulaski County	Pulaski County Dispatch/Communications To upgrade Pulaski County's dispatch/communications system.				\$1,600,000	2013	Pulaski County
25	Radford	High Meadows Development (Radford) Improve the water system to include line work and a water tank.			\$806,000	\$806,000	2013	Radford
24	Floyd Town	Floyd Town Trails Program (final phase) New and upgraded sidewalks within the town.	\$240,000		\$60,000	\$300,000	2013	Floyd Town
24	Giles County	Eggleston Water Extension Phase 2 (Giles Co) Extend water service to 160 residencies.	\$1,400,000			\$1,400,000	2013	Giles County
24	Giles County	Route 635 Water Extension (Giles Co) Provide public water to approximately 150 residents in the Big Stoney Community of Giles County.	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000		\$3,000,000	2013	Giles County
24	Montgomery County	Rt. 114 Widening From Christiansburg Town limits to Radford Army Ammunition Plant	\$50,400,000	\$12,600,000		\$63,000,000	2018	VDOT/Montgomery County
24	Montgomery County	Expansion of Falling Branch Industrial Park Water, sewer, roads, and grading improvements	\$19,500,000	\$5,200,000	\$1,300,000	\$26,000,000	2015	Montgomery County EDA

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
24	NRV	Incorporate "Green" Training into Secondary and Post-secondary Vocational Construction Programs Change current curriculum in Construction Trades to include "retro fitting" remodeling for energy efficiency in homes.				\$500,000	2013	CTE Directors, Community College Workforce Departments
24	NRV	Conduct Farming Visioning with Agriculture Stakeholders, Farm Bureau and Extension						
24	Radford	Arnold and Pershing Sewer Line Replacement 525 linear feet of 8" sanitary line would be replaced in an existing easement between Arnold Avenue and Pershing Avenue.				\$96,750	2014	City of Radford
24	Radford	Radford Village Water Line Replacement 3,225 linear feet of 6" main water line would be replaced with an 8" service throughout the Radford Village residential area improving service reliability and water flow to forty homes.				\$117,500	2013	City of Radford
23	Christiansburg	Phase IB of the Downtown Enhancement Project South side of East Main Street – new sidewalks, planting, paving.	\$1,191,718		\$297,929	\$1,489,647.36	2013	Town of Christiansburg, Gay and Neel, Inc.
23	Floyd County	Trails for Floyd (pedestrian, biking, and hiking) Extension of trail corridors from the town to the county as outlined in the comprehensive plan.	\$2,500,000		\$2,500,000	\$5,000,000	2013	Floyd County
23	NRV	Support "Communities in Schools" Program Connect community resources with schools to help students achieve success.						

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
23	NRV	Develop and Implement a Program to Support Small Family Farms Using "Cultivating Success" Farm Mentoring Project as a model. This will also include a revolving loan fund for farm start-ups and networking between local farmers and buyers.					2013	
23	NRV	Creation of Utility Standards Create utility standards for service providers to follow while coordinating digging between localities and service providers to install conduits or other potential uses						
23	Pulaski County	Snowville Fire Department Fire Station replacement	\$1,680,000		\$420,000	\$2,100,000	2013	Pulaski County
23	Pulaski Town	Intensifying Blight Elimination Program The Town was awarded an EPA Brownfields Grant application in 2010.	\$200,000			\$200,000	2013	Town of Pulaski, EPA
22	Christiansburg	Passenger Rail Station in Christiansburg To develop a passenger rail station in the Town of Christiansburg.				\$10,000,000	2020	Christiansburg Town
22	Floyd County	Floyd County Health and Human Services Complex One-stop-shop in Floyd that would enable citizens to access needed services				\$2,000,000	2015	Floyd County
22	Floyd County	Geo-engineering Studies Groundwater Resources in Floyd County To identify groundwater resources and calculate carrying capacity. Recharge areas and other important water resource areas would be mapped.	\$250,000			\$250,000	2013	Floyd County

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
22	Floyd County	Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Program for 8th-12th graders				\$300,000	2014	Floyd County Public Schools
22	Floyd County	Floyd County Innovation Program Business concept/plan competition.				\$50,000	2014	Economic Development Authority of Floyd County
22	NRV	Creation of a Fund to Remove Derelict Structures Tax advantages to remove structures alongside an education program on "how to"						
22	Pulaski Town	Dalton Building Reuse Update Dalton Building into a hotel and restaurant						
22	Radford	Wildwood Park Entrance Improve the Park entrance with parking facilities, a kiosk, pergola, new gate, and interpretive exhibits.	\$100,000		\$50,000	\$150,000	2013	Radford
22	Radford	Miscellaneous drainage project Design and construction of drainage improvements identified in 1993 Facility Plan in various locations throughout the city. The improvements would prevent runoff damage to public and private properties.				\$75,000	2010-2014	City of Radford
21	Montgomery County	Southgate Parkway Construction of ramps on Route 460 at Southgate Parkway entrance to Virginia Tech.	\$124,000,000	\$31,000,000		\$155,000,000	TBD	VDOT

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
21	NRV	Access to Capital Host workshops to educate businesses on capital access opportunities in the region, i.e. 460 Angels						
21	Pulaski Town	Rt. 99 Water/Sewer Extension Extend water and sewer lines to Exit 94, to encourage commercial development.	\$1,500,000			\$1,500,000	2013	Town of Pulaski, Pulaski County
21	Pulaski Town	Public Safety Facility A modern centralized facility located out of the flood plain and away from rail tracks.	\$5,000,000			\$5,000,000	2015	Town of Pulaski
21	Radford	Smartway Service Extension to the City of Radford and Radford University To connect Radford and Radford University to the existing network.						
20	Dublin	Dublin Fire Department Expansion To add two bays.	\$750,000			\$750,000	2013	Dublin Town/Pulaski County
20	Floyd County	Trail Around Floyd Commerce Center To develop a walking trail around the new Commerce Center in Floyd.	\$200,000		\$200,000	\$400,000	2013	Floyd County
20	Giles County	Clendennin Water Extension (Giles Co) Provide public water to approximately 50 residents in the Clendennin community of Giles County.	\$2,000,000			\$2,000,000	2013	Giles County

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
20	Glen Lyn	Glen Lyn Park Modern bathhouse, wastewater hook ups, information center, and open-air theater. Water and sewer to each campsite at the park. Also a new location for a boat ramp and sidewalk connecting the Park to the Municipal Building.				\$800,000	2015	Glen Lyn
20	NRV	TransDominion Express - Capital Costs A statewide project to provide passenger rail transportation from Bristol through the New River Valley, and on to Richmond and Washington, D.C.		\$9,300,000		\$9,300,000	2015	VA Department of Rail and Public Transportation
20	NRV	Support Co-Working Spaces for Businesses Utilization of underused facilities						
20	Pearisburg	Water and Sewer Improvements Tie into Riverbend water tank. Upgrade lines to Riverbend and Virginia Heights. Water and sewer replacement on Easton Road and various other water line improvements.						
20	Pulaski Town	Sewer Collection/Pump Station Improvements Infrastructure improvements at Stations 4A and 4B		\$1,500,000	\$500,000	\$2,000,000	2013	Town of Pulaski, Peppers' Ferry Regional Wastewater Treatment Authority
20	Pulaski Town	Water Filtration Plant Improvements Modernization of the current water filtration plant.	\$500,000		\$500,000	\$1,000,000	2013	Town of Pulaski
19	Christiansburg	Public Works Complex Moving current complex out of the floodplain	\$10,000,000			\$10,000,000	2013	Christiansburg

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
19	Floyd County	Engineering Studies on Extending Water and Sewer to areas of Floyd Co. To study water and sewer extensions and to understand hydrogeologic systems resources. Include protecting critical recharge and well-head areas.	\$1,200,000	\$200,000	\$100,000	\$1,500,000	2013	Floyd County
19	Giles County	Ingram Village Sewer (Giles Co) Put in sewer lines.	\$750,000		\$1,250,000	\$2,000,000	2015	Giles County
19	Montgomery County	Route 8 Widening Project Widening Route 8 from the Montgomery and Floyd County line to the Town of Christiansburg.	\$60,000,000	\$15,000,000		\$75,000,000	TBD	VDOT
19	Montgomery County	Route 177 Water and Sewer Improvements	\$4,800,000	\$1,200,000		\$6,000,000	2013	PSA
19	Pulaski Town	Enhance Bob White Boulevard and East Main Street Intersection						
18	Floyd Town	Lineberry Memorial Park Development Design and construction of stage for performances.	\$725,000		\$725,000	\$1,500,000	2013	Floyd Town
18	NRV	Creation of an Interactive CEDS Map with Project Identification GIS map to track progress of CEDS projects within the region.						

New River Valley 2014 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
18	Pulaski County	Indoor Recreation - Wellness Center Indoor Recreation-Wellness Center for the citizens of Pulaski County.			\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000	2013	Pulaski County-Recreation
18	Radford	University Drive Bridge Improvements and repairs needed to the 25 year old University Drive Bridge which includes deck repairs, waterproofing, painting, fencing, and sidewalk repairs and corrosion maintenance.				\$531,000	2013-14	Radford
18	Radford	Street Rebuild - Park/Second Avenue Park Road and Second Avenue would be rebuilt from Walker Street to Windstream Court. Improvements would include safety improvements, bike lanes, sidewalks, curb and gutter, turn-lanes, storm drainage, etc.	\$1,500,000			\$6,055,705	2013	Radford
18	Radford	Soccerfield/Football field To construct two playing fields adjacent to the Radford Riverfront.	\$200,000		\$200,000	\$400,000	2013	Radford
17	Pulaski Town	Bicycle Lane and Trail Improvements Improving bike accessibility for critical pathways throughout the Town.		\$750,000	\$250,000	\$1,000,000	2015	Town of Pulaski
17	Radford	Third Avenue Parking Lot The public parking lot located adjacent to Grove Avenue and Third Avenue would be improved to include a stormwater system, paving, landscaping, traditional light poles and hanging baskets. This project is needed to improve the lot's aesthetic appeal.				\$250,000	2014	City of Radford
17	Radford	Radford Ingles Overlook and Amphitheater Amphitheater engineering and construction for outdoor events.						
14	Floyd County/Town	Floyd Public Transit Study viability of public transit in county/town		\$20,000	\$5,000	\$25,000	2013	Floyd County/Town

Additional Concepts for Future Development

Though many projects exist to support the identified Goals and Objectives, there are also supporting concepts that do not have specific projects yet. This section outlines some of those concepts. Many of these projects comprise an economic development approach that links directly into the ***Community First*** goals of having an optimum level of employment; an income level equal to or better than the state's average; and a beneficial living environment.

Leadership

The Leadership category highlights opportunities in the New River Valley for promoting and sustaining leadership development and engagement in our local and regional community. The following concepts do not currently have an active project associated with them but are in the process of partnership and timeline development.

Youth Business and Civic Leadership Development:

Provide hands-on training and mentoring opportunities through business and civic organizational partners in the program.

Youth Leadership Recognition Program:

Create award/program that recognizes and rewards youth leadership efforts in the civic and business sectors of the region.

Community Awareness Workshop for Elected Officials:

Establish short course for elected officials and corporate leaders highlighting community development issues and opportunities.

Economic Development

The arena of economic development showcases the New River Valley's approach to creating a sustainable, diverse regional economy that is also globally competitive. The following concepts do not currently have a project associated with them but eventually will in the future.

Niche Development for Downtowns:

Define downtown niches for cooperative marketing of unique characteristics of NRV downtowns.

Niche Farming:

Agri-tourism for a regional community of farmers.

Sustainable Agriculture:

Feasibility Studies of agro-tourism and providing outlets for locally-produced dairy products.

Explore approaches to expand public/private partnerships:

There are increasing pressures for the development of public/private partnerships to expand the public assistance in providing basic infrastructure to a more active role in the development of corporations. The cost and risk involved in the formation of corporations has entrepreneurs seeking business acceleration assistance from the public sector. Defining and legitimizing this role is requiring innovation in establishing such partnerships.

Education & Training

In the area of Education and Training, the NRV has reached the critical point of needing to support workforce and education development programs aimed at establishing businesses and industries locally. With the economic crisis at the state and federal levels creating great inequities in service delivery, it is crucial that the New River Valley strategic plan for educational advancement be directed at building companies and a workforce for the global economy here at home.

