

# 2012

## Virginia's New River Valley: Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2012 Annual Report and 2013 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 (FY13) update was developed based on the goals, objectives, strategies, and projects related to the categories of People, Business/Industry and Employment, Natural and Cultural Resources, and Physical Infrastructure.

## 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. Fifteen 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. 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](http://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 2012**



## **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **Virginia's New River Valley**

#### **VISION 2020**

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

**Updated March 2012**

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 April 2012 and are presented here in the four interrelated categories of People, Business/Industry and Employment, Natural and Cultural Resources, and Physical Infrastructure.

## Goals and Objectives

### PEOPLE

The New River Valley sees its people as its greatest resource for economic sustainability. We recognize that in order for our area to be prosperous, our people must have the tools, resources, and education necessary to reach their full potential as citizens, workers and leaders.

**P-1 Goal: To create educational programs that transcend school district lines to maximize available resources and eliminate inequity.**

**Objective:** Use multi-media, distance learning and other technologies in the classroom to share instructional resources and deliver access to information throughout the region, focusing on dual-enrollment and AP programs.

**Objective:** Allocate resources equitably to ensure that students from all economic and basic skill groups in school are prepared, encouraged, and ready to learn.

**Objective:** Encourage State recognition of the need for a funding formula fostering regional cooperation among public schools in technology training and education.

**P-2 Goal: To improve the Industry / Education interface at all levels.**

**Objective:** 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 and promotes the importance of skill development in order to prepare them to compete in a global economy.

**Objective:** Provide nurturing environment to all children that stresses "employability skills" including work ethic.

**Objective:** Expand mentoring and "shadow" programs.

**Objective:** Establish as an outcome of education and training programs preparation for business ownership.

**Objective:** Create apprenticeship program to train New River Valley residents in trade-specific skills.

**P-3 Goal: To increase literacy rates among the region's children and adults (90% with High School Diploma or equivalent).**

**Objective:** Expand programs to teach basic literacy skills.

**Objective:** Offer more on-site literacy training opportunities to local businesses and industries.



**P-4      Goal:    To create life-long learning opportunities for New River Valley residents.**

**Objective:**    Expand educational curriculum, operating hours, use of technology, and location of programming to offer non-traditional students educational opportunities to meet the needs of all of the region's residents.

**Objective:**    Provide affordable, diverse, and accessible continuing education opportunities.

**P-5      Goal:    To train and re-train workers for higher skills and productivity in the 21st Century economy.**

**Objective:**    Train managers and workers to meet the current and future challenges of a competitive marketplace.

**Objective:**    Expand existing and explore new opportunities for business training and professional development programs (i.e. CREATES).

**Objective:**    Encourage the "one stop career shop" to program services based on economic opportunities of the region and geared to providing skills and assistance necessary to compete in the global marketplace.

**Objective:**    Implement an integrated workforce curriculum for 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades to prepare students for technical careers that will support the recruitment of high technology, bio-technology and/or nano-technology industries to the New River Valley.

**P-6      Goal:    To enhance and link the region's labor skills and technology advantages to improve wage levels.**

**Objective:**    Link local industries with technology and research capabilities of Virginia Tech, Radford University, and New River Community College.

**Objective:**    Expand the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center's programs to include a strong technology transfer component.

**Objective:**    Encourage alternative education in vocational programs, developing marketable skills, including business skills.

**Objective:**    Market the region's specialty skill base to prospective industries.

**Objective:**    Support research and development at all higher education institutions.

**P-7      Goal:    To foster inter-agency cooperation in the delivery of human services.**

**Objective:**    Devise an easily available system for the delivery of human services.

**Objective:**    Strengthen client awareness of available services through better use of media, technology, and volunteer care networks, and the grouping of social service agency representatives and informational material within the one stop center.

**P-8 Goal: To provide affordable and accessible human services to all New River Valley citizens.**

**Objective:** Make high quality services available in the New River Valley.

**Objective:** Target the needs of "high risk" persons of the region in order to allow greater participation of these persons in the workforce and community.

**Objective:** Encourage and improve volunteer involvement in the delivery of human services.

**P-9 Goal: To create an affordable, accessible public transportation system for all citizens.**

**Objective:** Coordinate and maximize the use of existing public and private transportation resources focused on employment mobility.

**Objective:** Target and coordinate the expansion of currently available and on demand transportation services to fill the needs of elderly, disabled, and disadvantaged citizens.

**Objective:** Plan and coordinate the expansion of the existing public transportation network to incorporate the entire New River Valley.

**Objective:** Support volunteer-based transportation alternatives (e.g. RIDE Solutions).

**P-10 Goal: To expand the region's child and adult day care network.**

**Objective:** Support the development of an integrated network of private and public child and adult day care providers to assist families twenty-four hours a day.

**P-11 Goal: To ensure the safety of the region's citizens.**

**Objective:** Improve the region's preparedness and ability to respond to natural crisis and man-made emergencies.

**Objective:** Reduce police, fire, and Emergency Medical Service response times throughout the New River Valley.

**P-12 Goal: To provide youth programs and support.**

**Objective:** Provide access to family basics training.

**Objective:** Encourage a system of after school programs (e.g., boys and girls clubs).

**Objective:** Support the provision of youth shelter(s).

**P-13 Goal: To recognize and celebrate emerging cultural diversity.**

**Objective:** Recognize the cultural diversity that is the New River Valley.

**Objective:** Integrate emerging cultural diversity.

**P-14 Goal: To train, inspire, support and deploy qualified leadership for all sectors and programs in the region.**

**Objective:** Support Leadership Development Programs.

**Objective:** Develop regional leadership organization and certification programs.

**P-15 Goal: To establish youth involvement in the regional community.**

**Objective:** Establish youth leadership training.

**Objective:** Seek youth participation in programs and provide recognition.

**Objective:** Create youth-specific seats on local councils, boards, and committees.

**Objective:** Create a Youth Entrepreneurial Center for business and civic development and practice.

**Objective:** Establish youth leadership recognition program.

**P-16 Goal: To enhance public understanding of organizations and their functions.**

**Objective:** Community awareness workshops for corporate leaders and elected officials.

**Objective:** Establish a mechanism to foster regional coordination among government agencies and organizations.

**Objective:** Research and publicize non-profit and public contributions to community development efforts.

**Objective:** Quarterly human service community meetings to discuss service delivery and system constraints and promote community input and collaborative problem solving.

**P-17 Goal: To promote and support organizational development and engagement in regional cooperation and collaboration.**

**Objective:** Strengthen Non-profit corporate governance.

**Objective:** Promote local philanthropy to enhance community investment and commitment to local development.

**Objective:** Support regional coordination within and between government agencies.

**Objective:** Support partnerships between government agencies and Non-profits.

**P-18 Goal: To assist in the establishment of a regional system to protect the region's physical and economic security.**

**Objective:** Encourage the training of law enforcement departments in Homeland Security.

**Objective:** Assist localities in meeting homeland planning requirements.

**Objective:** Support communication interoperability among first responders.

**P-19 Goal: Support the changing needs and preferences of housing with respect to current and projected demographic shifts within the New River Valley.**

**Objective:** Collect data related to aging in place within the region.

**Objective:** Develop training programs to develop workforce skills in home modifications and retrofits

## **BUSINESS/INDUSTRY AND EMPLOYMENT**

The New River Valley has a diverse economic base, from emerging high technology industries to traditional family farms, all of which need to be supported and developed so that they can continue to provide high quality jobs and regional investment.

### **BI-1 Goal: To expand the use of green, bio, and nano technologies as a basis for entrepreneurial ventures.**

- Objective:** Encourage the use of locally developed technology in manufacturing and other industries.
- Objective:** Support the development of E-commerce and business-to-business ventures.
- Objective:** Encourage the formation of programs to develop green/bio/nano technology based businesses.
- Objective:** Broaden the availability of educational programs that support green/bio/nano technology based business ventures.

### **BI-2 Goal: To increase the number of jobs created through entrepreneurial start-ups and expansions in the New River Valley.**

- Objective:** Optimize existing resources for entrepreneurs and promote collaboration between those resources (SBDC, VTKnowledgeWorks, NRVCC, etc.)
- Objective:** Organize creative financing programs and improve entrepreneurs' access to capital.
- Objective:** Strengthen the New River Valley's capacity to assist in the creation and expansion of businesses that are competitive locally, nationally, and globally.
- Objective:** Support the business incubators, and their services to new businesses including the development of corporate structures.
- Objective:** Business establishment as an educational outcome.
- Objective:** Increase small business support services through provision of community e-commerce space as well as trainings (social media, computer, etc.) and connections between interns and employers.

### **BI-3 Goal: To increase the development and support of local family farms.**

- Objective:** Develop educational, networking and mentoring programs to support and encourage the continuation of family farms.
- Objective:** Expand the availability and networking of "farmers markets" for selling of local produce and farming products (i.e. eggs, meats, wool, etc).
- Objective:** Develop and expand the availability of processing and aggregation facilities for local farm products (i.e. meats, dairy, vegetables, etc).

- Objective:** Implement “Farms to School” programs, which would widen the market for locally grown produce and products and provide our children with better quality food.
- Objective:** Incorporate into secondary and post-secondary agricultural programs opportunities for learning about organic and “green” methods and technologies.
- Objective:** Encourage cooperation between farmers and their public and private sector partners.
- Objective:** Support local foods as part of economic growth and diversity.

**BI-4 Goal: To encourage "would be" entrepreneurs through education and enhanced opportunities.**

- Objective:** Provide alternate educational opportunities and support to encourage self-employment.
- Objective:** Encourage and acknowledge entrepreneurial efforts in established local industries and businesses.
- Objective:** Encourage home-based, community-based business zoning.
- Objective:** Explore the establishment of a youth entrepreneurial center.

**BI-5 Goal: To expand the region's economic base without compromising the high quality of life.**

- Objective:** Recruit environmentally responsible companies that are utilizing green technology and infrastructure.
- Objective:** Utilize appropriate land use controls and utility availability to direct business to appropriate locations.
- Objective:** Develop and promote micro-business opportunities for recycled products to enhance local utilization of recycled materials.

**BI-6 Goal: To improve the region's ability to market itself and respond to the needs of new industrial, research, and technological prospects.**

- Objective:** Market the region's current projects and create a database of available industrial, technology, and research space and services.
- Objective:** Expand multi-regional marketing campaigns involving the New River Valley Economic Development Alliance, and similar organizations throughout Western Virginia.

**BI-7 Goal: To strengthen the economic position of downtown commercial districts.**

- Objective:** Enhance the diversity of the region's shopping opportunities.
- Objective:** Improve the competitiveness of downtown business districts.

- Objective:** Seek diversification and mixed use redevelopment of commercial districts.
- Objective:** Support downtown revitalization goals within each New River Valley community.

**BI-8 Goal: To improve the customer service quality of local businesses.**

- Objective:** Provide service instruction to employees.
- Objective:** Improve the region's ability to provide basic travel information to visitors through regional collaboration on marketing initiatives and a regional website.

**BI-9 Goal: To improve the region's tourism development potential and ability to market itself as a tourism destination.**

- Objective:** Develop a feasibility report on the appropriate Tourism Marketing Organizations to market the Region.
- Objective:** Increase the region's tourism readiness and marketing capacity by developing a process to better utilize media for region wide initiatives.
- Objective:** Develop a process for coordination of regional events to incorporate tours, sites, weekend packages that would include multiple NRV localities.
- Objective:** Attract support services.
- Objective:** Participate, support, and encourage southwestern Virginia initiatives such as 'Round the Mountain, Crooked Road, and Heartwood Center.

**BI-10 Goal: To attract new industries that will complement the region's economy, strengthen inter-industry linkages, and utilize the region's labor force.**

- Objective:** Seek firms with an international focus to utilize the strategic assets of the New River Valley International Airport, Foreign Trade Zone and Commerce Park.
- Objective:** Pursue a targeted and coordinated approach to economic development.
- Objective:** Recruit outside firms seeking a trained and skilled labor force, low utility costs, high quality industrial space, and convenient highway access.
- Objective:** Recruit outside firms that currently have significant vendor relationships with New River Valley companies.
- Objective:** Utilize Virginia's First to provide creative public incentives to encourage private investment.
- Objective:** Foster partnerships among localities with common needs (including non-adjacent counties).

**BI-11 Goal: To enhance the financial resources of local governments through tax restructuring.**

**Objective:** Encourage the State to share income taxes and revenue growth with localities.

**Objective:** Encourage the state to allow more flexible local revenue strategies.

**BI-12 Goal: To bring a voice to the policy table on behalf of the region.**

**Objective:** Seek representation on State Commissions and Committees.

**Objective:** Provide input to State from regional economic development organizations and planning districts.

**BI-13 Goal: To improve the ability of local firms to strengthen industry relationships, access product and/or consumer markets, and become globally competitive.**

**Objective:** Develop a "Corporate Team" program to encourage local businesses to work together to pursue joint markets and/or federal contracts.

**Objective:** E-business support and development.

**Objective:** Develop regional marketing initiatives to promote New River Valley products to other state, national, and international markets.

**BI-14 Goal: To develop and strengthen the role of international trade and commerce in the economy of the New River Valley.**

**Objective:** Coordinate with existing international trade promotion, training and networking efforts/initiatives.

**Objective:** Market the advantages and promote the use of the Foreign Trade Zone and Customs Office at the New River Valley International Airport.

**Objective:** Use Foreign Trade Zone status as a tool in recruiting new industries and diversifying the New River Valley's economy.

**BI-15 Goal: To improve the region's ability to support and respond to the needs of local industries.**

**Objective:** Create a more supportive and open relationship between industry, government, and educational institutions.

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

**Objective:** Provide intermediary between industry and social services.



**BI-16 Goal: To improve the corporate profitability of existing firms in order to encourage capital investment and job creation.**

**Objective:** Evaluate the opportunity to create a New River Business Development Fund within the Community Foundation.

**Objective:** Create new and support existing financing opportunities for business/industry expansion.

**Objective:** Assist the commercialization of innovative technology and non-technology-based enterprises.

**Objective:** Develop more value-added processes for products developed locally.

**Objective:** Encourage recruitment of local college graduates.

**BI-17 Goal: To develop opportunities with international firms.**

**Objective:** Identify potential international partners for local firms.

**Objective:** Evaluate the opportunities to locate a multi-modal transportation facility in the region.

**Objective:** Support location of international firms in the region.

**BI-18 Goal: To capitalize on the region's unique human resources.**

**Objective:** Utilize specialty training (e.g. engineers, agriculture, telecommunication, and bio/nano/green technology).

**Objective:** Utilize specialty skills (e.g. artists and artisans).

**Objective:** Utilize basic skills in newer industries (e.g. hand dexterity).

**BI-19 Goal: To increase the financial wellbeing of the region's citizens and businesses.**

**Objective:** Provide information on the impacts of various financial programs to enhance wellbeing, including credit card debt, reverse mortgages, payday checks, equity loans.

**Objective:** Assist businesses in understanding financing options and programs.

## NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

The New River Valley is an attractive and desirable place to live, work, and visit.

### **NR-1 Goal: To develop tourism opportunities in the New River Valley**

- Objective:** Design and market a series of travel packages for different recreational consumers.
- Objective:** Institute measures to protect critical areas from inappropriate development.
- Objective:** Inventory cultural sites and artisan shops throughout the region, and establish loop trails off the Blue Ridge Parkway.
- Objective:** Develop nature-based recreational opportunities, including a network of trails for hiking and biking.
- Objective:** Identify, develop, and package the region's inventory of historical assets and arts and cultural activities, natural features, and events to support external marketing.
- Objective:** Examine opportunities to attract travelers from the Blue Ridge Parkway.
- Objective:** Develop a blueway along the New River, regionally.
- Objective:** Seek inter-regional partnerships with other Virginia communities, West Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Kentucky to enhance the region as a tourism destination.

### **NR-2 Goal: To manage the impacts of existing and future land uses in order to preserve the character and quality of the regional environment.**

- Objective:** Improve land use planning and practices to preserve the region's rural character and ensure that critical or high risk areas are protected from inappropriate development.
- Objective:** Educate the public on the issues of land use planning and tools.
- Objective:** Encourage the development of recreational amenities in conjunction with all development throughout the region.
- Objective:** Collaborate with the New River Valley Land Trust and other groups to educate landowners regarding voluntary conservation easements and their financial benefits.
- Objective:** Promote local comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances that support preservation and conservation efforts.
- Objective:** Encourage a wide variety of development patterns, with emphasis on density, to preserve regional character.
- Objective:** Minimize the effect of existing and future polluting industries
- Objective:** Evaluate the region for implementation of alternative energy developments and investigate consumer interest and demand for energy efficiency and renewables.
- Objective:** Promote and support "green" development practices.

- Objective:** Continue and further develop a communication method/process by which all organizations/agencies that are promoting and using conservation, green technology, and alternative energy sources can share information with each other and the public.
- Objective:** Implement educational programs in the K-12 system that teach and promote conservation, alternative energy, and recycling (like the NEED Program).
- Objective:** Create incentives for energy retrofits for homes and businesses while supporting renewable and alternative energy options.
- Objective:** Centralize marketing of energy efficiency options.
- Objective:** Continue public awareness of benefits and needs for recycling.
- Objective:** Develop convenient means to recycle throughout the New River Valley.

**NR-3 Goal: To increase the awareness of educational and cultural programs in the region.**

- Objective:** Promote the enhancement of educational and cultural amenities, to include cultural libraries.
- Objective:** Coordinate and cooperatively market local events regionally.

**NR-4 Goal: Develop a regional identity/brand to increase the marketability of the region.**

- Objective:** Create and support a regional tourism agency/organization to promote the New River Valley as a whole in partnership with each locality and other regional promotion organizations.
- Objective:** Support creative economy highlighting skills endogenous to the Appalachian Mountains.
- Objective:** Support existing agriculture and forestry operations and assist in developing alternative agriculture opportunities.

## PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

The New River Valley has complete and quality infrastructure to support the goals, needs, and aspirations of the regional community.

**PI-1 Goal: To improve the capacity, condition, connectivity and efficiency of inter- and intra-regional transportation systems.**

- Objective:** Seek the commitment of government and private interests to improve the capacity, efficiency, and condition of the regional transportation network.
- Objective:** Increase the capacity and utilization of existing air service facilities in the New River Valley.
- Objective:** Support passenger rail service for the New River Valley.
- Objective:** Increase interstate connections.
- Objective:** Seek opportunities to implement multi-modal services and facilities.
- Objective:** Seek to expand public transportation services and private transportation providers.

**PI-2 Goal: To ensure adequate, reliable, and safe delivery of all utilities in the New River Valley.**

- Objective:** Interconnect water and sewer systems regionally where possible to improve reliability, safety, and water quality.
- Objective:** Examine the potential of the New River as an alternative source of water for communities using springs and wells.
- Objective:** Encourage AEP to build redundancy in electrical service to eliminate blackout/brownouts.
- Objective:** Deploy a network of fiber optics throughout the region.
- Objective:** Establish a regional stormwater management and utility program.
- Objective:** Create utility standards for service providers to follow and coordinate public digging to minimize costs and disturbances.
- Objective:** Encourage renewable energy generation as a sustainable option for New River Valley Energy Infrastructure (i.e. wind, solar, landfill methane capture, cogeneration facilities, etc.)

**PI-3 Goal: To plan for the systematic construction, replacement, and repair of public infrastructure to meet future needs and ensure fiscal responsibility.**

- Objective:** Encourage the development and updating of Capital Improvement Programs (CIP).
- Objective:** Seek creative and alternative funding sources for eligible capital improvement projects.

**Objective:** Seek creative and cooperative regional financing strategies for major infrastructure needs.

**PI-4 Goal: To improve the region's telecommunication network to attract new firms, assist existing firms, and educate citizens.**

**Objective:** Complete Broadband linkage throughout the NRV (affordable broadband available for every home and business).

**Objective:** Support and expand the New River Valley Wireless Authority to provide broadband infrastructure and evaluate needs and recommend strategies to expand the community network.