Address the teacher shortage:

Develop incentives in collaboration with local governments, school boards and business sector to attract and retain qualified teachers to this area.

Address education funding:

Seek public/private partnerships and regional collaborations to offset state under-funding of education.

Regional Educational System:

Create New River Valley collaborative model to address alternative, advance placement and adult education needs in the region both physically and through the use of technology.

Health & Human Development

Health and human development put a personal face on the region's approach to supporting its citizens.

Evaluate and Pilot Human Service Delivery Programs:

Using higher education partners in the region, assess service delivery in the New River Valley and develop model for increasing effective and efficient service delivery.

Quarterly Agency/Community Sessions:

Create forum for community and human service agencies to gather and strategize ideas for higher efficiencies in service delivery and agency/client interface.

Natural & Cultural Environment

The Natural and Cultural projects represent the importance our citizen's place on the often intangible aspects of quality of life that can make a place one that people are proud to call home.

Adopt-a-Stream:

Support for state-run program.

Baseline Wildlife & Habitat Inventory:

Build baseline landscape-level wildlife species and habitat inventory for the greater New River watershed.

Citizens' Water Atlas:

Develop a database for water resources, including threats in the watershed.

Compliance Study of Erosion and Sedimentation Control Practices:

Examine compliance rates of erosion/sedimentation control practices.

Erosion Control:

Educate landowners on erosion control and restoration of eroded areas.

Support and Promote Christiansburg Institute:

Assist in funding and program development to support this important historic and cultural asset of the region.

Regional-link Trail System:

Create prioritized map of trail connections to link all alternative transportation pathways in the New River Valley.

Physical Infrastructure :

A sound physical infrastructure is the base on which all other projects are built. There are many needs in the area of physical infrastructure including **water and sewer** as well as **technology** infrastructure. Beyond these needs, additional concepts for physical infrastructure are listed below.

Bikeway Network:

Plan and create a network of bikeways through the NRV that connects towns, scenic areas, and historic areas.

Regional Civic/Convention Center:

Create event/conference center to provide space for large attractions and events.

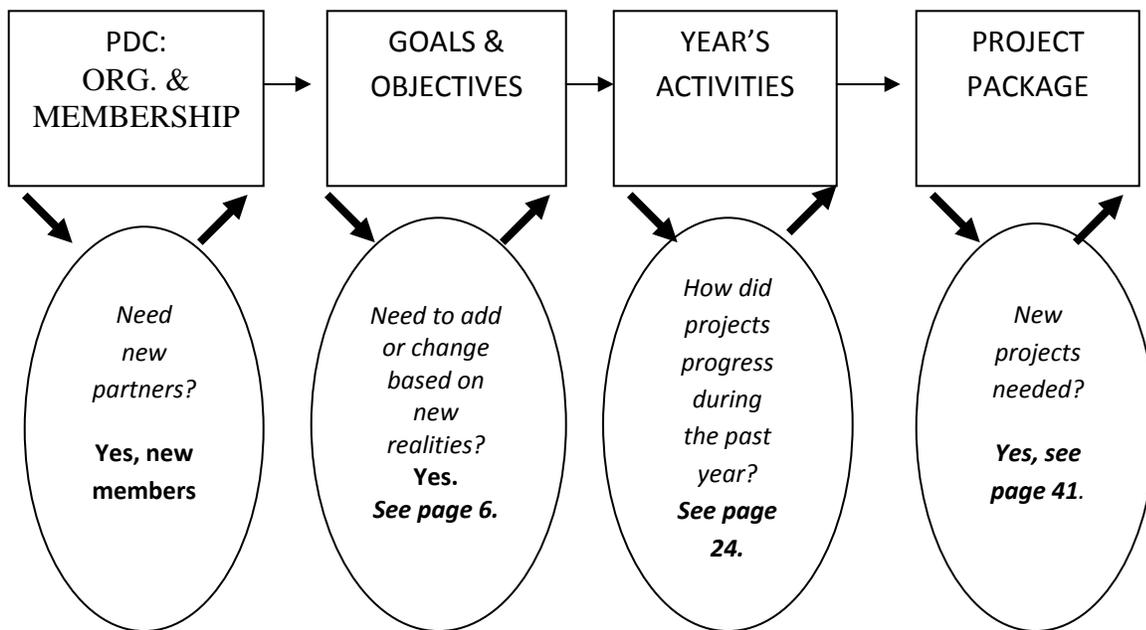
EVALUATION: AN INTEGRATED APPROACH

As is apparent throughout this document, evaluation is an integrated part of the CEDS process. Given the continuous nature of this planning process, integration of evaluation into every step is one method of assuring a self-adjusting, constantly “fresh” plan and process. (See Figure 2) Important questions that are asked along the way as part of a feedback loop include:

- ❑ Has the situation changed?
- ❑ Are new partners needed?
- ❑ Do Goals, Objectives, and Projects need to be changed in light of current Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT)?

**Figure 2:
Evaluation: An Integrated Part of the Continuous Planning Process**

Has the Situation Changed?



This process is followed annually as the CEDS is reviewed and the Annual Reports prepared. Goals and Objectives as well as projects are evaluated.

Evaluating Completed Projects

Following completion of a project, it is desirable to measure the effectiveness of the project and more specifically the return for the money spent. While larger goals such as a diversified economy, higher wages/incomes and improved quality of life are not easily detectable as they may be affected by most single projects, there are measurable related outputs. These include data such as number of jobs created and amount of private investment generated directly and indirectly.

Cautions and Concerns

While this is a straightforward query, answers are not so simple nor easily obtained. These projects do not take place in a laboratory where all external factors are controlled; rather each project is but one small part of countless variables in a huge picture that is the global economy. Moreover, the sum of a program of well-developed, mutually supporting projects is much greater than the sum of the parts.

For example, singularly developing a Regional Educational System to address alternative and advanced placement students needs regionally would not necessarily help incomes or unemployment in the region. Singularly developing a large Commerce Park to attract high tech industry will not help local economies if it sets idle. However, if a well-trained, well-educated work force is developed and physical space and infrastructure is available to high tech firms simultaneously, the likelihood of significant positive outcomes is great. Therefore, a truly integrated economic development strategy with multi-dimensional projects and components cannot be accurately measured in a single dimension. A means of simultaneously measuring relationships and synergies must be developed. A better question in many instances may be, "Is a good new piece of the puzzle now in place?"

Another difficulty in measuring outputs is that the timing is uncertain. In some cases, the greater the potential reward in the end may require a longer timeframe.

One of the most significant limiting factors in evaluation concerns the collection of data. To truly account for the success of a program would require tracking every single action and following that action to its subsequently induced actions and so forth. Even an attempt to keep track of "simple" items such as "jobs created" is a laborious process that takes time away from new project development, administration, etc. Evaluation and assessment is an important part of any project and in order to continue success and progress it must be built into every effort. Understanding the necessity of this effort and making it a seamless part of the project rather than something tacked on at the end is the goal of the integrated evaluation approach.

Lastly and related to the multi-dimensional discussion above, even if time is invested in tracking jobs and investments associated with a project, the data is not necessarily valid outside its immediate context. The whole purpose of a regional strategy is to recognize the strengths,

weaknesses, opportunities and threats within the region and to develop a unique program of projects for that situation. Unless the entire program is captured in a multi-dimensional way, the data is not well aggregated to the federal level.

Appendix I
Minutes of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee
and
Minutes of the New River Valley Planning District Commission

New River Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee
Meeting Minutes for November 15, 2012

10:00 AM – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CEDS Overview

Mr. Brad Mecham, Regional Planner with the New River Valley Planning District Commission, presented on what the CEDS is, why it matters, the top projects from last year's CEDS, and the role of the CEDS Committee.

CEDS Committee

PRESENT: Basil Edwards, City of Radford; Anthony Byrd, Small Business Development Center; Michael Miller, VTIP; Aric Bopp and David Denny of the NRV Economic Development Alliance; Jim Loux, Allegheny Brokerage Company; Jim Flowers, VTKnowledgeWorks; Kevin Byrd and Brad Mecham, NRVPCD.

Economic Development Working Group – NRV Livability Initiative

Dennis Reece and Gary Reedy, Citizens Telephone Cooperative; Kim Thurlow, NRVPCD

II. Livability Initiative Update

Ms. Kim Thurlow, Project Manager for the New River Valley Livability Initiative, presented an update on the working group process and on future scenario development. Ms. Thurlow also discussed the Livability Initiative's public outreach online tool.

III. Cluster Analysis

Mr. Mecham presented on a cluster analysis that was performed the Southern Rural Development Center (SRDC) at Mississippi State University. Mr. Mecham provided the definition and associated data within a cluster analysis, highlighting the top ten sectors by employment within the New River Valley. The SRDC projected the top ten clusters to show which sectors would be creating and losing jobs in the next ten years and which clusters would be gaining or losing specialization within the region.

IV. Large Group Discussion

The CEDS Committee and Economic Development Working Group followed the cluster analysis presentation by discussing the information presented. The Committee discussed the need to further analyze what factored into the income levels in each sector, especially transportation equipment manufacturing and biomedical. The Committee also discussed the value of what this analysis could do in influencing where money should be spent, where sectors could be influenced, and what success could look like in the future.

As part of this discussion, workforce development opportunities were also discussed so that the region's workforce could be prepared for these jobs in the future. The K-12 school system was also

discussed and the Committee talked about benchmarking our schools against other schools in Lynchburg, Greensboro, or Petersburg for example. These cities have been successful in including workforce development into the K-12 system.

V. Next Meeting

The CEDS Committee will meet on December 18, 2012 at the NRV Business Center at 9:30 AM. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

New River Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Meeting Minutes for December 18, 2012

9:30 AM – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. Economic Cluster Analysis Review

Mr. Brad Mecham, Regional Planner with the New River Valley Planning District Commission, provided a short review of the economic cluster analysis performed by the Southern Rural Development Center at Mississippi State University. For outreach purposes, clusters will be evaluated as follows: Transportation Equipment Manufacturing, Electrical Equipment Manufacturing, Advanced Materials, Defense as one category; Business and Financial Services; Biomedical; Energy; IT/Telecommunications; Agribusiness; and Arts, Entertainment and Recreation.

CEDS Committee

PRESENT: Michael Miller, VTIP; Jim Loux, Allegheny Brokerage Company; Jim Flowers, VTKnowledgeWorks; Gary Forget, Volvo Trucks North America; Shaun Rai, Virginia Community Capital; Brad Mecham, NRVPDC.

Economic Development Working Group – NRV Livability Initiative

Gary Reedy, Citizens Telephone Cooperative; Mel Jones, Virginia Tech Center for Housing Research ; Karen Drake, Town of Blacksburg; Carol Davis and Kim Thurlow, NRVPDC

II. Moving Forward with Clusters

Ms. Carol Davis, Community Outreach Facilitator for the New River Valley Livability Initiative, led a discussion on what different sectors' needs were in order to progress. These needs were listed into four categories: workforce (i.e. training for entry, mid, and executive level positions), infrastructure (i.e. broadband, power, etc.), supporting sectors, and quality of life. The large group discussed the needs of major manufacturers and defense as a template for the exercise that followed.

III. Economic Sector Exercise

The CEDS Committee had opportunities to use written comments on flip charts around the room. Each sector had its own flip chart to collect comments for the four need areas identified. This exercise allowed the Committee to see where there was specific industry knowledge and where gaps existed.

IV. Outreach Strategy

Mr. Mecham discussed potential strategies for outreach to fill in the knowledge gaps based on the sector exercise. NRVPCD staff had previously outlined potentially having seven targeted meetings to discuss the needs of local businesses involved in NRV industry clusters. These meetings will take place in January and February and report-out will take place at the February CEDS Committee meeting. It was noted and outreach efforts will continue with respect to small business needs and their ability to grow within the region.

V. Next Meeting

The CEDS Committee will meet in February at the NRV Business Center at a date to be determined. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 AM.