**Objective:** Promote the expansion and use of the "Electronic Classroom" at Virginia Tech, Radford University, New River Community College and primary and secondary schools.

**Objective:** Pursue direct electronic links to marketing information and market sources for advancing the region.

**Objective:** Establish a regional communications program for marketing and other outreach programs.

**Objective:** Enhance or replace obsolete telecommunications infrastructure.

**PI-5 Goal: To enhance regional solutions to solid waste disposal and recycling.**

**Objective:** Reduce the amount of waste added to the waste stream.

**Objective:** Seek inter-and intra-regional cooperation regarding the disposal of solid waste.

**Objective:** Pursue markets for recycled and reused products and materials.

**PI-6 Goal: To assure that the region has a diverse and ample supply of housing to meet the needs of people in all income ranges and lifestyles.**

**Objective:** Coordinate and adopt creative approaches to encourage the creation of affordable housing.

**Objective:** Promote the HOME program for providing low to moderate income individuals with opportunities for affordable home ownership.

**Objective:** Determine appropriate and cost-effective means for providing shelter for all residents.

**Objective:** Seek to establish phased retirement centers.

**Objective:** Support opportunities for affordable housing in close proximity to major employment centers.

**Objective:** Encourage a range of housing options that meet the housing needs and preferences across a person's lifespan.

**PI-7     Goal:   To increase the region's supply of ready and available industrial and other economic development properties.**

- Objective:**     Coordinate and evaluate the development of the New River Valley International Airport and the New River Valley Commerce Park to provide property for air related development.
- Objective:**     Identify, evaluate, and negotiate the acquisition and/or reserved use of industrial and business property within the region.
- Objective:**     Develop regional properties tailored to the needs of targeted industries.
- Objective:**     Utilize Virginia's First Regional Industrial Facilities Authority to cooperatively develop properties and locate business and industry.
- Objective:**     Develop public/private partnerships to meet space needs of targeted economic projects.

**PI-8     Goal:   To increase the commercialization of intellectual properties.**

- Objective:**     Support the implementation of programs and facilities which support companies in their development and utilization of intellectual properties. (e.g., VT KnowledgeWorks).

**PI-9     Goal:   To increase the mobility of the region's citizens, with particular focus on affordability.**

- Objective:**     Increase access to jobs from all parts of the region.
- Objective:**     Create interconnectivity among transit and human resource transportation provides.
- Objective:**     Enable access to encourage employee telecommuting.
- Objective:**     System design should support the transportation needs of both citizens and visitors.
- Objective:**     Encourage community design that fosters active living.

## EVALUATION OF PREVIOUS YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

The 2012 Project Package represented the priorities of the region as of May 2011. 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 2012 Annual Project Package Evaluation, page 24**). 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 2013 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 2012 Project Package Evaluation

## Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Blacksburg	<b>Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, Phase II</b> Construction of support infrastructure for Phase II of Virginia Tech's CRC.	\$2,000,000	X	X	X	X	X		Under Construction
Blacksburg	<b>Huckleberry Trail Extension</b> 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	X		
City of Radford	<b>Third Avenue Parking Lot</b> 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						
City of Radford	<b>Hercules Street Sewer Line Replacement:</b> 565 linear feet of 8" sanitary line would be replaced along Hercules Street between Roosevelt and Pershing Avenue.	\$102,600	X					X	
City of Radford	<b>Jackson and Sixth Sewer Line Replacement</b> 450 linear feet of 8" sanitary sewer line would be replaced in an existing easements between Jackson Street and Sixth Avenue.	\$91,700	X					X	
City of Radford	<b>Arnold and Pershing Sewer Line Replacement</b> 525 linear feet of 8" sanitary line would be replaced in an existing easement between Arnold Avenue and Pershing Avenue.	\$96,750	X						
City of Radford	<b>Radford Village Water Line Replacement</b> 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						
City of Radford	<b>Miscellaneous drainage project</b> 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						
Dublin	<b>Dublin Fire Department Expansion</b> To add two bays.	\$750,000	X	X	X	X			



# New River Valley 2012 Project Package Evaluation

## Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Floyd	<b>Jacksonville Center Amphitheater</b> The Jacksonville Center will continue development of its campus, including an amphitheater	\$250,000	X	X					
Floyd County	<b>Jacksonville Center E-Commerce Project (Floyd Co)</b> Establishment of an e-commerce catalog of crafts and products.	\$50,000	X						
Floyd County	<b>Floyd Revolving Loan Fund</b>	\$200,000	X	X	X	X			Application to Rural Development
Floyd County	<b>Marketing Floyd County Regional Commerce Center</b> 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	<b>Multi-Tenant Facility for Floyd County</b> To house growing businesses as well as meet space needs for governmental agencies and non-profits.	\$2,000,000	X	X	X	X	X		EDA and ARC funding approved
Floyd County	<b>Rocky Knob Interpretive Visitor Center and Interpretive Program, Reg. Collaborative (Floyd Co)</b> 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		Initial \$1.5 million granted through SAFETEA-LU
Floyd County	<b>Trails for Floyd (pedestrian, biking, and hiking)</b>	\$5,000,000	X						
Floyd County	<b>Trail Around Floyd Commerce Center</b> To develop a walking trail around the new Commerce Center in Floyd.	\$400,000	X	X					

# New River Valley 2012 Project Package Evaluation

## Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Floyd County	<b>Phase II Development of Floyd Regional Commerce Center</b> Grade lots 1 and 2.	\$2,000,000	X						
Floyd County	<b>Route 8 Improvements (South) (Floyd Co)</b> Road Improvements on Route 8 southbound from Floyd, South.	\$1,500,000	X						
Floyd County	<b>East Floyd Truck Route</b> Develop east Floyd industrial route.	\$4,000,000	X						
Floyd County	<b>Regional Food Aggregating/Processing Center</b>	\$2,000,000	X	X		X	X		Study underway 2011-2012
Floyd County	<b>Floyd County Health and Human Services Complex</b>	\$2,000,000	X						
Floyd County	<b>Geo-engineering Studies Groundwater Resources in Floyd Couty</b> To identify groundwater resources and calculate carrying capacity. Recharge areas and other important water resource areas would be mapped.	\$250,000	X						
Floyd County	<b>Engineering Studies on Extending Water and Sewer to areas of Floyd Co.</b> To study water and sewer extensions and to understand hydrogeologic systems resources. Include protecting critical recharge and well-head areas.	\$1,500,000	X						
Floyd Town	<b>Floyd Town Trails Program (final phase)</b>	\$300,000	X	X		X	X		Construction 2012-2013
Floyd Town	<b>Lineberry Memorial Park Development</b>	\$1,500,000	X	X			X		Park Development 2010-2012; Town and Private funds
Giles County	<b>Giles Multi-tenant Business Facility (Giles Co)</b> A facility located in the Wheatland Eco Park.	\$2,000,000	X						
Giles County	<b>Eggleston Water Extension Phase 2 (Giles Co)</b> Extend water service to 160 residencies.	\$1,400,000	X						County currently renovating - County funding
Giles County	<b>Route 635 Water Extension (Giles Co)</b> Provide public water to approximately 150 residents in the Big Stoney Community of Giles County.	\$3,000,000	X						

# New River Valley 2012 Project Package Evaluation

## Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Giles County	<b>Clendennin Water Extension (Giles Co)</b> Provide public water to approximately 50 residents in the Clendennin community of Giles County.	\$2,000,000	X						
Giles County	<b>Ingram Village Sewer (Giles Co)</b> Put in sewer lines.	\$2,000,000	X						
Giles County	<b>Public Transportation</b>	\$2,000,000	X						
Giles County	<b>New Water Tank in Hoges Chapel</b>	\$1,500,000	X	X		X	X		Rural Development funding, Construction 2012
Glen Lyn	<b>Glen Lyn Park</b> Modern bathhouse, wastewater hook ups, information center, and open-air theater. Also a new location for a boat ramp and sidewalk connecting the Park to the Municipal Building.	\$800,000	X						
Glen Lyn	<b>Glen Lyn Regional Wastewater Facility</b> To combine wastewater from Rich Creek and Glen Lyn into a single operation. The Towns will undertake the project.	\$3,000,000	X	X			X		Under Construction 2012
Montgomery County	<b>Rt. 114 Widening</b> From Christiansburg Town limits to Radford Army Ammunition Plant	\$66,220,197	X						
Montgomery County	<b>Falling Branch Corporate Park - Stormwater pond</b>	\$350,000	X				X		Under Construction 2012
Montgomery County	<b>Route 8 Widening Project</b> Widening Route 8 from the Montgomery and Floyd County line to the Town of Christiansburg.	\$75,000,000	X						
NRV	<b>NRV Community Regional Broadband Network</b> Interconnect government facilities, schools, industrial parks, and in addition business and residents may be able to have advanced telecommunication services.	\$11,200,000	X	X	X	X	X		Under construction
NRV	<b>New River Valley Development Revolving Loan Fund</b> Fund to provide assistance for business and non-profit development.	\$50,000	X	X	X	X	X		Being implemented by NRVDC
NRV	<b>Complete Broadband Infrastructure Throughout the NRV</b>	\$16,000,000	X	X					

# New River Valley 2012 Project Package Evaluation

## Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
NRV	<b>Small Business Development (Green/Nano/Bio) Program</b> 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	X	X	X	X		CREATES/HITE - WIB
NRV	<b>Regional Conference/Civic Center</b> Determine feasibility and appropriate site, engineering and architectural plans for regional conference center.	\$15,000,000	X						
NRV	<b>Network of Manufacturing Companies</b> Development of Companies.	\$50,000	X						
NRV	<b>Develop and Implement a Program to Support Small Family Farms</b> Using "Cultivating Success" Farm Mentoring Project as a model.		X						
NRV	<b>Develop a Regional Meat Processing Plant for Organic Meat Processing and Production</b>		X	X	X	X	X		Rural Development - Sustain Floyd Planning Grant Funded
NRV	<b>Develop/Implement a Regional Glass Recycling Program</b>		X						
NRV	<b>Create Formal Regional Leadership Organization</b> Create formal leadership organization, hold community awareness workshop, and establish certified leadership development program.	\$20,000	X						
NRV	<b>Youth Planning Council</b> Involve youth in discussing regional development issues.	\$20,000	X						
NRV	<b>Technology Magnet School: Workforce Development</b> 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						
NRV	<b>Implement K-12 Curriculum on Organic Food Production</b>	\$50,000	X						
NRV	<b>Implement the Farms to School Program with at Least 1 School District by 2012.</b>	\$20,000	X						

# New River Valley 2012 Project Package Evaluation

## Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
NRV	<b>Implement the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Program in Regional K-12 schools</b>	\$100,000	X						
NRV	<b>Create a Consortium of School Districts, Community College, Economic Development and Local Business Representatives - Develop a Pilot Program Integrated Workforce Curriculum</b> To develop a integrated workforce curriculum focusing on current/future business and industry needs (including Career Pathways development).	\$250,000	X						
NRV	<b>Incorporate "Green" Training into Secondary and Post-secondary Vocational Construction Programs</b> Change current curriculum in Construction Trades to include "retro fitting" remodeling for engery efficiency in homes.	\$500,000	X						CREATES
NRV	<b>Promote Civil War Historical Sites</b> To promote civil war historical sites throughout the NRV.		X						
NRV	<b>Build &amp; Coordinate Regional Art Initiatives (Groups &amp; Trails)</b> Connect and/or build off of current local and regional art & music initiatives.		X	X					Planning started in 2010 by SWVA Cultural Heritage Commission
NRV	<b>Promote Agricultural Tourism</b> Program to encourage farmers to evaluate agricultural tourism to enhance incomes.		X	X					
NRV	<b>Connectivity of Trails, Regional Trail System</b> Interconnect various local, state and federal trails to create a continuous network in southwest Virginia.	\$800,000	X	X					2011 update of NRV Bikeway-Walkway-Blueway Plan
NRV	<b>Develop Region-Wide Bike Paths</b> Used as both a tourism asset and an alternative/green method of transportation.	\$10,000,000	X	X					
NRV	<b>New River Valley Park and Ride Lot Development</b> Development of new park and ride facilities.	\$1,500,000	X	X					To be identified in Rural Transportation Work Program
NRV	<b>Route 114 Bridge</b> To replace the Route 114 bridge that has structural damage.	\$20,000,000	X	X	X	X	X		Construction 2011-2013

# New River Valley 2012 Project Package Evaluation

## Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
NRV	<b>Parallel Taxiway</b> 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	<b>New River Valley Commerce Park-Water and Sewer Project</b> To provide water and sewer and support other economic development.	\$6,000,000	X	X	X	X	X		Construction to be completed 2012
NRV	<b>Intermodal Transportation Center</b> Further explore the possibility of developing an intermodal transportation site on under-utilized US Army property near Dublin, Virginia.	\$8,000,000	X	X					
NRV	<b>TransDominion Express - Capital Costs</b> 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						
PDCs 1-4	<b>Continuum of Care</b> To address the needs of homeless and at-risk homeless persons in the region.	\$1,200,000	X	X		X	X		Currently underway
Pearisburg	<b>Whitt-Riverbend Park Trail</b> Construct 1.1 mile loop trail and rest room.	\$80,000	X						
Pearisburg	<b>Whitt-Riverbend Park Development Phase II</b> Development of public park on 27.7 acres of land with 1.75 miles frontage on Walker Creek and the New River. Site will include primitive camping, picnic areas, hiking, fishing, and improved road access.	\$250,000	X						
Pearisburg	<b>Downtown Pearisburg Revitalization Project</b> To revitalize downtown Pearisburg.	\$880,000	X	X	X	X	X	X	Complete 2012
Town of Pulaski	<b>The New River Trail Extension</b> Extend trail from Cool Springs to Xaloy facility.	\$200,000	X	X				X	
Town of Pulaski	<b>Calfee Park Renovations (Pulaski Town)</b> Visitor dugouts, dressing rooms, and infrastructure improvements are needed.	\$1,000,000	X						

# New River Valley 2012 Project Package Evaluation

## Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-App.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Pulaski County	<b>The New River Trail Extension</b> Extend trail from Xaloy facility to Randolph Park.	\$5,000,000	X	X					
Pulaski County	<b>Exit 101 Interchange Improvements and Connector Route 11</b> Provide interstate access to the proposed Veteran's Cemetery and Route 11 with a urban 3 lane typical on 4 lane right of way.	\$16,500,000	X						
Pulaski County	<b>Pulaski County School Construction</b> Replace middle school.	\$34,000,000	X	X	X	X			
Pulaski County	<b>Radford Army Ammunition Plant Infrastructure Improvements</b> Water, sewer, road, and rail upgrades at the New River site.	\$36,000,000	X						
Pulaski County	<b>County Administration Building Renovations</b>	\$150,000	X	X	X	X	X		Awarded \$300,000 from Virginia DMME for Administration Building Windows and Library.
Pulaski County	<b>Shell Building-Industrial Park</b>	\$1,500,000	X						
Pulaski County	<b>New Facility, Sheriff's Department</b>	\$900,000	X						Acquired Property 2012
Pulaski County	<b>Skyview Subdivision/Fairgrounds Area Sewer (Pulaski Co)</b> Provide sewer to NRV Fairgrounds & 148 residences.	\$500,000	X	X		X	X		Application pending with USDA Rural Development; Construction 2012
Pulaski County	<b>New Facility for Pulaski Library</b> To replace existing building.	\$3,000,000	X				X		Energy Efficiency Implementation 2011-2012
Pulaski County	<b>Newbern Area Enhancements</b> Creation of Wildemess Road Exhibit and other area enhancements.	\$75,000	X	X	X	X	X		
Pulaski County	<b>Pulaski County Dispatch/Communications</b> To upgrade Pulaski County's dispatch/communications system.	\$1,600,000	X	X	X	X			
Pulaski County	<b>Maple Shade Government Center</b> Complete renovation.	\$2,000,000	X	X			X		County currently renovating - County funding; Complete 2012

# New River Valley 2012 Project Package Evaluation

## Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Pulaski County	<b>Snowville Fire Department</b> Fire Station replacement	\$2,100,000	X	X	X	X			
Pulaski County	<b>Rt. 99 Water/Sewer Extension</b> Extend water and sewer lines to Exit 94, to encourage commercial development.	\$1,500,000	X						
Pulaski County	<b>Indoor Recreation - Wellness Center</b>	\$7,000,000	X	X					
Pulaski County	<b>Riverbend Subdivision Sewer (Pulaski Co)</b> Provide sewer services to 45 residences.	\$1,000,000	X						
Pulaski County	<b>Pulaski Health Department Facility</b> New building for Pulaski Health Dept.	\$2,500,000	X						
Pulaski County	<b>NRV Commerce Park Electric Transmission Extension –</b> 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						
Pulaski County	<b>Green Challenge Waste to Energy</b> - Work with New River Resources Authority (NRRA) contractor to identify method of providing methane gas to commerce park.	\$2,000,000	X						
Radford	<b>Passenger Rail Station in Radford</b> To develop a passenger rail station in the City of Radford.	\$10,000,000	X						
Radford	<b>Industrial Park Development - Radford Corporate East</b> Acquisition and development of new Industrial Park within City limits. Includes construction of roadway, sanitary sewer, waterline, landscaping, grading, surveying, etc.	\$1,600,000	X	X					
Radford	<b>Public Safety Building (Police Department)</b> Renovate building replace the aging Police/Public Safety building.	\$6,000,000	X	X	X	X	X	X	Complete 2011
Radford	<b>High Meadows Development (Radford)</b> Improve the water system to include line work and a water tank.	\$806,000	X						



# New River Valley 2012 Project Package Evaluation

## Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Radford	<b>Wildwood Park Entrance</b> Improve the Park entrance with parking facilities, a kiosk, pergola, new gate, and interpretive exhibits.	\$150,000	X	X					
Radford	<b>University Drive Bridge</b> 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	<b>Street Rebuild - Park/Second Avenue</b> 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	X		X			
Radford	<b>Soccerfield/Football field</b> To construct two playing fields adjacent to the Radford Riverfront.	\$400,000	X						
Rich Creek	<b>Rich Creek Downtown Enhancement Project</b> Ensure the stability and success of downtown Rich Creek.	\$1,250,000	X	X	X	X	X		Initial construction - Summer 2011 - Still constructing
Town of Christiansburg	<b>Christiansburg Institute</b> The Cultural Educational Experience, Cultural Learning Curriculum, Oral History, and Site preservation.	\$3,000,000	X	X	X	X	X		
Town of Christiansburg	<b>Passenger Rail Station in Christiansburg</b> To develop a passenger rail station in the Town of Christiansburg.	\$10,000,000	X						
Town of Christiansburg	<b>Phase II, Huckleberry Trail Extension</b> 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		Pedestrian Bridge Scheduled 2014 - Trail finished 2011
Town of Christiansburg	<b>Phase III, Huckleberry Trail Extension</b> Extension of Huckleberry Trail from the south side of Route 114 near the New River Valley Mall to the Christiansburg Recreation Center	\$2,760,250	X	X		X			
Town of Christiansburg	<b>Upgrade of Waste Water Plant</b> Upgrade waste water plant to accommodate 8 million gallons per day	\$10,000,000	X						