New River Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Meeting Minutes for February 27, 2013

10:00 AM – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. NRV Livability Feedback on Community Priorities Survey

Mr. Brad Mecham, Regional Planner with the New River Valley Planning District Commission, provided a review of community feedback that was gathered as a result of a Community Priorities Survey. The top three priorities for Economy and Employment were: 1) Supporting Public Infrastructure; 2) Workforce Readiness; and 3) Local Business Assistance. Other priorities in ranked order were Regional Appeal, Public Policy, Workforce Retraining and Advancement, and Supporting Building Stock.

CEDS Committee

PRESENT: Jim Loux, Allegheny Brokerage Company; Jim Flowers, VTKnowledgeWorks; Tommy Loflin, New River Bank; David Denny, New River Valley Economic Development Alliance; Kevin Byrd, NRVPC; Brad Mecham, NRVPC.

Economic Development Working Group – NRV Livability Initiative

Karen Drake, Town of Blacksburg

II. Economic Sector Outreach Summary

Mr. Mecham presented findings from the individual sector outreach sessions. As part of this outreach, employers were asked to provide feedback in four areas: workforce needs, infrastructure and space needs, supporting sectors, and quality of life factors. Specific certifications were recorded for the workforce and infrastructure needs were summarized.

III. WIB Skills-Gap Analysis Summary

Mr. Mecham presented the results from the New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board's Skills-Gap Analysis. The CEDS Committee reviewed soft skill requirements from employers, specific certifications needs (i.e. engineering, welding, maintenance, etc.), and how companies train their employees. An overwhelming majority of employees do on the job training to meet workforce needs.

IV. Goals and Objectives

Mr. Mecham presented the changes to the CEDS Goals and Objectives. The Goals and Objectives portion of the CEDS was cut down significantly to be more focused. A discussion was had on the potential for adding new goals and the potential to further pare down this section.

V. Next Meeting

The CEDS Committee will meet in March at the NRV Business Center at a date to be determined. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

New River Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Meeting Minutes for March 25, 2013

10:00 AM – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. Welcome

Mr. Brad Mecham, Regional Planner with the New River Valley Planning District Commission, welcomed CEDS Committee attendees and went over the agenda.

CEDS Committee

PRESENT: Jim Loux, Allegheny Brokerage Company; Jim Flowers, VTKnowledgeWorks; Gary Forget, Volvo Trucks North America; Kevin Byrd, NRVPCD; Brad Mecham, NRVPCD.

Economic Development Working Group – NRV Livability Initiative

Mel Jones, Virginia Tech Center for Housing Research; Patrick O'Brien, Virginia Tech Office of Economic Development.

II. Top Projects Discussion

Mr. Mecham led a discussion on the top-ranked projects in the CEDS this year. The CEDS Committee discussed potential strategies to accomplish these top tier projects. The feasibility of these projects was also discussed in terms of what the regional market could and would support.

III. Potential New Projects for 2013-2014

Mr. Byrd led a discussion of potential new projects. The CEDS Committee had a discussion about existing and potential infrastructure improvements to support the regional economy. There was also a discussion on value chains and what they mean for our manufacturers.

PDC staff will reach out to local governments for additional new projects for this year's annual update.

IV. 2013 Annual Update Wrap-up

The CEDS Committee will meet in the fall to begin next year's five year update. The full CEDS will be presented to the Commission in May for approval. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 AM.

NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting

held on

August 23, 2012

6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. M. Patton, Chair, Town of Floyd; Mr. K. Sullivan, Vice-Chair, Virginia Tech; Mr. S. Weaver, Treasurer, Town of Christiansburg; Mrs. H. Lesko, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. F. Gerald, Floyd County; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Mrs. A. Perkins, Montgomery County; Mr. J. Sheffey, Pulaski County; Mr. T. Cox, City of Radford; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. J. Soileau, Virginia Tech; Mr. G. Eaton, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Mr. B. Nicholson, City of Radford; and Mr. L. Law, Giles County.

ABSENT: Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County; Mrs. E. Janney, Floyd County; Mrs. C. Newcomb, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. G. East, Town of Pulaski; Mr. C. Via, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; Mr. R. Alvarez, Radford University; Mr. R. Chambers, Montgomery County; and Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Brad Mecham, Elijah Sharp, Christy Straight, Phil Gilbertson, Tommi Godwin, and Julie Phillips.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for June and approval of the Treasurer's Report for June and July
Mr. Patton called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Mr. Garrett noted a comment on page 2 of the minutes was reported to have been said by him although he was not present at the meeting. He stated the name will need to be corrected.

Motion: Mr. Cox moved for the approval of the consent agenda items with changes. Mrs. Lesko seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried. Two abstentions, Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Bopp.

III. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Patton reported that Mr. Clevinger attended the VAPDC conference in July with Mr. Byrd. He then nominated Mr. Clevinger for the position of Member at Large to the Executive Committee.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Due to the work session with Mr. Youngquist, Mr. Patton noted that this portion of the meeting will be discussed at a later point in the night.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported: 'Round the Mountain won an \$815,000 grant for Rural Jobs Accelerator. He also noted the broadband visioning meeting was held on July 24th with the main topics being utility easements and a "dig-once" policy. The Commonwealth is requiring all localities to implement a stormwater program, the towns and counties will have to finalize who will run these programs by April 2013. Mr. Byrd conducted orientation with new Commissioners, Mr. Law and Mr. Nicholson. It was also reported Radford University Small Business Development Center has appointed Anthony Byrd as a business analyst and counselor.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Ratification of Resolution of Support for National Heritage Area for the Crooked Road

Motion: Ms. Perkins moved for the approval. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Annual Report for FY12

Mr. Gerald made a motion to approve. Mr. Cox seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development Annual Report.

Mrs. Lesko made a motion to approve. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Agency Assessment Work Session with Jim Youngquist (SERDI)

Mr. Youngquist explained the agency assessment done for the New River Valley Planning District Commission was the 47th assessment he has done, he noted he had received comments provided by the online survey and also had conducted seven focus group meetings. He then gave an overview of the feedback that was given in response to the online survey. There were several themes that reoccurred during both the online survey and the focus groups, such as the NRVPC being seen as a valuable resource and providing services to the communities. It was also noted the local governments would like both the board and staff to be more engaged within their communities. A suggestion was made that a working committee structure be formed within the board. Several opportunities as well as challenges were brought to the attention of the NRVPC, such as regional tourism, community or region wide economic development, and possibly a name change to better reflect the services and resources provided by the NRVPC.

Mr. Sheffey asked how the NRVPC compares to other PDC's, Mr. Youngquist replied he was pleasantly surprised and that the communities here saw the "bigger picture." Mr. Weaver stated he is proud of the NRVPC and thinks we have always done and continue to do a great job. It was noted by Mr. Sheffey that if the localities and other agencies contributed more funding, that local funding money can help get more grant resources directed to the region. Mr. Patton asked if there will be more recommendations in the full written report. He also asked if Mr. Youngquist had any insights into how to accomplish some of the suggested changes. Mr. Youngquist responded that he felt one important change would be to have the board in more of a committee structure and then those committees would serve as advisory boards to both staff and the localities. Mrs. Lesko pointed out that the working groups within the Livability Initiative currently work in a committee structure and that we may not want to over utilize the same people repeatedly. She added that local youth be engaged in some of the committees. Mr. Sullivan asked in what time frame other PDC's accomplish these proposed changes or actions. Mr. Youngquist replied that most changes are ongoing. Mr. Sheffey pointed out that the NRVPC is different from most PDC's in that we have two major universities, which is important for future visioning. Mr. Patton pointed out that it is the NRVPC's opportunity to decide what we want to do, and he challenged all the Commissioners to really think about it. The Board will take up the assessment results and set priorities for implementation at a meeting in the near future.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

None

X. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Patton announced that in the future we will be having 30 minute information blocks. He wants the Commissioners to ask questions, and really understand what the NRVPCD is all about and what projects are happening. Dr. Harvey welcomed Mr. Nicholson to the Commission. Mr. Sheffey took a moment to express how thankful he is for his time on the Commission; in return Mr. Patton thanked Mr. Sheffey for his years of service. Mr. Garrett expressed his concern over doing too much, he wants to make sure the things that are done are needs, and not just wants. Mr. Patton replied we also need to contemplate the wants because they can become needs in the future.

XI. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

- A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)
 - 1. VPDES Permit Reissuance VA0021119 Town of Narrows Treatment Plant

- B. Regular Project Review
 - None

- C. Environmental Project Review
 - 1. [13-01] - VADEQ Pollution Prevention Enhancements
 - 2. VPDES permit reissuance - Radford WTP VA0054780

Motion: Ms. Perkins moved for the approval. Dr. Harvey seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Patton asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Ms. Perkins moved for the approval. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was then adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Mike Patton, Chair
New River Valley Planning District Commission

NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting

held on

September 27, 2012

6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

II. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. M. **Patton**, Chair, Town of Floyd; Mr. K. **Sullivan**, Vice-Chair, Virginia Tech; Mr. S. **Weaver**, Treasurer, Town of Christiansburg; Mrs. H. **Lesko**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. F. **Gerald**, Floyd County; Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Mr. T. **Cox**, City of Radford; Mr. C. **Bopp**, Pulaski County; Mr. J. **Soileau**, Virginia Tech; Mr. R. **Alvarez**, Radford University; Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County; Mr. G. **Eaton**, Town of Rich Creek; Mrs. C. **Newcomb**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. G. **East**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. B. **Nicholson**, City of Radford; and Mr. L. **Law**, Giles County.

ABSENT: Mrs. E. **Janney**, Floyd County; Mrs. A. **Perkins**, Montgomery County; Mr. C. **Via**, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County and Mr. R. **Chambers**, Montgomery County.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Brad Mecham, Elijah Sharp, Janet McNew, Jennifer Wilsie, Carol Davis, Kim Thurlow, and Julie Phillips.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

B. Approval of Minutes for August

Mr. Patton called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mrs. Newcomb moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Bopp seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Approval of Treasurer's Report for August

Mr. Patton called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mrs. Lesko moved for the approval of the treasurer's report. Mrs. Newcomb seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Clevinger gave an overview of his experiences while attending the VAPDC conference. He recommended attending this conference to all commissioners. He mentioned how he watched Norfolk Southern transport coal mined from Southwest Virginia while at the dinner event. Mr. Law announced Pemtel installed a new SAN switch which will benefit Giles County and serve up to 300 thousand customers. Referring to Mr. Clevinger's earlier comments Mr. Garrett mentioned how England no longer mines coal and wondered what the outcomes of supplying it to them may be.

IV. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Patton noted he was asked by Mr. Eaton to be the keynote speaker at Rich Creek's fall festival. He also talked about the need for New River Community College to be represented on the Commission and noted that they will explore this in the near future.

V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Sullivan made note of the schedule changes for the October, November, and December meetings. The following changes will be made to these three meetings; the October meeting will be cancelled as the annual commissioner's dinner will be held on the fourth Thursday, October 25th and the November and December meetings will be combined into one meeting on November 29th. He also reported the November 29th meeting will be when the complete assessment done by Mr. Youngquist will be reviewed. The agenda packets will be mailed out two weeks in advance of this meeting to allow all Commissioners' time to read the assessment and be prepared to talk about the findings. He also noted that there will be an implementation committee and asked anyone interested to contact a member of the executive committee.

Motion: Mr. Sullivan moved to cancel the October meeting. Mr. Patton seconded the motion.
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Mr. Sullivan moved to combine the November and December meetings. Mr. Patton seconded the motion.
Discussion: Mr. Garrett asked if the charter calls for a specific number of meetings. Mr. Byrd replied, there is flexibility with the meeting schedule.
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

VII. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

1. Proposal for completion funds required with the Sheadawn Industrial Park Road.

- B. Regular Project Review
None
- C. Environmental Project Review
None

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported: The MPO officially expanded to include the City of Radford and the eastern portion of Pulaski County. He also reported VDOT will hold a public hearing Thursday, October 11, 2012 from 5 - 7 p.m. at the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center 1715 Pratt Drive, Building Number 12, Suite 1500 Blacksburg, VA 24060 on the improvements at Research Center Drive Intersection. It was also mentioned an editorial in the Roanoke Times Wednesday September 26, 2012 discussed a proposed change in the state funding formula for transit agencies. The Annual Planning Commissioner Dinner will be held on October 25th, the host locality, Pulaski County sent out invitations this week. The PDC has submitted a local stormwater program development grant on behalf of Montgomery, Floyd, and Pulaski Counties, a decision on the grant should be made by mid-October. Mr. Byrd noted that he attended the Rural Summit of Virginia and the dedication of the Rocky Knob property in Floyd County. He also reported the Department of Housing and Community Development will be contacting the Commissioners regarding PDC boundary study. Mr. Cox asked, how often does this happen? Mr. Byrd replied every ten years.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

None

X. NEW BUSINESS

- A. New River Valley Livability Project Update, presentation by staff

Ms. Thurlow began by overviewing the process of the Livability project to date. The Livability Initiative is a three year regional planning process with nine topic areas, fifteen consortium partners and seven working groups. The working group process is to identify issues, identify baseline conditions, identify common trends and projections, prioritize goals and indicators, and finally to create strategies. To date there have been 160 participants in the monthly working groups.