# New River Valley 2012 Project Package Evaluation

## Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Town of Christiansburg	<b>Interchange ramp at Route 460 Bypass and N. Franklin Street</b> Connection of east bound 460 Bypass to west bound Business 460	\$1,000,000	X						
Town of Christiansburg	<b>Phase II of the Route 114 widening project</b> Widening Route 114 from Walters Drive Area to the New River Valley Mall Area	\$23,690,000	X	X		X	X		
Town of Christiansburg	<b>Emergency Services Station</b> Emergency Services Station located on Quin W. Stuart Blvd	\$2-\$3,000,000	X						
Town of Christiansburg	<b>Railroad Street Water Extension</b> Installation of 400 LF of 6-inch water main	\$25,000	X						
Town of Christiansburg	<b>Phase IB of the Downtown Enhancement Project</b> South side of East Main Street – new sidewalks, planting, paving.	\$1,489,647.36	X	X		X	X		Partially funded continuing applications with Transportation Enhancement
Town of Christiansburg	<b>Public Works Complex</b> Moving current complex out of the floodplain	\$10,000,000	X						
Town of Narrows	<b>Renovation of 12,000 sq. ft. Furniture Store</b> Renovation of commercial space. Town hall administration and eight LMI residential second story units.	\$1,500,000	X	X	X	X	X		Under Construction 2011-2012
Town of Narrows	<b>Replace Existing Water Lines that are Deteriorating</b> 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.	\$1,505,860	X	X			X		Town is regularly upgrading lines as funds are available
Town of Narrows	<b>Replace Existing Collection System Piping</b> Collection system piping is leaking and/or broken.	\$728,370	X						
Town of Narrows	<b>Town's Recreation Department (Old Narrows Gym Facility)</b> This site is used by the Town's recreation department and the athletics department at Narrows High School.	\$1,101,675	X					X	Town acquired property from School Board in 2012
Town of Pulaski	<b>Brownfields Redevelopment</b> Redevelopment of existing industry and housing.	\$1,000,000	X	X	X	X	X		EDA funding approved

# New River Valley 2012 Project Package Evaluation

## Project Status

Area	Description	Total Funding	Desired	Planning	Pre-Appl.	Application	Funded	Completed	Notes
Town of Pulaski	<b>Bicycle Lane and Trail Improvements</b> Improving bike accessibility for critical pathways throughout the Town.	\$1,000,000	X						
Town of Pulaski	<b>Dora Hwy Neighborhood Revitalization</b> 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	X		Funded \$1.4 million from DHCD; Construction 2011-2013
Town of Pulaski	<b>Town of Pulaski Business Park Expansion</b> The acquisition and site preparation of greenspace for industrial growth.	\$2,000,000	X						
Town of Pulaski	<b>Intensifying Blight Elimination Program</b> The Town was awarded an EPA Brownfields Grant application in 2010.	\$200,000	X	X	X	X	X		Determining implementation priorities
Town of Pulaski	<b>Public Safety Facility</b> A modern centralized facility located out of the flood plain and away from rail tracks.	\$5,000,000	X						
Town of Pulaski	<b>Sewer Collection/Pump Station Improvements</b> Infrastructure improvements at Stations 4A and \$B	\$2,000,000	X						
Town of Pulaski	<b>Water Filtration Plant Improvements</b> Modernatization of the current water filtration plant.	\$1,000,000	X						
Town of Pulaski	<b>Analysis of Potential Boundary Line Adjustment</b> In cooperation with Tischler Bise, the Town plans studied a boundary line adjustment in Pulaski County. The Town has funded that feasibility study.		X	X			X	X	Completed 2011
Town of Pulaski	<b>Raymond F. Ratcliff Memorial Museum</b> Construction of transportation museum to house Brockmeyer train set and historic vehicles.	\$1,000,000	X	X			X		Under Construction 2012-2013

## NEW ANNUAL PROJECT PACKAGE REPORT

### Project Evaluation Criteria - Revised March 2012

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 Facilities<sup>1</sup>
- 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 Development<sup>2</sup>
- 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 Facilities<sup>3</sup>
- Community Development Programs
- Drought Management

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<sup>1</sup> Water services, wastewater services, drainage improvements, and street improvements.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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	2006-2010	% of VA	Population
Floyd County	\$21,425	66.7%	15,030
Giles County	\$20,985	65.3%	17,205
Montgomery County	\$22,040	68.6%	92,527
Pulaski County	\$20,976	65.3%	34,963
City of Radford	\$16,496	51.3%	16,318
New River Valley	\$21,159	65.8%	176,043
Virginia	\$32,145	100%	7,841,754

Source: 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates

**Table 2**  
**2011 Unemployment Rates**

Jurisdiction	Percent
Floyd County	6.4%
Giles County	7.0%
Montgomery County	6.0%
Pulaski County	6.1%
City of Radford	7.0%
New River Valley	6.3%
Virginia	6.1%

Source: Virginia Workforce Connection

Note: 10% above the Virginia Level would be 6.71% or more; 5-10% would be 6.405% to 6.709%

**Table 3**  
**2010 Fiscal Stress Scores by Locality**

Jursidiction	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 2012.



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## New River Valley 2013 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
44	Giles County	<b>Giles Multi-tenant Business Facility (Giles Co)</b> A facility located in the Wheatland Eco Park.				\$2,000,000	2013	Giles County IDA
43	NRV	<b>NRV Community Regional Broadband Network</b> Interconnect government facilities, schools, industrial parks and businesses so that residents may be able to have advanced telecommunication services.	\$9,200,000		\$2,000,000	\$11,200,000	2012	New River Valley Wireless Authority
42	Blacksburg	<b>Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, Phase II</b> Construction of support infrastructure for Phase II of Virginia Tech's CRC.	\$1,980,000		\$1,980,000	\$3,960,000	2010-2012	Virginia Tech Foundation
42	NRV	<b>New River Valley Development Revolving Loan Fund</b> Fund to provide assistance for business and non-profit development.	\$25,000		\$25,000	\$50,000	2012	New River Valley Development Corporation
41	NRV	<b>Implementing Project NEEMO</b> 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	2013	VA's First Regional Industrial Facility Authority-Participation Committee
38	Giles County	<b>Hoges Chapel Water Tank Replacement Project</b> Replacement of 40 year old water tank and 23,000 feet of 10 inch water line		\$2,600,000		\$2,600,000	2012-2013	Giles County
37	NRV	<b>Broadband Infrastructure</b> Deploy last mile fiber.				\$8,000,000	2013-2015	New River Wireless Authority
35	NRV	<b>New River Valley Commerce Park-Water and Sewer Project</b> To provide water and sewer and support other economic development.	\$2,500,000		\$2,500,000	\$6,000,000	2012	Virginia's First
34	Christiansburg	<b>Christiansburg Institute</b> Cultural Experience, Cultural Learning Curriculum, Oral History, and Site preservation.	\$1,500,000		\$1,500,000	\$3,000,000	2012	Christiansburg Institute
34	NRV	<b>Regional Conference/Civic Center</b> 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	<b>Develop a Career Pathways Task Force</b> 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.						WIB, Education Providers

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Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
34	NRV	<b>Small Business Development (Green/Nano/Bio) Program</b> 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	2013	Universities, NRCC, School Divisions
33	Pulaski Town	<b>Brownfields Redevelopment</b> Redevelopment of existing industry and housing.	\$500,000		\$500,000	\$1,000,000	2014	Pulaski Town and EPA
33	Pulaski Town	<b>Town of Pulaski Business Park Expansion</b> The acquisition and site preparation of greenspace for industrial growth.	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	2015	EDA, Town of Pulaski
33	NRV	<b>Create a Consortium of School Districts, Community College, Economic Development and Local Business Representatives - Develop a Pilot Program Integrated Workforce Curriculum</b> To develop an integrated workforce curriculum focusing on current/future business and industry needs (including Career Pathways development).				\$250,000	2012	
32	Floyd County	<b>Rocky Knob Interpretive Ctr. &amp; Lodge, Reg. Collaborative</b> 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	<b>Network of Manufacturing Companies</b> Development of companies.	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$1,000,000	2012	NRVPDC
32	NRV	<b>Technology Magnet School: Workforce Development</b> 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	<b>Phase II of the Route 114 widening project</b> 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	<b>Jacksonville Center E-Commerce Project (Floyd Co)</b> Establishment of an e-commerce catalog of crafts and products.				\$50,000	2012	Jacksonville Center, Inc.
31	Floyd County	<b>Floyd Revolving Loan Fund</b> Establish microlending fund for small businesses within Floyd County.	\$200,000			\$200,000	2013	Floyd IDA

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## New River Valley 2013 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
31	Giles County	<b>Public Transportation</b> Connections to Blacksburg, Virginia Tech, and other major employment centers.	\$1,600,000		\$400,000	\$2,000,000	2013	Giles County
31	NRV	<b>Green Challenge Waste to Energy</b> Work with New River Resources Authority (NRRA) contractor to identify method of providing methane gas to commerce park.	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000 (private)	\$2,000,000	2012	VA's First Regional Industrial Facility Authority
31	NRV	<b>Intermodal Transportation Center</b> 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	2012	VA's First/US Army
31	NRV	<b>Tap into Additional Networks and Professional Organizations</b> Research and encourage "continuing ed" requirements or periodic recertification so that the workforce can build their skill sets around emerging economic sectors.						WIB, Local Businesses
31	NRV	<b>Creation of a Destination Marketing Organization (DMO)</b> Raise awareness of New River Valley assets						
31	NRV	<b>Regional Networking and Marketing of the Arts via Destination Marketing Organization (DMO)</b> Use DMO to create a network of artisans and venues to promote New River Valley assets.						
30	Christiansburg	<b>Interchange ramp at Route 460 Bypass and N. Franklin Street</b> Connection of east bound 460 Bypass to west bound Business 460		\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000	2012	VDOT, Christiansburg
30	Pulaski Town	<b>Dora Hwy Neighborhood Revitalization</b> 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
30	NRV	<b>Develop/Implement a Regional Glass Recycling Program</b> Build first glass recycling facility within the region.					2012	