Ms. Davis presented on the outreach done by the Livability Initiative. The different types of outreach have been a kick-off summit, on-line and paper surveys, a Spanish language survey, a lower literacy paper survey, small focus group and community meetings, an interactive performance, digital storytelling, and the BUILT planning game. Ms. Davis also touched on some of the reoccurring comments from all outreach methods being community values, innovation, self-sufficiency, preservation, independence, self-reliance, and sustainability.

Next, several staff members presented on the individual working groups. Ms. Thurlow talked about how our population is aging and what this means for our region. She noted several concerns are a declining tax base, an increased need for supportive services, different housing and transportation needs, concerns with existing housing, and the need for new construction. She then discussed agriculture shifts within our region. She noted that all localities with the exception of Floyd County increases have had a slight decline or held steady in the average market value of agricultural products. Mr. Sharp talked about findings within the transportation working group. He reported the priorities identified to date are, to create choices for commuters, create solutions for those who don't have a vehicle or driver's license, improve accessibility to local businesses and enhance abilities to move freight, create safe and attractive places for walking and biking, and to improve access to important regional corridors. Ms. Wilsie talked about the findings within the housing working group. She explained the housing demand our region faces and noted that there will be a demand for 10,000 new homes in the next twenty years while 14,000 homes will need rehab or replacement. Mr. Mecham overviewed findings from the economic development working group; he explained connections between jobs and education levels and discussed the job losses and creation in our region for the last five years. Lastly, Ms. Davis talked about some of the health challenges our region faces and the impacts it has on the entire community.

Ms. Thurlow then explained the intersections within the working groups and talked about the value of the Livability Initiative. She explained how the data collected will help to prioritize citizen needs and preferences, how understanding trends will help recognize challenges that will be easier and cheaper to address now rather than down the road and she talked about some of the partnerships that are forming.

Discussion: Mr. Patton thanked the staff and noted they gave a great presentation. Mr. Law asked about health issues, diabetes was mentioned but what about cancer numbers for our region? Ms. Davis noted that cancer and heart disease are the leading causes of death in the NRV. Mr. Patton also noted cancer and heart disease need to be main concerns. Ms. Thurlow explained the numbers of cancer and heart disease cases in the NRV are higher than the state average. Mr. Law mentioned that he was told Giles County has a higher cancer rate than anywhere in the state. Mr. Cox noted that drug abuse and other drug related problems are also an immediate concern for our region and they need to be a priority. Mrs. Lesko noted the drug problem is multi-generational. At this point the discussion was tabled and it was decided to discuss it further at a later meeting.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

None

The meeting was then adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Mike Patton, Chair
New River Valley Planning District Commission

NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting

held on

November 29, 2012

6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

III. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. M. Patton, Chair, Town of Floyd; Mr. K. Sullivan, Vice-Chair, Virginia Tech; Mrs. H. Lesko, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. F. Gerald, Floyd County; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Mr. T. Cox, City of Radford; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. J. Soileau, Virginia Tech; Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County; Mrs. C. Newcomb, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. G. East, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; M Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. R. Chambers, Montgomery County; Mr. B. Nicholson, City of Radford; Mr. C. Via, Town of Pearisburg and Mr. L. Law, Giles County.

ABSENT: Mr. R. Alvarez, Radford University; Mr. G. Eaton, Town of Rich Creek; Mrs. E. Janney, Floyd County; Mrs. A. Perkins, Montgomery County; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County and Mr. S. Weaver, Treasurer, Town of Christiansburg.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd and Julie Phillips.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

D. Approval of Minutes for September

Mr. Patton called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mr. Cox moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

E. Approval of Treasurer's Report for September and October

Mr. Patton called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mr. Cox moved for the approval of the treasurer's report. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Patton welcomed Mr. East to the Commission. Mr. Bopp provided an overview of the annual dinner meeting; he noted Marcus Thompson of Volvo was one of the speakers. Mr. Bopp then spoke about the impact of Volvo on the community and how many jobs and other companies are created in our area

because of their presence. Ms. Newcomb mentioned an ice-breaker or mixer may be beneficial next year to help meet new people. Mr. Garrett spoke about Mr. Byrd's presentation to the Town of Narrow's Council, he noted the presentation was informative, but he was disappointed that council and the audience did not ask many questions. Mr. Showalter noted that the presentation given to the Town of Christiansburg was a great refresher for council and he would like to see this type of presentation every year. Mr. Patton updated the Commissioners on Mr. Weaver; he noted that Mr. Weaver was recovering from surgery at home. Mr. Patton also thanked the Commissioners for bringing food donations for the United Way and reminded those who have not provided a piece of memorabilia to the PDC to display in the reception area to please do so.

IV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Sullivan gave an overview of the discussion held at the executive committee meeting. He explained that the presentations Mr. Byrd is giving to the localities are a reminder of the importance of the New River Valley Planning District Commission. He also noted they spoke about the Livability Initiative and its importance to the community. He also explained the need for a board resource manual and how it can help provide information to each Commissioner. He also explained that the executive committee spoke about the rate assessment and noted that they put a lot of time into the discussion on this issue. Lastly he explained the commission will be going over the consultant's report and discussing how to implement recommendations the Commission would like to pursue.

V. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

VI. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

1. Floyd Biomedical Equipment Project (Rural Business Enterprise Funding from Rural Development)

B. Regular Project Review

None

C. Environmental Project Review

1. Alliant Techsystems, Inc. /New River Energetics Operations Assessment Radford Army Ammunition Plant

Motion: Mr. Sullivan moved for the approval. Mr. Bopp seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

2. Celanese Acetate LLC (Celco) Major Source Construction Permit

Motion: Mr. Bopp moved for the approval. Mr. Law seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried; two abstentions Mr. Garrett and Mr. Via both stated conflict of interest as their reason for abstaining.

3. Reissuance of VADEQ Permit No. VA0025992 Floyd-Floyd Co. PSA WWTP

Motion: Mr. Gerald moved for the approval. Ms. Newcomb seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried; one abstention Mr. Via, stated conflict of interest as his reason for abstaining.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported: ARC Co-Chair, Earl Gohl and ARC Chief of Staff, Guy Land visited October 25th, they discussed VA Community Capital Funding, the Livability Initiative, and the Crooked Road, and they also attended the annual dinner. Mr. Patton noted that he made a great connection by meeting both gentlemen at the annual dinner. Mr. Byrd also reported that the stormwater program was discussed at a local government managers meeting. Delegate Rush and Delegate Yost are working on legislation to postpone implementation of the stormwater program by local governments until July 2015 to ensure localities are ready and the building community is aware of the changes. A Rural Caucus Legislative meeting was held on November 7th and was well attended. Floyd County was awarded a CDBG Grant to Revitalize the Newtown Neighborhood, with the PDC and the Town of Blacksburg managing the project. He also reported Tommi Godwin resigned from her position with the Commission; she will be returning to her home state, Minnesota, where she will serve as an Associate Planner with the Washington County Department of Public Health and Environment.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Planning District Commission Assessment Rate for FY14

Mr. Patton explained that the Executive Committee is recommending maintaining the current rate this year (\$1.25 per capita); however, they do not want to go multiple years without raising the rate in order to keep up with costs. The rate is based on census population figures at \$1.25 per capita for the member jurisdictions and universities. Mr. Patton asked, "If the rate is based on population, how are Radford University's and Virginia Tech's rates figured?" Mr. Byrd answered; "The per capita numbers for universities are based on the number of students living on campus." Dr. Harvey noted that it should be put in writing that the PDC is not asking for an increase. Mr. Byrd explained the per capita assessment is in the annual Joint Budget Review Request sent to all four counties and the City with budget detail included. Further, the PDC sends letters to each town and university informing them of the upcoming fiscal year assessment rate obligation. The Joint Budget Request is due at the end of December each year and letters are sent to towns and universities in February. Mr. Nicholson pointed out that it is important for each community to know the rate is per capita. Mr. Patton asked if the population numbers are based on the census, if so are they only updated every ten years. Mr. Byrd replied, yes the population numbers are updated every ten years. He also explained some PDCs use Weldon Cooper Annual Estimates to capture population changes

on a more regular basis and suggest this is an item the Commission may wish to discuss at a future date.

Motion: Mr. Patton moved to maintain the current rate. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion.
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

F. Review of Audit for FY12

Mr. Byrd provided an overview of the FY12 Audit prepared by Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates. He explained the audit was performed with additional measurements this year due to increased federal funds moving through the budget. This is primarily attributed to the Transportation Equipment Manufacturers Competitiveness Initiative (TEMCI) and the NRV Livability Initiative project. The auditor not only reviewed financial performance, but also reviewed program reports submitted to funders and found activities aligned with financial accounting. The audit included a positive finding, "It is noted that the auditee has made great strides in posting year-end adjustments and is gaining a good understanding of the year-end audit process."

Motion: Mr. Cox moved to accept the audit. Ms. Lesko seconded the motion.
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

G. Appointment of CEDS Committee Members for FY13

Discussion: Mr. Cox noted that healthcare is one of the largest sectors in the area and there are no recommended members from this field. Mr. Byrd indicated an individual from Carilion attended two meetings last year and the PDC staff is currently seeking a consistent representative. If Commissioners can recommend someone the PDC will follow up and invite them to participate.

Motion: Mr. Soileau moved to approve the five new members to the CEDS committee. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

None

XI. Regional Focus

A. Review and Discuss Agency Assessment

Jessica Wirgau, Executive Director of the Community Foundation for the New River Valley, facilitated a discussion and small working groups to prioritize the goals of the assessment. A committee was formed to put the agency assessment's goals along with the Commissioner's priorities into action. The committee will be chaired by Mr. Sullivan, other members include, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Cox, Mr. Law, Dr. Harvey and other members may be invited before the first meeting.

Mr. Patton thanked the Commission for a wonderful year and reminded the Commissioners the December meeting was cancelled and the next meeting will be January 24, 2013.

The meeting was then adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Michael Patton, Chair
New River Valley Planning District Commission

NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
January 24, 2013
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

IV. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. M. **Patton**, Chair, Town of Floyd; Mr. K. **Sullivan**, Vice-Chair, Virginia Tech; Mr. R. **Alvarez**, Radford University; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. F. **Gerald**, Floyd County; Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Mr. T. **Cox**, City of Radford; Mr. C. **Bopp**, Pulaski County; Mr. J. **Soileau**, Virginia Tech; Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. R. **Chambers**, Montgomery County; Mrs. A. **Perkins**, Montgomery County and; Mr. C. **Via**, Town of Pearisburg.

ABSENT: Mr. S. **Weaver**, Treasurer, Town of Christiansburg; Mrs. H. **Lesko**, Town of Blacksburg; Mrs. C. **Newcomb**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. G. **East**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. G. **Eaton**, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. B. **Nicholson**, City of Radford; Mr. L. **Law**, Giles County; Mrs. E. **Janney**, Floyd County; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg; and Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Elijah Sharp and Julie Phillips.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

H. Approval of Minutes for November

Mr. Patton called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mr. Cox moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

I. Approval of Treasurer's Report for November and December

Mr. Patton called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mr. Bopp moved for the approval of the treasurer's report. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Gerald announced he brought Floyd County's contribution of memorabilia, a picture of Buffalo Mountain, to display in the PDC office. Mr. Patton reminded everyone who has not contributed a piece of memorabilia to please do so.