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Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
29	NRV	<b>New River Valley Park and Ride Lot Development</b> Development of new park and ride facilities.	\$750,000	\$750,000		\$1,500,000	2013	VDOT
29	NRV	<b>Route 114 Bridge</b> To replace the Route 114 bridge that has structural damage.		\$20,000,000		\$20,000,000	2012	VDOT
28	Floyd County	<b>Phase II Development of Floyd Regional Commerce Center</b> Grade lots 1 and 2.	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	2012	Floyd County
28	Glen Lyn	<b>Glen Lyn Regional Wastewater Facility</b> To combine wastewater from Rich Creek and Glen Lyn into a single operation. The Towns will undertake the project.				\$3,000,000	2012	Glen Lyn
28	Montgomery County	<b>Development of Route 177 Corporate Park</b>	\$15,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$20,000,000	TBD	Montgomery County EDA
28	Pearisburg	<b>Whitt-Riverbend Park Trail</b> Construct 1.1 mile loop trail and rest room.		\$60,000	\$20,000	\$80,000	2012	Pearisburg Town
28	Pulaski Town	<b>Raymond F. Ratcliff Memorial Museum</b> Construction of transportation museum to house Brockmeyer train set and historic vehicles.				\$1,000,000	2013	Town of Pulaski, VDOT
28	NRV	<b>Youth Planning Council</b> Involve youth in discussing regional development issues.	\$10,000		\$10,000	\$20,000	2013	NRVPDC
28	NRV	<b>Promote Agricultural Tourism</b> Program to encourage farmers to evaluate agricultural tourism to enhance incomes.					2012	Virginia Tourism Corporation/Round the Mountain
28	NRV	<b>Connectivity of Trails, Regional Trail System</b> Interconnect various local, state and federal trails to create a continuous network in southwest Virginia.	\$400,000		\$400,000	\$800,000	2012	Trail Operators
28	NRV	<b>Increase Shell Building Inventory</b> Construct modern shell buildings to market to relocating or expanding businesses.						
28	NRV	<b>Support Public Private Partnerships for Agriculture Infrastructure Needs</b>						

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## New River Valley 2013 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
27	Blacksburg	<b>Huckleberry Trail Extension</b> 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	<b>Upgrade of Waste Water Plant</b> Upgrade waste water plant to accommodate 8 million gallons per day	\$10,000,000			\$10,000,000	2012	Christiansburg
27	Floyd County	<b>Route 8 Improvements (South) (Floyd Co)</b> Road Improvements on Route 8 southbound from Floyd, South.		\$1,500,000		\$1,500,000	2012	VDOT
27	Floyd County	<b>East Floyd Truck Route</b> Develop east Floyd industrial route.		\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$4,000,000	2015	Floyd County/VDOT
27	Floyd County/Floyd Town	<b>Affordable Housing Implementation</b> Construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing withing Floyd County and Town.	\$340,000			\$340,000	2012-2013	Floyd County, Floyd Town, and HOME
27	Radford	<b>Passenger Rail Station in Radford</b> To develop a passenger rail station in the City of Radford.				\$10,000,000	2020	Radford City
27	NRV	<b>Develop a Regional Meat Processing Plant for Organic Meat Processing and Production</b> Develop facility to support local farmers					2013	Rural Development-Sustain Floyd Planning Grant
27	NRV	<b>Implement the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Program in Regional K-12 Schools</b> Energy education in our schools.				\$100,000	2013	
27	NRV	<b>Develop Region-Wide Bike Paths</b> 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	<b>Support Farms to School program throughout the New River Valley</b> Provide educational opportunities and serve healthy meals in schools through a network of local farmers						

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Project

## New River Valley 2013 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
27	NRV	<b>Create Regional Revolving Loan Fund for Energy Audits and Retrofits</b> Fund for New River Valley businesses.						
27	NRV	<b>Support Carpooling Efforts/Initiatives throughout the New River Valley</b> Support the expansion and marketing of Ride Solutions while exploring potential for carpooling app						
26	Christiansburg	<b>Phase II, Huckleberry Trail Extension</b> 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	2012	Montgomery County and Town of Christiansburg
26	Christiansburg	<b>Phase III, Huckleberry Trail Extension</b> 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	2014	Montgomery County, Town of Christiansburg
26	Floyd County	<b>Regional Food Aggregating/Processing Center</b> 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	Pulaski County	<b>Exit 101 Interchange Improvements and Connector Route 11</b> 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	2014	Virginia's First/Army
26	NRV	<b>NRV Commerce Park Electric Transmission Extension –</b> 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	2013	VA's First Regional Industrial Facility Authority
26	NRV	<b>Additional resources for power to the Commerce Park</b> Extend power to the NRV Commerce Park to attract businesses.						
26	NRV	<b>Extension of Rail to Commerce Park</b> 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

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## New River Valley 2013 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
26	NRV	<b>Create a Network of Growers and Producers in the Region</b> Link New River Valley farmers markets to increase profitability.						
25	Christiansburg	<b>Emergency Services Station</b> Emergency Services Station located on Quin W. Stuart Blvd	\$3,000,000			\$2-\$3,000,000	2014	Christiansburg
25	Christiansburg	<b>Railroad Street Water Extension</b> Installation of 400 LF of 6-inch water main				\$25,000	2013	Christiansburg
25	Narrows	<b>Replace Existing Water Lines that are Deteriorating</b> 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.				\$2,200,000	2012	Town of Narrows
25	Pulaski County	<b>Shell Building-Industrial Park</b> Construction of a shell building at the New River Valley Commerce Park	\$750,000	\$750,000		\$1,500,000	2012	Pulaski County
25	Pulaski County	<b>New River Trail Extension</b>				\$5,000,000		VDOT, Pulaski County
25	Pulaski Town	<b>Calfee Park Renovations (Pulaski Town)</b> Improvements to bring the facility up to baseball standards. Visitor dugouts, dressing rooms, and infrastructure improvements are needed.	\$1,000,000			\$1,000,000	2013	Pulaski Town
25	Radford	<b>High Meadows Development (Radford)</b> Improve the water system to include line work and a water tank.			\$806,000	\$806,000	2012	Radford
25	NRV	<b>Create Formal Regional Leadership Organization</b> Create formal leadership organization, hold community awareness workshop, and establish certified leadership development program.				\$20,000	2013	Leadership Organizations
25	NRV	<b>Business Retreat</b> Support local businesses in creating corporate retreat centers.				\$4,000,000	2012-2015	Local Businesses

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Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
25	NRV	<b>Integrate approach to workforce development from K-12 vs. post-secondary to a more robust "K-20" approach</b> Create workforce training in partnership with schools from Kindergarten through graduate school.						Local Schools
25	NRV	<b>Centralize Marketing of Energy Efficiency Options</b> 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	<b>Study Data from Various Wind/Solar Demonstration Projects around the NRV</b> Evaluate effectiveness of wind and solar projects to inform potential future projects.						
24	Floyd Town	<b>Floyd Town Trails Program (final phase)</b> New and upgraded sidewalks within the town.	\$240,000		\$60,000	\$300,000	2013	Floyd Town
24	Giles County	<b>Eggleston Water Extension Phase 2 (Giles Co)</b> Extend water service to 160 residencies.	\$1,400,000			\$1,400,000	2012	Giles County
24	Giles County	<b>Route 635 Water Extension (Giles Co)</b> Provide public water to approximately 150 residents in the Big Stoney Community of Giles County.	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000		\$3,000,000	2012	Giles County
24	Montgomery County	<b>Rt. 114 Widening</b> From Christiansburg Town limits to Radford Army Ammunition Plant	\$50,400,000	\$12,600,000		\$63,000,000	2014	VDOT/Montgomery County
24	Montgomery County	<b>Falling Branch Corporate Park - Stormwater Pond</b> Stormwater pond for the Falling Branch Corporate Park in Montgomery County.	\$175,000		\$175,000	\$350,000	2013	Montgomery County
24	Montgomery County	<b>Expansion of Falling Branch Industrial Park</b> Water, sewer, roads, and grading improvements	\$19,500,000	\$5,200,000	\$1,300,000	\$26,000,000	2015	Montgomery County EDA
24	Narrows	<b>Replace Existing Collection System Piping and Upgrade Wastewater Plant</b> Collection system piping is leaking and/or broken.				\$2,200,000	2012	Town of Narrows
24	Pearisburg	<b>Pearisburg Fire Station</b> Construct new fire station in Pearisburg.				\$1,500,000	2012	Pearisburg Town
24	Pulaski County	<b>New Facility, Sheriff's Department</b> New Sheriff's Department facility for Pulaski County.				\$900,000	2012	Pulaski County - Sheriff



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Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
24	Radford	<b>Arnold and Pershing Sewer Line Replacement</b> 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	<b>Radford Village Water Line Replacement</b> 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	2012	City of Radford
24	NRV	<b>Incorporate "Green" Training into Secondary and Post-secondary Vocational Construction Programs</b> 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	<b>Creation of Downtown Revitalization Goals and Strategies for NRV Communities</b> Support each community's efforts to revitalize their downtown.						
24	NRV	<b>Increase Support to Small Businesses</b> Emphasis on marketing current resources available to small businesses while exploring potential for virtual office space						
24	NRV	<b>Conduct Farming Visioning with Agriculture Stakeholders, Farm Bureau and Extension</b>						
24	NRV	<b>Creation of a Slaughterhouse Facility</b> Construction of a slaughterhouse to support local farmers.						
23	Blacksburg	<b>Market and support VT KnowledgeWorks Global Partnership</b>						VTKnowledgeWorks
23	Christiansburg	<b>Phase IB of the Downtown Enhancement Project</b> South side of East Main Street – new sidewalks, planting, paving.	\$1,191,718		\$297,929	\$1,489,647.36	2012	Town of Christiansburg, Gay and Neel, Inc.
23	Floyd County	<b>Trails for Floyd (pedestrian, biking, and hiking)</b> 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	Narrows	<b>Town's Recreation Department (Old Narrows Gym Facility)</b> This site is used by the Town's recreation department and the athletics department at Narrows High School.				\$1,101,675	2013	Town of Narrows