IV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Sullivan gave an overview of the discussion held at the executive committee meeting. He explained how the executive committee discussed the administrative and entrepreneurial services performed by the PDC staff. He announced the PDC will now be providing administrative support and website design services to the Southwest Virginia Solid Waste Managers Association. The committee also discussed how a vacant staff position is being addressed by two contractors in order to avoid hiring a full time employee since the project is almost complete. The Committee also discussed the significance of Julie Phillips being trained to perform payroll as a backup. The Commission never had back up for this task before and this addresses key operational function of the Commission. They also discussed visiting other regions and how this would be a beneficial tool, and how it had been one of the recommendations of the assessment.

V. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None.

VI. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

1. [13-14] – FY2013 State Revolving Loan Funds Capitalization Application
2. New River Valley Senior Services, Inc. Application to Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Rail and Transportation to purchase (2) nine passenger raised roof with lift vehicles

B. Regular Project Review

1. Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Pesticide Performance Partnership Grant Application FY14

Discussion: Dr. Harvey asked about the details of this grant application, Mr. Garrett also noted he would like to hear more details before approving the application. Mr. Byrd read the details of the project from the complete application and noted that complete applications are always available, but to conserve paper only a portion is included in the packet.

Motion: Dr. Harvey moved for the approval. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion.

Action: Motion was put to vote and passed by an 11 to 1 vote, with 1 abstention, Mr. Via.

2. Department of Transportation Tier 2 Environmental Assessment – I-81 Improvement Study

Discussion: Mr. Garrett noted a lot of time has already been spent on I-81 improvements in this area.

Motion: Ms. Perkins moved for the approval and requested VDOT take into account comments from Christiansburg and those forthcoming from Montgomery County. Mr. Cox seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Environmental Project Review

1. VPA Permit VPA02069 Reissuance – Radford WTP land application of alum residuals at the New River Valley Airport

Discussion: Mr. Sullivan asked, “What is alum?” Dr. Warren explained it is a chemical used to treat water. He also noted that this is currently being done and there have been no complaints.

Motion: Mr. Cox moved for the approval. Dr. Warren seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously, one abstention, Mr. Via.

2. Reissuance of VPDES Permit No. VA0024040 Riner WWTP

Discussion: Dr. Warren noted 100,000 gallons a day sounds like a lot of water and asked where the treated water ends up. Mr. Byrd explained it would ultimately end up in the New River. Mr. Via explained 100,000 gallons a day is the capability of the facility.

Motion: Ms. Perkins moved for the approval. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously, one abstention, Mr. Via.

3. Environmental Impact Review: Radford University – College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences

Discussion: Mr. Alvarez gave an overview of what the building will house and where it will be located on campus. He explained this building would bring faculty in Humanities into one building opposed to the current arrangement of multiple small buildings across campus.. He also noted the review is for the environmental impact and funding for the building is still to be determined.

Motion: Mr. Sullivan moved for the approval. Mr. Soileau seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously, two abstentions, Mr. Via and Mr. Alvarez.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported: All four travel plans the PDC staff provided support to develop for Safe Routes to School in the region received invitations from VDOT to apply for funding. Schools include Belview Elementary, Auburn campus, Christiansburg Primary and Elementary School in Montgomery County, and Macy McClaugherty Elementary in Pearisburg. Giles County and Pearisburg received funding to improve two boat ramps; he explained PDC staff worked with the two communities to prepare the applications. Mr. Cox noted, the City of Radford has six miles of river frontage and two boat ramps in need of repairs. He mentioned the City may be interested in working with staff next year repairing or replacing these boat ramps. Mr. Sullivan asked, “How much does a boat ramp

cost?” Mr. Sharp explained the grants applied for were up to \$100,000.00. Mr. Byrd noted a memorandum was sent to all local governments inquiring about technical assistance projects for FY14, there has been interest from Pulaski County, and the Towns of Christiansburg, Narrows, and Pulaski. The NRV Livability Initiative recently completed a Community Priority Survey; the results were included in the packet. Mr. Cox explained that he would like to see the results from Radford. Mr. Byrd reported that the Planning Commissions for Montgomery County, Blacksburg and Christiansburg asked the Commission to provide an update on the NRV Livability Initiative and to facilitate a BUILT NRV planning game with the group. He reported the PDC is considering submitting a Letter of Intent to a grant program offered through the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities and asked if anyone had any objections. Mr. Garrett asked, if this information was currently available and if the project would be statewide. Mr. Byrd replied, that it is not currently available and that the final product, a training module, would be available on a state wide basis. He gave an update on the stormwater project. He reported Delegate Rush introduced legislation to postpone implementation of local stormwater programs until July 2015. Lastly he reported the PDC roadshow is continuing, Montgomery County and Giles County still need to be scheduled.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Review and Discuss Agency Assessment

Mr. Patton asked each of the commissioners if they felt they had enough time during the last meeting to prioritize the goals. Everyone replied they did feel they had enough time. Mr. Sullivan asked if there are things missing from the recommendations. Mr. Garrett noted he understood the purpose of the assessment was to set a direction for the Commissioners rather than be a philosophy for the staff. He also noted that while he still agreed with the top five prioritized goals he would not want to restrict the committee too much and he would like to hear their suggestions. All Commissioners agreed and Mr. Sullivan explained they would report back to the Commission verbally with what they plan to put into action.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Transportation Program Updates

Mr. Sharp gave an overview of the Governor’s Transportation Plan. He noted there are six main parts to the plan. The six parts are; replace the 17.5 cents/gallon tax with a .8% increase in state sales tax (diesel tax remains the same), increase existing sales tax commitment from .5% to .75% over 5 years, \$15 increase in registration fees, \$100 alternative fuel vehicle fee, market place equity-transportation, and market place equity-local transportation. Mr. Chambers stated that he thinks all people who drive thru Virginia should be taxed and that alternative fuel vehicles should not be additionally taxed. Mr. Garrett noted that it doesn’t change the charges on people it only changes where the charges are made.

B. Review Key Legislative Items

Mr. Byrd explained that a list of the VML and VACo legislative priorities was included in the packet. He asked if anyone had any other priorities they would like presented. Mr. Clevinger expressed interest in teachers and other local government employees being able to participate in the state healthcare system.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Patton explained that next month's regional focus will be tourism and economic development. He also noted that a guest has been invited from Roanoke Convention & Visitors Bureau.

XI. REGIONAL FOCUS

A. Overview of PDC Financial Operations

Mr. Byrd gave an overview of the financial operations. He explained each of the accounts operated by the PDC and gave the balances of each. PDC is a reimbursement business, which keeps enough operating cash for 6 months of payroll liability. He noted the PDC budget is fluid throughout year and operations are different from local government financial operation. He then explained how the budget is created each year and how the revenue is generated, followed by the PDC's matching obligations and expenses. Mr. Byrd also explained the cost allocation plan. He noted the PDC must be entrepreneurial and noted the average investment ratio for members is 9:1.

The meeting was then adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Michael Patton, Chair
New River Valley Planning District Commission

NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
February 28, 2013
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

V. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. M. **Patton**, Chair, Town of Floyd; Mr. K. **Sullivan**, Vice-Chair, Virginia Tech; Mr. S. **Weaver**, Treasurer, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Mrs. C. **Newcomb**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. G. **East**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. F. **Gerald**, Floyd County; Mr. T. **Cox**, City of Radford; Mr. C. **Bopp**, Pulaski County; Mr. J. **Soileau**, Virginia Tech; Mr. B. **Nicholson**, City of Radford; Mr. L. **Law**, Giles County; Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. R. **Chambers**, Montgomery County; Mrs. A. **Perkins**, Montgomery County; and Mrs. E. **Janney**, Floyd County.

ABSENT: Mr. R. **Alvarez**, Radford University; Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Mrs. H. **Lesko**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. G. **Eaton**, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. C. **Via**, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg; and Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Elijah Sharp, Julie Phillips and Janet McNew.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

J. Approval of Minutes for January

Mr. Patton called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mr. Gerald moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Cox seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

K. Approval of Treasurer's Report for January

Mr. Patton called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mr. Cox moved for the approval of the treasurer's report. Mr. Bopp seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None.

IV. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Cox announced a steam excursion train will be coming through the City of Radford March 9th. The train will be stopped in Radford from approximately 12:00p.m. until 2:30p.m. allowing passengers to explore the City. Ms. Newcomb announced an IMAX theater will be coming to Blacksburg in the First and Main shopping center.

V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Sullivan gave an overview of the discussion held at the Executive Committee meeting February 20th. The committee discussed the health plan options for staff and potential changes for FY14. The committee also discussed a request by an academic institution to perform a case study on the NRV Livability Initiative. The committee decided the Commission should not participate in a case study since the project is not complete. He also announced the Livability Initiative will have a leadership forum this summer; the location and date are currently being discussed.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Patton thanked all localities that contributed memorabilia for display in the PDC office suite and asked those who have not to please get it to the PDC by March 31st. He also mentioned that if a Commissioner is not able to make it to the meeting please let PDC staff know with as much advance notice as possible.

VII. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

3. New River Valley Community Services Application to Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Rail and Transportation to purchase (4) fourteen passenger Body on Chassis Buses
4. Giles Health & Family Center Request for funds from the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Rail and Transportation to purchase (1) fifteen passenger handicapped-accessible bus

B. Regular Project Review

None.

C. Environmental Project Review

2. VADEQ Permit VA0075361- Mountain Lake Biological Research Station WWTP

Discussion: Mr. Law indicated the public notice for the project states the facility will release treated sewage into Little Stony Creek which terminates at the New River; he noted that Little Stony Creek sinks into karst and does not flow over land into the river.

He recommended this information be considered by DEQ and reevaluate permit conditions.

Motion: Mr. Law moved for the approval with recommendation to DEQ. Ms. Newcomb seconded the motion.

Action: Motion passed unanimously.

2. INGENCO Renewable Development major source construction permit - construction of a landfill gas to electricity generating facility.

Motion: Mr. Clevinger moved for the approval. Ms. Newcomb seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported: The PDC is assisting the Town of Blacksburg in a staffing capacity role for the HOME Consortium. He also spoke about the requests for technical assistance from members and noted a list of the localities that had contacted the PDC was provided in his report. The NRV Tourism website Committee met in February and expressed a desire to keep the website active. The Commission will cover the cost of website hosting for another year (approx. \$150.00). Mr. Sullivan asked, "Who provides the updates to the website, is it automatic?" Mr. Byrd explained the event section of the website is locally driven and is updated by either the chambers or a designated tourism person, but noted the committee is working with Citizens Cooperative (website designers) about automatic updates from Virginia Tourism Corporation.

Mr. Byrd made note of the PDC's new letterhead and business cards which provide a fresh look for the Commission. He will be attending an annual conference for ARC and NADO in DC mid-March. While there he will visit members of Congress representing Virginia. Mr. Byrd explained he was among a small group of directors across the country invited to attend a session hosted by the Ford Foundation on Rural Wealth Creation which will teach how to maximize local assets.

He also talked about figures Round the Mountain shared from income derived from Heartwood, there was \$250,000 income in 2012, 26% of which was from the NRV. He also spoke about the management and budget for Heartwood. Mr. Sullivan asked, "How is Heartwood doing?" Mr. Byrd replied, it is a work in progress to launch and operate such a unique facility. Some aspects are doing well and other aspects are changing based on learning experiences. Mr. Nicholson asked, "How many artisans are from the NRV?" Mr. Byrd replied the number of artisans by

county that are members in RTM and have juried into Heartwood can be obtained and will provide next month.

Mr. Byrd explained he had received news from Aric Bopp at the NRV Economic Alliance that there is concern the Port of Entry at the NRV Airport may close due the retirement of staff. There will be a meeting March 6th at 3:00 pm at the Airport to discuss what this may look like. Mr. Nicholson asked, "Will it be a public meeting?" Mr. Byrd replied, "Yes." Mr. Garrett noted that if the facility is not economically viable, there needs to be a campaign to double the traffic to make economic sense to keep the port. Mr. Byrd noted cost sharing for companies using the airport might be an idea. Dr. Warren explained in the past the NRV Airport had outperformed neighboring airports. Mr. Patton asked if we need to draft a letter expressing the need for this port in the NRV. Ms. Newcomb expressed concern needs to be strongly placed. Mr. Nicholson pointed out that this will have an impact on corporations in our area. Ms. Janney expressed a need to be forceful and support this important infrastructure in the NRV. Mr. Cox talked about the significance of the airport working with the Alliance and how the port helps attract businesses. It was decided that after the meeting on March 6th a resolution may be drafted for the Commission to consider at their meeting on March 28th, or if the issue is time sensitive, the Commission directed Mr. Byrd to draft a letter of support for the Port.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. Update from Agency Assessment Committee

Mr. Sullivan overviewed the preliminary report included in the packet. He noted the committee was made up of Mr. Chambers, Mr. Cox, Dr. Harvey, Mr. Law, and Mr. Nicholson. He explained the committee wanted to start with the recommendations that are already being implemented and explained the order or priority ranking does not mean one item is more important than another, it means the item will be able to be implemented faster. Mr. Sullivan gave a brief summary of each of the eight recommendations and then discussion followed. Mr. Garrett noted that one of the recommendations is to ensure each board member is providing a copy of the minutes to their locality, he noted after the minutes are approved they are six to eight weeks old. He suggested draft minutes be sent to board members by email (if available) within a few days of the meeting. Ms. Janney questioned the recommendation to change the annual dinner to an annual summit; she wanted further information on why it should be changed. Mr. Sullivan explained changing the dinner to a summit would create a learning session in the afternoon which would be attended by members of local planning commissions and a leadership session in the evening which would be attended by local and state leaders. Mr. Garret asked if October is the best time of year to host this type of event. Ms. Perkins explained how important it is to have top elected leaders who will attend the recommended Regional Mayors and Chairs meetings to communicate information back to their fellow elected officials. It was suggested that a

summary of those meetings be distributed as well. Ms. Newcomb asked if the committee wants feedback tonight. Mr. Sullivan responded that the intention of the preliminary report is to give the Commissioners time to read over the recommendations and they can email feedback to Mr. Byrd which will then be forwarded to the committee. Dr. Warren noted another board he sits on emails a summary of the meeting to members within a few days of the meeting. It was decided a draft copy of the minutes will be sent out to board members and local government managers after each meeting in order to increase communication between the PDC and members.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Rural Transportation Work Plan for FY13-14

Mr. Sharp gave a presentation on the Rural Transportation Work Plan. He began with explaining what the Rural Transportation Work Plan is, he explained the plan includes State Planning & Research Funds, it is administered by VDOT, it is intended for non-urbanized areas or areas outside of the MPO, and it requires 20% local match. Mr. Sharp explained tasks associated with the plan, project budget, and gave an example of a local project. He explained the Route 99 Retail Feasibility Study in the Town of Pulaski is an ongoing local project. Some of the tasks associated with this project are to identify potential economic development opportunities for the Town of Pulaski, to identify sites for redevelopment and sites for new development, to evaluate transportation enhancements, and to develop conceptual scenario plans. He then overviewed maps of the area to explain the opportunities for the Town. Mr. Sharp talked about the grant writing portion of the plan and how it is used to help localities identify funding for specific projects. Mr. Sharp explained there are 15 to 30 statewide transportation plans that are updated on a regular basis.

Motion: Ms. Perkins moved to adopt the resolution of support for FY2014 Transportation Planning Work Program. Mr. Cox seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Community Development Block Grant Priorities for FY13-14

Mr. Byrd overviewed a memo in the packet for FY13-14 pertaining to CDBG Priorities. He pointed out it is important to have all identified projects listed.

XI. REGIONAL FOCUS

A. Overview of Managing a Planning District Commission.

Mr. Byrd gave an overview of managing the PDC. He started with reviewing the recommendations he presented at his interview for the Executive Director position with the PDC in August 2009. He talked about focusing on internal successes and how those

will transition to external successes. He noted the importance of setting individual staff as well as agency wide goals, building a tenured staff, attending member government meetings as well as sitting down with Town/City Managers and County Administrators, and creating a budget along with financial preparedness. Mr. Byrd explained the PDC has seen advances in the internal side and we are now seeing increased relationships and increases on the quality of service. He overviewed short and long range goals for the PDC. He discussed the need for a new focus on direction, operation issues and the technology plan in place. He also talked about the financial oversight and how the GMS software allows project oversight. He noted the personnel focus on retaining employees is being met by improved personnel policies that offer flexibility, by empowering employees within their projects, and by engaging employees in decisions. He explained the responsibilities he has to the board including, meeting with the Executive Committee in advance of the meeting, prep work in getting the packet together as well as other business items such as program topics or speakers. He also has individual projects and advises staff in their project management roles. He explained how new project ideas are often presented to him and how he works on the front-end of projects to figure out scope, assign to staff, create a budget, then transition to staff after funded. Mr. Byrd talked about the importance of relationships and how it is important that our communities know we understand what they are doing at a certain time, this requires a lot of “out of office” time in meetings, speaking to groups, events and one-on-one appointments. He also noted relationships with organizations such as VAPDC, SERDI, ARC, and NADO are important to bring new ideas and solutions to the region. He talked about what is on the horizon for the organization and the need for a strategic plan and encouraged the board to take the lead on topics facing the region. Finally he mentioned the need for a staffing structure in order for the agency to continue on its performance trajectory and the ability to staff correctly so the Commission can address future needs in communities across the region. Mr. Garrett asked, “What are ages and experiences with in the PDC and are they far enough apart?” Mr. Byrd replied there are two people with over 20 years of service and several with 10 to 15 years so the agency is pretty balanced. Mr. Sullivan asked, “How long does it take to train a new hire?” Mr. Byrd replied about one to two years to learn the region and to be effective. Ms. Perkins commended Mr. Byrd making the Commission meetings worthwhile, for working with the staff to complete projects and accomplish fantastic things with in our communities, and for great leadership skills. Mr. Bopp noted that the board has good members.

Mr. Patton called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Mr. Cox motioned to adjourn. Ms. Newcomb seconded the motion.

The meeting was then adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Michael Patton, Chair
New River Valley Planning District Commission

NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting

held on

March 28, 2013

6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

VI. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. M. Patton, Chair, Town of Floyd; Mr. K. Sullivan, Vice-Chair, Virginia Tech; Mr. S. Weaver, Treasurer, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mrs. C. Newcomb, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. F. Gerald, Floyd County; Mr. T. Cox, City of Radford; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. J. Soileau, Virginia Tech; Mr. L. Law, Giles County; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Mrs. H. Lesko, Town of Blacksburg; and Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg.

ABSENT: Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County; Mr. B. Nicholson, City of Radford; Mr. G. East, Town of Pulaski; Mr. R. Alvarez, Radford University; Mr. G. Eaton, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. C. Via, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. R. Chambers, Montgomery County; Mrs. A. Perkins, Montgomery County; Mrs. E. Janney, Floyd County and Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Brad Mecham, Julie Phillips and Janet McNew.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

L. Approval of Minutes for February

Mr. Patton called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mr. Sullivan moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

M. Approval of Treasurer's Report for February

Mr. Patton called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Ms. Newcomb moved for the approval of the treasurer's report. Mr. Soileau seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Cox noted a steam excursion train stopped in the City of Radford March 9th and brought over 500 passengers into the City. The train was well received and the gentleman who runs the

excursion program noted in the past he has never had a community set up and be as proactive in providing services to the passengers as was done in the City of Radford. Mr. Showalter also noted the Town of Christiansburg hosted a swim and dive meet at the Aquatic Center which attracted thousands of people. He also showed the memorabilia the Town of Christiansburg contributed to the PDC for their office entrance.

IV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Sullivan gave an overview of the discussion held at the Executive Committee meeting. The committee discussed the health insurance plan options for staff and ways to keep costs in control. The committee also discussed the staffing structure and a possible partnership with The Community Foundation to continue the Livability Initiative after the grant is complete in January 2014.

V. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Patton noted the draft minutes for February had been sent out early and asked if all Commissioners received them, he explained this will continue and the turnaround will be within one week. He also explained the details of the possible Port of Entry closure at the NRV Airport. He explained how much a Port is expected to do annually to stay operational; the expectation is an average of 2,400 transactions. The port at the NRV Airport has an average of 94 transactions; however, the way pieces are counted has changed which does not clearly reflect actual volume for the area. He noted that we need to be supportive of the Port and keeping this economic development resource available to businesses in the New River Valley and beyond. The Commission will consider submitting a letter of support for the Port once more information is obtained from the NRV Economic Development Alliance, which requested data from the US Department of Homeland Security a couple of weeks ago. He also noted what a great job the Commission is doing serving the New River Valley.

VI. REGIONAL FOCUS

A. Roanoke Convention & Visitors Bureau Overview.

Mr. Landon Howard from the Roanoke Convention & Visitors Bureau gave a presentation and explained what a CVB is and what they do in terms of tourism infrastructure. Before beginning, Mr. Sullivan noted what the Roanoke CVB, along with Mr. Howard, is doing and how it includes more than just the Roanoke area. Mr. Howard explained a CVB is the regions' destination market organization and their job is to define the consumer brand and build an image for the area. The CVB acts as an information broker between the businesses and consumers. They focus on community, consumers, and competition to define a brand identity for the area. Mr. Howard explained the target audience for the area, along with the interests of visitors and the reasons they visit the area. He noted the most recognized brand for the Roanoke area internationally is the Blue Ridge Mountains and nationally it is

Virginia Tech. He explained the Roanoke CVB is using the name Virginia's Blue Ridge to define the region. He went on to discuss how the Virginia Vacation Guide contains very limited promotion of the mountains and the need for all of western Virginia to work together on this issue extending from the Shenandoah Valley down to far southwest. Mr. Patton asked, "Who publishes the Virginia Vacation Guide?" Mr. Howard replied, "It is published by the state." Dr. Harvey asked, "If ideas related to Virginia Tech being a nationally recognized brand are positive or negative?" Mr. Howard explained all comments he has received have been positive. Ms. Newcomb asked, "What will be necessary to make the Virginia mountain region happen and be recognizable?" Mr. Howard explained the CVB is currently working with other areas to see who is interested in working together; he also noted how an area can be marketed individually within a region depending on the needs. Mr. Sullivan asked, "Why do most tourists come to our area?" Mr. Howard replied most visitors come for outdoor activities, while some visit Roanoke for restaurants and the symphony. Mr. Howard explained visitors to the area do not see boundaries; they stay in both Roanoke and in the NRV. Mr. Sullivan asked, "How is the CVB funded?" Mr. Howard replied they are currently funded through a lodging tax agreement with local governments in their area as well as business members outside of the participating localities. Mr. Sullivan also inquired if anyone could join the Roanoke CVB. Mr. Howard indicated businesses outside of the member local governments could pay to be members and receive benefits from the CVB. Mr. Patton then thanked Mr. Howard for giving the presentation and asked Ms. Bleakly from Montgomery County Tourism Development Council if she had any additional comments. Ms. Bleakly noted she is in the final stages of completing the Tourism Strategic Plan for Montgomery County, Blacksburg and Christiansburg. During the plan development process it appears there are opportunities where Montgomery County can work with Roanoke CVB and still have their own identity and have a unique local brand when it makes sense to do so.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported: The PDC staff coordinated with the MPO and Virginia Tech to host a meeting with two Commonwealth Transportation Board members to take a closer look at two projects, the Multi-Modal Facility at VT and the Southgate Drive Interchange Project. It was also noted the PDC is preparing a Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan for the MPO.

The Town of Narrows and Taylor Hollow Construction held an open house to showcase a project in downtown Narrows which consisted of renovation of a downtown building with the lower floor being leased to the Town for their town hall and the upstairs was converted to affordable housing. The housing portion of the project utilized funds from the NRV HOME Consortium. Mr. Garrett stated how important it is for a small town to have to have businesses downtown, he notes they now have a grocery store and a bank and are hoping to have more businesses on Main Street.

Mr. Byrd also reported the NRV Commerce Park secured their first tenant, Red Sun Farms. They will be investing \$30 million and create over 200 jobs in five years. He also explained due to impacts from sequestration, the PDC will be receiving a \$10,000 reduction in economic development planning funds from EDA for FY14.