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Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
23	Pulaski County	<b>Skyview Subdivision/Fairgrounds Area Sewer (Pulaski Co)</b> Provide sewer to NRV Fairgrounds & 148 residences.	\$500,000			\$500,000	2012	Pulaski County
23	Pulaski County	<b>New Facility for Pulaski Library</b> To replace existing building.		\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$3,000,000	2012	Pulaski County
23	Pulaski County	<b>Newbern Area Enhancements</b> Creation of Wilderness Road Exhibit and other area enhancements.		\$53,387	\$21,613	\$75,000	2012	Pulaski County
23	Pulaski County	<b>Pulaski County Dispatch/Communications</b> To upgrade Pulaski County's dispatch/communications system.				\$1,600,000	2013	Pulaski County
23	NRV	<b>Support "Communities in Schools" Program</b> Connect community resources with schools to help students achieve success.						
23	NRV	<b>Develop and Implement a Program to Support Small Family Farms</b> Using "Cultivating Success" Farm Mentoring Project as a model.					2013	
23	NRV	<b>Support Online Businesses</b> Create public computer access points in community centers, schools and other public buildings while encouraging community organizations to do computer and social media trainings for small businesses.						Localities
23	NRV	<b>Creation of Utility Standards</b> Create utility standards for service providers to follow while coordinating digging between localities and service providers to install conduits or other potential uses						
23	NRV	<b>Market Buying Local Goods to Support Local Economic Growth</b>						
22	Christiansburg	<b>Passenger Rail Station in Christiansburg</b> To develop a passenger rail station in the Town of Christiansburg.				\$10,000,000	2020	Christiansburg Town
22	Floyd County	<b>Floyd County Health and Human Services Complex</b> One-stop-shop in Floyd that would enable citizens to access needed services				\$2,000,000	2015	Floyd County

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Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
22	Floyd County	<b>Geo-engineering Studies Groundwater Resources in Floyd County</b> 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
22	Montgomery County and Radford	<b>Improve Road Infrastructure of Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford MSA</b> Expansion and creation of 4-lane roads						MPO
22	Pulaski County	<b>Maple Shade Government Center</b> Complete renovation.			\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	2012	Pulaski County
22	Radford	<b>Wildwood Park Entrance</b> 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	<b>Miscellaneous drainage project</b> 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
22	NRV	<b>Build &amp; Coordinate Regional Art Initiatives (Groups &amp; Trails)</b> Connect and/or build off of current local and regional art & music initiatives.					2014	Art Community (Round the Mtn, Crooked Road, Jax Center & other local art groups)
22	NRV	<b>Implement Employment Mobility Study</b> Connect residential with employment						
22	NRV	<b>Creation of a Fund to Remove Derelict Structures</b> Tax advantages to remove structures alongside an education program on "how to"						
21	Montgomery County	<b>Southgate Parkway</b> Construction of ramps on Route 460 at Southgate Parkway entrance to Virginia Tech.	\$124,000,000	\$31,000,000		\$155,000,000	TBD	VDOT

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Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
21	Pulaski County	<b>Snowville Fire Department</b> Fire Station replacement	\$1,680,000		\$420,000	\$2,100,000	2013	Pulaski County
21	Pulaski Town	<b>Intensifying Blight Elimination Program</b> The Town was awarded an EPA Brownfields Grant application in 2010.	\$200,000			\$200,000	2013	Town of Pulaski, EPA
21	Radford	<b>Smartway Service Extension to the City of Radford and Radford University</b> To connect Radford and Radford University to the existing network.						
21	NRV	<b>Integrate WIB and Economic Development Efforts.</b>						NRV/MR WIB, NRVVPDC, Economic Development Alliance
21	NRV	<b>Access to Capital</b> Host workshops to educate businesses on capital access opportunities in the region, i.e. 460 Angels						
20	Dublin	<b>Dublin Fire Department Expansion</b> To add two bays.	\$750,000			\$750,000	2012	Dublin Town/Pulaski County
20	Floyd County	<b>Trail Around Floyd Commerce Center</b> To develop a walking trail around the new Commerce Center in Floyd.	\$200,000		\$200,000	\$400,000	2013	Floyd County
20	Giles County	<b>Clendennin Water Extension (Giles Co)</b> Provide public water to approximately 50 residents in the Clendennin community of Giles County.	\$2,000,000			\$2,000,000	2012	Giles County
20	Glen Lyn	<b>Glen Lyn Park</b> Modern bathhouse, wastewater hook ups, information center, and open-air theater. Also a new location for a boat ramp and sidewalk connecting the Park to the Municipal Building.				\$800,000	2015	Glen Lyn
20	Pearisburg	<b>Water and Sewer Improvements</b> 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	<b>Dalton Building Reuse</b> Update Dalton Building into a hotel and restaurant						
20	NRV	<b>TransDominion Express - Capital Costs</b> 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

New  
ProjectFunded  
Project

## New River Valley 2013 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
20	NRV	<b>Support Co-Working Spaces for Businesses</b> Utilization of underused facilities						
20	NRV	<b>Revolving Loan Fund or Other Capital Support to Help with Farm Start-up</b>						
20	NRV	<b>Create and support networking event for local farmers and potential buyers</b>						
19	Christiansburg	<b>Public Works Complex</b> Moving current complex out of the floodplain	\$10,000,000			\$10,000,000	2012	Christiansburg
19	Floyd County	<b>Engineering Studies on Extending Water and Sewer to areas of Floyd Co.</b> 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	2012	Floyd County
19	Giles County	<b>Ingram Village Sewer (Giles Co)</b> Put in sewer lines.	\$750,000		\$1,250,000	\$2,000,000	2015	Giles County
19	Montgomery County	<b>Route 8 Widening Project</b> 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	<b>Route 177 Water and Sewer Improvements</b>	\$4,800,000	\$1,200,000		\$6,000,000	2013	PSA
19	Pulaski Town	<b>Rt. 99 Water/Sewer Extension</b> Extend water and sewer lines to Exit 94, to encourage commercial development.	\$1,500,000			\$1,500,000	2012	Town of Pulaski, Pulaski County
19	Pulaski Town	<b>Public Safety Facility</b> 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
18	Floyd Town	<b>Lineberry Memorial Park Development</b> Design and construction of stage for performances.	\$725,000		\$725,000	\$1,500,000	2012	Floyd Town
18	Pulaski Town	<b>Sewer Collection/Pump Station Improvements</b> Infrastructure improvements at Stations 4A and 5B		\$1,500,000	\$500,000	\$2,000,000	2013	Town of Pulaski, Peppers' Ferry Regional Wastewater Treatment Authority
18	Pulaski Town	<b>Water Filtration Plant Improvements</b> Modernization of the current water filtration plant.	\$500,000		\$500,000	\$1,000,000	2012	Town of Pulaski

New  
ProjectFunded  
Project

## New River Valley 2013 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
18	Radford	<b>University Drive Bridge</b> 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	2011-2012	Radford
18	Radford	<b>Street Rebuild - Park/Second Avenue</b> 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	2011-2013	Radford
18	Radford	<b>Soccerfield/Football field</b> To construct two playing fields adjacent to the Radford Riverfront.	\$200,000		\$200,000	\$400,000	2012	Radford
18	NRV	<b>Creation of an Interactive CEDS Map with Project Identification</b> GIS map to track progress of CEDS projects within the region.						
17	Narrows	<b>Renovation of 12,000 sq. ft. Furniture Store</b> Renovation of commercial space. Town hall administration and eight LMI residential second story units.	\$750,000		\$750,000	\$1,500,000	2013	Town of Narrows
17	Pulaski Town	<b>Enhance Bob White Boulevard and East Main Street Intersection</b>						
17	Radford	<b>Third Avenue Parking Lot</b> 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	<b>Radford Ingles Overlook and Amphitheater</b> Amphitheater engineering and construction for outdoor events.						
16	Floyd Town	<b>Jacksonville Center Amphitheater</b> The Jacksonville Center will continue development of its campus, including an amphitheater	\$250,000			\$250,000	2012	Jacksonville Center, Inc.
16	Pulaski County	<b>Indoor Recreation - Wellness Center</b> Indoor Recreation-Wellness Center for the citizens of Pulaski County.			\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000	2012	Pulaski County-Recreation

New  
ProjectFunded  
Project

## New River Valley 2013 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
16	PDCs 1-4	<b>Continuum of Care</b> To address the needs of homeless and at-risk homeless persons in the region.	\$906,000	\$294,000		\$1,200,000	2012	State
15	Pulaski Town	<b>Bicycle Lane and Trail Improvements</b> Improving bike accessibility for critical pathways throughout the Town.		\$750,000	\$250,000	\$1,000,000	2015	Town of Pulaski
14	Floyd County/Town	<b>Floyd Public Transit</b> Study viability of public transit in county/town		\$20,000	\$5,000	\$25,000	2013	Floyd County/Town
14	Floyd Town	<b>Attract Restaurants to Downtown Floyd</b> Study market viability of restaurants downtown.						Floyd 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:**

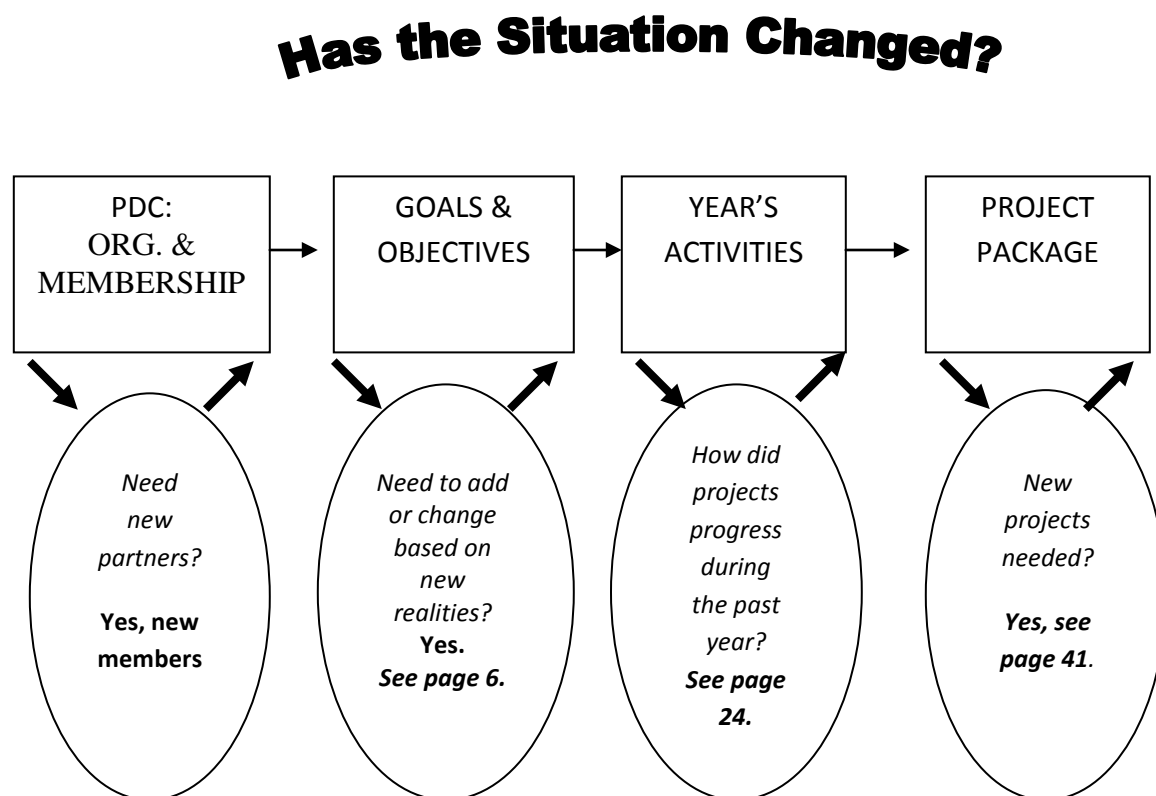
Create event/conference center to provide space for large attractions and events.