Mr. Byrd explained the Livability Initiative's interactive community survey, CrowdGauge, will launch in April and gave a list of open houses in the area to provide people without internet access so they can have an opportunity to share their priorities. He also announced the annual Planning Commissioner's training will be held May 15th at the NRV Business Center. Mr. Patton explained that he will be present for the Planning Commissioners Training and he wants other Commissioners to join him. Mr. Byrd noted the PDC will be working with Pulaski County and the Town of Pulaski to provide technical assistance to identify whether the two governments could work together collecting tax revenue, he explained the PDC will not offer any recommendations and only provide a report to both localities. He also reported a handout with the NRV sales at Heartwood was distributed, it shows what the average artisan revenue from items at Heartwood.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recommendations from the Agency Assessment Committee

Mr. Sullivan explained the final report was included in the packet and noted an additional comment was received from Ms. Janney concerning the change in the annual dinner. The comment from Ms. Janney was as follows; "Floyd County members strongly disagree and are opposed to changing the time for this meeting. The dinner is not the subject but the time is. Our members are working public jobs in the afternoon. It is not always possible to take time off from work and be able to keep a job. They do value the opportunity they currently have being able to share with the other counties. I thought the elected officials should be meeting with their constituents and have been included in our meetings." Mr. Garrett noted the dinner in the past has focused on local Planning Commissioners and asked if they will continue to be invited as they are not listed on the target audience in the recommendation. Mr. Sullivan replied, "Yes they will be included, the intent is to have more of a training session in the afternoon and a gathering of the region in the evening rather than a dinner where each locality would present." Mr. Gerald noted how in the past each community has given a report and he would like that to continue. Mr. Sullivan explained that the intent is to change the event but not to exclude. Ms. Lesko noted that if the target audience is too large it will be hard to find a space to accommodate everyone and noted that it changes the dynamic to include everyone. Mr. Patton noted that it does change; however, it does not mean that anyone will be left out and it will make the entire event better overall.

Motion: Mr. Sullivan moved to approve the recommendation of accepting the Agency Assessment Subcommittee report as presented. Ms. Newcomb seconded the motion.

Amended Motion: Mr. Garrett made a motion to amend the previous motion to hold item two, changes to the annual dinner, until it is discussed further and vote on it at the April meeting. Mr. Cox seconded the amended motion.

Further Discussion: Mr. Patton expressed how this item is very important to him and there is a need to change and explained how all concerns have been honored. Ms. Newcomb noted there is room for improvement within the current dinner structure. Mr. Lesko asked if there is a time limit on the vote. Mr. Patton replied, "No." Mr. Sullivan noted all committee meetings have been open session, everyone was encouraged to comment, and the goal is to reformat the organization into a regional body that convenes.

Action: A role call vote was conducted on the amended motion:

Mr. Bopp - yes
Mr. Clevinger - no
Mr. Cox - yes
Mr. Garrett - yes
Mr. Gerald - abstain
Dr. Harvey - yes
Mr. Law - yes
Ms. Lesko - yes
Ms. Newcomb - no
Mr. Patton - no
Mr. Showalter - no
Mr. Soileau - no
Mr. Sullivan - no
Mr. Weaver - no

Motion fails; 7 to 6 vote, one abstention.

Action: A role call vote was conducted on the original motion:

Mr. Bopp - yes
Mr. Clevinger - yes
Mr. Cox - yes
Mr. Garrett - yes
Mr. Gerald - no

Dr. Harvey - yes
Mr. Law - yes
Ms. Lesko - yes
Ms. Newcomb - yes
Mr. Patton - yes
Mr. Showalter - yes
Mr. Soileau - yes
Mr. Sullivan - yes
Mr. Weaver - yes

Motion passed; 13 to 1 vote.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Patton began implementing the Agency Assessment Committee's report as follows; item one, Mayors and Chairs meeting, Mr. Byrd will identify a date for the first meeting to take place in the new fiscal year. Item two: Mr. Patton named himself and Dr. Harvey as co-chairs for the NRV Annual Summit, the committee will be determined at another date. Item six, Conduct Fact-Finding Field Visits: Mr. Patton named a committee to report back to the Commission with a complete recommendation as soon as possible. The committee will be Mr. Clevenger, Chair, along with Mr. Garrett, Ms. Perkins, and Mr. Soileau. Item seven, GIS services: There will be a task force comprised of people outside of the Commission; the Chair will be Ms. Lesko.

A. Review CEDS Goals, Objectives, and Ranking Criteria

Mr. Mecham gave a presentation on the CEDS Goals, Objectives, and Ranking Criteria. He explained the CEDS is done every year and is sent to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to identify projects that will benefit the region. He noted the reason the CEDS is done is to qualify projects for EDA funding and provide vision for the regions' economic future. He gave some examples of projects that received EDA funds because they were identified in the CEDS such as, the Corporate Research Center at VT, local hospitals, and most recently a multi-tenant business building within the Floyd County Commerce Park. Mr. Mecham explained the CEDS is created by the CEDS committee and noted that by law there is 51% or more private sector representation. He then overviewed some of the surveys used to determine the needs of the area. The Workforce Investment Board provided a Skills Gap survey which identified the top five soft skills and top seven technical skills needed by employers. The cluster analysis also identified some of the strong economic sectors of the region. The Livability Initiative Community Priority Survey helped identify goals, objectives & strategies by locality. He then explained the goals this year are condensed into seven key areas and the ranking structure for the CEDS is proposed to remain unchanged.

Discussion: Mr. Sullivan asked if the concern or problem of individuals not passing drug testing has come up. Mr. Mecham explained that it is a problem and noted one industry on the CEDS committee brought a different perspective to the committee this by explaining they eliminate 50-60% of applicants because of reading comprehension skills. Ms. Newcomb expressed that this is a problem that needs to be brought to the local school boards attention. Mr. Mecham noted there are two school systems with representatives on the CEDS committee. Mr. Patton asked if each locality is represented on the CEDS committee. Mr. Mecham noted the committee could use more representation from Giles County. Mr. Sullivan expressed a need for the Commission to promote awareness of the NRV and explained this board can be a bridge for our region.

X. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

5. Pulaski County Skyview Sewer Project

C. Regular Project Review

None.

C. Environmental Project Review

3. [13-09] - V ADEQ Pollution Prevention

Motion: Mr. Sullivan moved for the approval with recommendation to DEQ. Dr. Harvey seconded the motion.

Action: Motion passed unanimously.

XI. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None.

Mr. Patton called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Ms. Newcomb motioned to adjourn. Mr. Soileau seconded the motion.

The meeting was then adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Michael Patton, Chair
New River Valley Planning District Commission

NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting

held on

April 25, 2013

6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

VII. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. M. Patton, Chair, Town of Floyd; Mr. S. Weaver, Treasurer, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. J. Carpenter, Radford University; Mr. R. Chambers, Montgomery County; Mr. G. East, Town of Pulaski; Mr. G. Eaton, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. Gerald, Floyd County; Mrs. E. Janney, Floyd County; Mr. J. Soileau, Virginia Tech; Mr. L. Law, Giles County; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Mrs. H. Lesko, Town of Blacksburg; Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County and Mr. J. Vanhoozier, Town of Christiansburg.

ABSENT: Mr. K. Sullivan, Vice-Chair, Virginia Tech; Mrs. C. Newcomb, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. B. Nicholson, City of Radford; Mr. C. Via, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. T. Cox, City of Radford; Mrs. A. Perkins, Montgomery County and Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Brad Mecham and Julie Phillips.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

N. Approval of Minutes for March

Mr. Patton called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Mr. Patton noted on page 6 of the minutes the first line should read, "There will be a task force which will include people outside of the Commission as well as board members."

Motion: Ms. Lesko moved for the approval of the minutes, with the changes noted by Mr. Patton. Mr. Gerald seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

O. Approval of Treasurer's Report for February

Mr. Patton called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mr. Garrett moved for the approval of the treasurer's report. Dr. Harvey seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)
6. EDA Planning Assistance FY14

D. Regular Project Review
None.

C. Environmental Project Review
None.

IV. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. East noted the Town of Pulaski is currently working on their budget process. Mr. Gerald stated Floyd County has finalized their budget for next year. He also said Floyd County will not have to raise taxes for its residents. Mr. Patton shared an article that was published in Antique Week, which is a national publication, featuring an auction which Mr. Clevinger served as a coin appraiser.

V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT/CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Patton welcomed Mr. Carpenter, the Commission's representative from Radford University. Mr. Patton called for the Commission to adopt a resolution of appreciation for Mr. Alvarez, the previous representative from Radford University.

Motion: Mr. Soileau moved for the adoption of the resolution. Mr. Eaton seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Patton also welcomed Mr. Vanhoozier, who attended the meeting in Mr. Showalter's place for the Town of Christiansburg. Mr. Patton gave an overview of the discussion at the Executive Committee meeting. At the April meeting the committee primarily discussed next year's budget and the impact of sequestration. He explained they also discussed the staff position at the Port of Entry in Dublin and noted a letter of support has been sent to U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Lastly, Mr. Patton announced the VAPDC conference this summer will be held July 25-27 and explained the commission can send 3 additional board members. Also, the annual Planning Commissioner training event will be May 15th at the NRV Business Center and board members are encouraged to attend.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Regional Transit Coordinating Council Future Meeting Schedule

Mr. Byrd noted a memo was included in the packet. He also noted the feedback received from the group has been positive and the meetings were valuable to the participants. As the memo indicates, the Transit Coordinating Council would like to continue their efforts for another two years.

Mr. Patton called for the Commission to approve the request from the Transit Coordinating Council by extending the meetings for another two years.

Motion: Ms. Lesko moved for the approval. Dr. Warren seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried, one abstention, Mr. Vanhoozier.

B. Review CEDS Project List

Mr. Mecham gave an overview of the CEDS project list for this year. He explained projects are identified by local governments in the region and the CEDS committee. He noted that of the projects listed, eleven are complete and fifteen have been funded or are currently underway. He also noted that total funding for the completed or underway projects in the region is \$107,000,000.

Discussion: Ms. Lesko asked, "Why do projects that are ranked the highest not have dedicated responsible agencies?" Mr. Byrd replied, "They are ranked on project readiness and if it is lacking responsible agents or partners it is something that can be lacking but the project has been identified by the CEDS committee or others as a project of value." Dr. Warren noted that on the handout provided at the meeting the project names Skyview Subdivision/Fairgrounds Area Sewer should not include Fairgrounds Area since that was reduced from the scope of work. Dr. Warren also noted the Fairgrounds still needs sewer improvements.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a report in the Commission agenda packet. He further reported on the following: The Southwest Creative Economy Conference will be held September 19-20 in Abingdon and noted a new effort "Appalachian Spring" will be highlighted at this conference. The PDC is facilitating a brokerage agreement between four public utility providers, Peppers Ferry Wastewater Treatment, Pulaski County PSA, Blacksburg-Christiansburg-VPI Water Authority and Montgomery County PSA, for the purposes of a utility conduit under the Rt. 114 Bridge. The public utility providers, which are parties to an agreement with the PDC for the utility conduit, are currently in discussions with their respective boards about participation in the project. Mr. Byrd

explained the Livability Initiative is currently conducting NRV Tomorrow survey outreach meetings, with an average of 10 or 15 people attending each meeting. He noted the letter that went out in support of the Port of Entry was based on a template the alliance put together and stated if any local government would like the template he will provide it to them. The New River Symposium, an annual meeting focusing on the watershed from NC to WV, will be held May 30-31 at Radford University and 3 PDC staff members will highlight recent work at the Commission. He noted two staff members were invited, and attended, a conference in South Carolina to present their work based on the value their approaches would bring to other regions of the country. The memorabilia from Commission members is almost complete and at the next meeting in May the Commission will be invited to walk down to see the entrance area to the office. Lastly, he explained the budget will be presented a little differently this year, next year's budget will be presented in May and the revised budget will be presented in June.

IX. REGIONAL FOCUS

A. Montgomery County, Blacksburg, Christiansburg Tourism Overview

Ms. Lisa Bleakley, Executive Director, Montgomery County Regional Tourism Office gave a presentation and overview of the operations at the tourism office. She explained the Montgomery County Tourism Office was established in 2011 and in the fall of 2012 she was hired as the first Director. She highlighted the different tourism assets with examples from Blacksburg, Christiansburg and Montgomery County. She noted the partnerships between Blacksburg, Christiansburg and Montgomery County and the surrounding areas. She explained that it will take all localities working together to create a successful tourism program.

B. A video on Appalachian Spring, which is a rural jobs accelerator grant program, was shown by Mr. Byrd. The video gave an overview of the different recreation assets in southwest Virginia as well as the history in the region. Mr. Byrd explained the program is about building recreation resources for the purposes of economic development and enhancing quality of life. A project administrator has been hired to focus on economic metrics. The project will look back at economic indicators from 2002, the year before The Crooked Road started, to evaluate whether any economic changes can be attributed to the creative economy. The concept right now is for this to be a sister organization to The Crooked Road and 'Round the Mountain, but for recreation. He explained this is a 3 year planning process and it will engage communities about assets they would like developed. The project will also work with Virginia Community Capital and People Inc. to develop creative lending solutions for businesses. Planning Districts will be involved by holding community meetings.

X. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None.

Mr. Patton called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Ms. Janney motioned to adjourn. Mr. Bopp seconded the motion.

The meeting was then adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Michael Patton, Chair
New River Valley Planning District Commission

**Appendix II
CEDS Committee Membership,
NRV Livability Initiative Economic Development Working Group,
and
PDC Membership**

New River Valley

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee

Name	Representing	Public/Private
Buddy Kast	Town of Narrows	Public
Kamala Bauers	Floyd County	Private
Jim Flowers	Virginia Tech	Private
Michael Miller	Montgomery County	Private
Peggy White	Pulaski County	Private, Chamber of Commerce
Jim Loux	Pulaski County	Private
Brad Jones	Town of Pearisburg	Private
John White	Town of Pulaski	Public
John Hawley	Town of Pulaski	Public
Basil Edwards	City of Radford	Public
Henry Showalter	Christiansburg	Private
Anthony Byrd	Radford University	Private
Sam Moore	Town of Floyd	Private
Aric Bopp	New River Valley	Public
Marty Holliday	Workforce Investment Board	Public
Joe Fortier	Radford	Private
Thomas Loflin	Christiansburg	Private
Rick Weaver	Montgomery County	Public
Randall Rose	Virginia Tourism Corp.	Public
David Denny	Blacksburg	Private
Shaun Rai	Town of Christiansburg	Private
Gary Forget	Town of Dublin	Private
Becky Greer	City of Radford	Public

New River Valley Planning District Commission Contact:
Brad Mecham, bmecham@nrpdc.org, 540-639-9313 x206

New River Valley Livability Initiative
Economic Development Working Group

Name	Representing
Karen Drake	Town of Blacksburg
Mel Jones	Virginia Tech Center for Housing Research
Gary Reedy	Citizens Telephone Cooperative
Marty Holliday	New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board
Dennis Reece	Citizens Telephone Cooperative
Carol Davis	NRVPDC
Kim Thurlow	NRVPDC
Mike Burton	Sustain Floyd
Jackie Pontious	Community Housing Partners
Patrick O'Brien	Virginia Tech Office of Economic Development

FY 2012-2013
New River Valley Planning District Commission Members
Chair – Ms. Holly Lesko
Vice-Chair – Mr. Mike Patton
Treasurer – Mr. Scott Weaver
At-Large – Mr. Kevin Sullivan
Past-Chair – Ms. Annette Perkins

<u>Floyd County:</u>	Mr. Fred Gerald* 994 Sutphin Rd., NW Willis, VA 24380	Ms. Evelyn Janney 366 Bethlehem Church Rd., NE Floyd, VA 24091	<u>Town of Floyd:</u> Mr. Mike Patton* 123 Wilson Street Floyd, VA 24091
<u>Giles County:</u>	Mr. Richard McCoy* 771 Spruce Run Road Newport, VA 24128	Vacant	<u>Town of Narrows:</u> Mr. Thomas Garrett* 105 Bridge Street Narrows, VA 24124
	<u>Town of Pearisburg:</u> Mr. Charles Via* 319 French Street Pearisburg, VA 24134	<u>Town of Rich Creek:</u> Mr. Gary Eaton* PO Box 65 Rich Creek, VA 24147	
<u>Montgomery County:</u>	Ms. Annette Perkins* 1407 Valley View Drive Blacksburg, VA 24060	Mr. Ray Chambers 1425 Smithfield Drive Blacksburg, VA 24060	
<u>Pulaski County:</u>	Mr. Doug Warren 4540 Shelburne Road Radford, VA 24141	Mr. Joseph Sheffey* PO Box 56 New River, VA 24129	Mr. Charles Bopp* PO Box 1402 Pulaski, VA 24301
<u>City of Radford:</u>	Mr. Tim Cox* 905 Walker Drive Radford, VA 24141	Dr. Helen Harvey 701 Berkley St. Radford, VA 24141	
<u>Town of Blacksburg:</u>	Ms. Cecile Newcomb* 911 Gracelyn Court Blacksburg, VA 24060	Ms. Holly Lesko 1708 Westover Drive Blacksburg, VA 24060	
<u>Town of Christiansburg:</u>	Mr. Scott Weaver 965 Cardinal Drive Christiansburg, VA 24073	Mr. Henry Showalter* 455 Overhill Road Christiansburg, VA 24073	
<u>Town of Pulaski</u>	Mr. Morgan Welker* 127 Pine Street Pulaski, VA 24301	Mr. Larry Clevinger 1128 Well Street Pulaski, VA 24301	
<u>Radford University:</u>	Mr. Richard Alvarez Preston Hall 0240 Radford, VA 24141		
<u>Virginia Tech:</u>	Ms. Leigh LaClair VA Tech 112 Sterrett Facilities Complex Blacksburg, VA 24061	Mr. Kevin Sullivan 2103 Chestnut Drive Blacksburg, VA 24060	* = Elected Official

Appendix III
Letters/Resolutions from Localities

Floyd County Board of Supervisors

NRVPI

P.O. Box 218

Floyd, Virginia

24091

April 18, 2013

Mr. Kevin Byrd, Executive Director
New River Valley Planning District Commission
6580 Valley Center Drive
Box 21
Radford, Virginia 24141

Dear Mr. Byrd:

RE: Fiscal Year 2013-2014

Please accept this letter as Floyd County's expression of support for the New River Valley Planning District Commission's efforts to secure EDA funding for the coming fiscal year. The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is vital to the continued economic growth of our region. We frequently update our list of future projects, and have many economic development needs in the Floyd County community and look forward to PDC and EDA assistance with those.

The New River Valley Planning District Commission assumes the lead role in helping this region prepare for the future by planning and promoting economic development including the writing of our region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). I understand the Planning District Commission will be applying to the Economic Development Administration for funding assistance to help continue this vital role as lead planning agency for our region.

The County of Floyd is strongly supportive of this essential program. As we are too small to have a full planning department, the PDC services as the only professional planning organization that we can rely upon. This service to our County is vital for the careful consideration of growth options given our County's anticipated rate of growth. The PDC assures that our planning needs are professionally addressed within a regional framework.

The County and I appreciate the services and professional support that is offered by the New River Valley Planning District Commission. If there is anything that the County or I can do to assist you in securing this important grant, please let me know. Again, thank you for your continued cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,
COUNTY OF FLOYD


Dan Campbell
County Administrator

Larry "Jay" Williams
Eastern District Supervisor

Barbara Hobbs
Central District Supervisor

Scott Dunn
Western District Supervisor

County of Giles



Board of Supervisors

315 North Main Street
Pearisburg, Virginia 24134

Paul "Chappy" Baker
At-Large Supervisor

Richard McCoy
At-Large Supervisor

RECEIVED

MAY 01 2013

NRVPC

April 22, 2013

Mr. Kevin Byrd, Executive Director
New River Valley Planning District Commission
6850 Valley Center Drive, Suite 124
Radford, VA 24141

Dear Mr. Byrd:

The Giles County Board of Supervisors strongly endorses the economic development planning activities currently being conducted by the New River Valley Planning District Commission. These efforts benefit all the county and municipal jurisdictions within our region and area, which are possible only as a result of the funding support received from the Economic Development Administration.

Giles County is working on several projects that will be beneficial to the overall economic development of the area. Wheatland EcoPark a unique type of ecologically friendly industrial park in the eastern portion of the county. All facilities constructed there will meet LEED certification. The first tenant, NanoSonic, has been in operation in the park for about three years. This company is a nanotechnology firm and is located in a new LEED certified building in this EcoPark. They have about 60 employees and plan for expansion at this location.

A replacement of the water tank in the Hoges Chapel area of the county is also underway. This is necessary in order to replace an aging portion of the water system and to upgrade that system to serve the new Wheatland EcoPark development.

Thank you very much for your support of the citizens of Giles County. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Chris McKlarney
County Administrator

Telephone (540) 921-2525

Fax: (540) 921-1846



OFFICE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATION
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
E. CRAIG MEADOWS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

RECEIVED

APR 20 2013

NRVPCG

755 ROANOKE STREET, SUITE 2E, CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA 24073-3181

April 19, 2013

Kevin Byrd, Executive Director
New River Valley Planning District Commission
6580 Valley Center Drive, Suite 124
Radford, VA 24141

Dear Kevin:

Montgomery County offers this letter as support for the New River Valley Planning District Commission's effort to secure an Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014.

The New River Valley Planning District Commission supports the New River Valley region through planning and promotion of economic development activities, as well as the writing of our region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. We understand the Planning District Commission is applying to the EDA for funding to assist in performing this role for the region.

Montgomery County offers support for the Planning District Commission's grant request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig Meadows".

E. Craig Meadows
County Administrator

FCM/jk

Administration

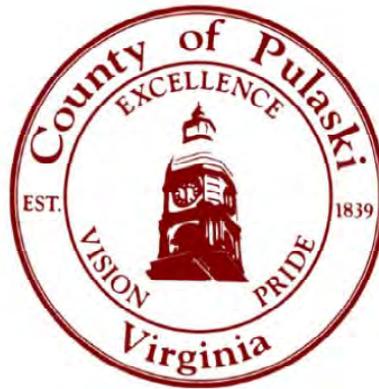
143 Third Street, NW, Suite 1

Pulaski, VA 24301

540-980-7705

540-980-7717

www.pulaskicounty.org



**Pulaski County
In Virginia's New River Valley**

May 7, 2013

Mr. Kevin R. Byrd
Executive Director
New River Valley PDC
6580 Valley Center Drive, Ste 124
Fairlawn, VA 24141

Dear Kevin:

Pulaski County endorses this year's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy update for the New River Valley.

I would like to thank you and your staff for your efforts to ensure these projects come to fruition. The work you offer in compiling and seeking state and/or federal funding for these projects is certainly a benefit to the County and the region as a whole.

As you and your staff work to update the region's Strategic Plan, we need to remember that in the economy we are presently faced with, the key to the effective use of state and federal funds is the way in which localities throughout our region can work together in partnership with the same goals. The development, distribution and endorsement of the CEDS and its projects are important parts of this process.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments regarding this endorsement.

Sincerely,

Peter M. Huber
County Administrator

/gh



RECEIVED

APR 20 2013

NRVPDC

April 19, 2013

Mr. Kevin Byrd
Executive Director, NRVPCD
6580 Valley Center Drive, Suite 124
Radford, Virginia 24141

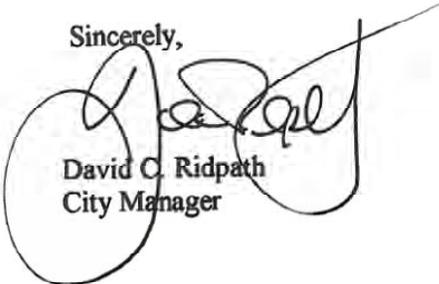
Dear Kevin:

The City of Radford would like to convey to you its support of the economic development planning efforts of the New River Valley Planning District Commission, including preparation of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

The Commission has been a strong supporter of regional economic development activities by serving as administrative staff to economic development organizations, maintaining the regional economic development related issues. It is for these reasons, as well as others, that we support the planning functions of the New River Valley Planning District Commission and its pursuit of grant funding from the Economic Development Administration.

If I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,



David C. Ridpath
City Manager