## 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**



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 sits 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, 2011**

9:00 AM – New River Valley Competitiveness Center, Fairlawn

**I. Introductions**

Mr. Kevin Byrd, Executive Director of the New River Valley Planning District Commission, thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and asked them to introduce themselves. Representatives from the CEDS Committee followed with introductions of those in attendance associated with the New River Valley Livability Initiative's Economic Development Working Group. These entities will continue to meet together.

CEDS Committee

PRESENT: Jim Flowers, VT KnowledgeWorks; Michael Miller, Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties; Jim Loux, Allegheny Brokerage Company, Inc.; John White, Town of Pulaski; Sam Moore, Retired VDOT; Marty Holliday, New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board; Kamala Bauers, Wall Residences; Bill Cunningham (representing Peggy White), Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce; Tommy Loflin, New River Bank; Joe Fortier, Taylor Hollow Construction; Kevin Byrd and Brad Mecham, NRVPDC

Economic Development Working Group – NRV Livability Initiative

Dennis Reece and Gary Reedy, Citizens Telephone Cooperative; Jackie Pontious and Mel Jones, Community Housing Partners; Marty Holliday, NR/MR WIB; Carol Davis and Kim Thurlow, NRVPDC

CEDS Committee

ABSENT: Brad Jones, American Electric Power Company, Inc.; John Hawley, Town of Pulaski; Henry Showalter, ALCOVA Mortgage; David Shanks, Radford University Small Business Development Center; Aric Bopp and David Denny, New River Valley Economic Development Alliance

**II. Role of the CEDS Committee**

Mr. Byrd informed the CEDS of the composition of the CEDS Committee as required by the Economic Development Administration. The Committee needs to have at least 51% private sector representation. He explained the Committee's role in the CEDS process.

**III. Introduction to the CEDS Process**

Mr. Mecham provided an overview of the CEDS purpose, process, content and resultant projects.

#### **IV. NRV Livability Initiative Overview**

Ms. Davis provided an overview of the New River Valley Livability Initiative and discussed the role of the Economic Development Working Group.

#### **V. Small Group Exercise: NRV SWOT Analysis and Data Identification**

The CEDS Committee and Livability Initiative Working Group worked in small groups to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats within the New River Valley. Each group reported their discussion and a list was created for each category (see attached lists). Data sources were identified in order to further explore suggestions.

#### **VI. December CEDS Committee Meeting**

The next CEDS Committee meeting was scheduled for December 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. Additional representation on the CEDS Committee was discussed to include representatives from the school system, agriculture, arts, and Radford University.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM.

#### **Strengths**

- I-81 Transport accessibility
- Water Resources- New River and Clean Air
- Entrepreneurs
- High quality of life per \$
- Access to a range of health care options
- Geographic proximity
- Available industrial green space
- Low taxes, low cost of living
- Low population
- Music, Arts and Culture Resources
- Engaged community based organizations
- Foreign Trade Zone
- Natural Resources/Beauty
- Recreational Opportunities/ Outdoor Mecca (Blue Ridge parkway)
- Climate (temperate 'ish')
- Economic Diversity- Types of Industry
- Cheap Electricity
- Educations institutions (Virginia Tech, Radford and the New River Community College)
- Corporate Research Center
- Access to local foods/ local agriculture



## **Weaknesses**

- Deteriorated downtowns “Ghost Town” syndrome
- Loss of historic buildings and structures due to disrepair
- Downtown issues:
  - -finding mid-scale tenants
  - -other businesses that can create a downtown vibrancy
  - -lack of incentives for non-retail space in a downtown
- Lack of access to capital for start-ups
- Few entrepreneurial leaders/ experienced people to lead start-up businesses
- The region lacks the critical mass of businesses to attract new businesses
- Local regulations serve as barriers (ex. permitting requirements for construction and retrofits)
- Failed businesses based on poorly thought out/bad advice even though well intentioned.
- Consumer confidence has generally declined which has also decreased the loan products available to new entrepreneurs
- Lack of an available, skilled workforce
  - -Not a good workforce for jobs currently available
  - -Lack of people with skills and vision
  - -Skills mismatch
  - -Drug Issues
  - -Available workforce needs more critical thinking skills
  - -Educational attainment levels are low
- Low performing K-12 system
- Lack of adequate municipal services and infrastructure
- Cost of living/quality of life for starting families (lack of quality schools, good jobs for young adults at all education levels)
- Poverty cycle
- Aging population combined with the loss of a young workforce
- Limited transportation options
  - -Air travel options are limited
  - -Inter-regional public transportation options are growing, but still limited
  - -Local, regional, and supra-regional transportation options
  - -Transit options for more of the region, more segments of the population are needed.
  - Lack of non-car transportation options (bike lanes, sidewalks, etc.) to attract younger professionals (an expectation for them to prefer options found in urban areas)
- Lack of diversity in energy sources
- Lack of available housing, lots of deteriorating housing stock that doesn’t fit needs and interests of a variety of segments of our populations
- Lack of agriculture infrastructure
- Land prices are high to support agriculture
- Two planning districts when they need to be combined into one (Roanoke and NRV)
- Lack of ethnic and racial diversity outside Blacksburg, lack of inclusiveness in other areas, common misperception of lack of inclusiveness outside the Burgs
- Lack of regional identity (example: Roanoke Times creation of the Burgs section)

## **Threats and Opportunities**

**1. Threat:** Current Political Climate/Polarization

**Opportunity:** Provide more public engagement opportunities and more meaningful civic engagement.

**2. Threat:** Low performing K-12 educational system

**Opportunity:** Create opportunities for business leaders to engage in K-12 to increase applied learning:

- Job shadowing
- Require service learning (ex. Maryland mandates service learning as a part of K-12)
- VT learn-service learning (better understand local issues)

**3. Threat:** Lack of State level influence.

**Opportunities:**

- a. Build a stronger relationship with Roanoke (Blueprint for Innovation)
- b. Collaboration with Chambers to include/increase private sector interest and investment (noted that in the NRV government has a stronger voice and in Roanoke private sector has a stronger voice).
- c. Greater collaboration and cohesiveness between Roanoke and NRV, combine to benefit from being a metropolitan region (350k population threshold).

**4. Threat:** Increased drug use/activity

**Opportunity:** Proactively address substance abuse as well as other poverty cycle issues: obesity, teen pregnancy, etc.

**5. Threat:** Inability to keep people here, loss of trained workforce and lack of entrepreneurs  
**Opportunities:**

- a. Do a better job at matching employers to employees and to the resources they need (i.e. commercial space).
- b. "Score"- entrepreneurship mentoring by retired executives (comment: that not all retired executives are best suited for mentorship- could lead to bad advice).
- c. Need a commercial MLS for businesses looking to relocated to the New River Valley, to make it easier for them.
- d. Better define our competitive advantage over other regions
- e. Capitalize on early adopter types.
- f. Focus on selling our lifestyle/quality of life characteristics
- g. Attract VT and Radford graduates back to the NRV- they are the ones that appreciate their experience, quality of life, and opportunities available.
- h. Regional media
- i. Funding sources (Tobacco Commission but for Floyd only)

- j. Develop a regional foundation with significant capital that can support investment in our region.—Seed and venture funding for firms in rural areas (ex. OSU Adena Ventures)
6. **Threat:** Lack of services/ infrastructure and “not doing anything”. Need to widen roads and increase connectivity.

**Opportunity:**

- a. Address paradigm/attitudes:
- Want low taxes but want municipal services at the same time.
  - Having an older population that does not want to provide increased taxes to support our school system, but need to make educational investments in order to remain competitive and make the NRV marketable.
  - “Paying taxes is patriotic”.
- b. Open access fiber (better internet access)
- c. Rail
- d. Deep water VA Port Authority

**Others to Include in the CEDS and Livability Initiative Economic Development working group:**

- Elected officials
- Individuals that can speak to Low Income or minority issues
- K-12 Education representative (perhaps a principal)
- New River Community College representative
- Private Sector
- Individual that can speak to the arts community
- Individual that can speak to agriculture infrastructure needs
- Radford University representative

**Potential Data Sources:**

- Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
- Demographic Data
- **Virginia Tourist Bureau**
- Department of Transportation
- **VA Economic Development Partnership**
- **VA Port Authority**
- **Alliance- (Existing green space, what is obsolete, what can be retrofitted, what is new).**
- USDA/ Virginia Cooperative Extension
- **Information on where people are going post-graduation**
- SCORE

**New River Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes for December 13, 2011**

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

**I. Meeting Overview**

Mr. Kevin Byrd, Executive Director of the New River Valley Planning District Commission, described the format of the joint meeting between the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee and the Economic Development Working Group for the New River Valley Livability Initiative. Four small groups were created to discuss various weaknesses that were identified in the November 15, 2011 CEDS Committee meeting. The weaknesses identified were combined into 8 categories: Education, Public and Private Infrastructure Needs, Regional Awareness Within and Beyond the New River Valley, Access to Capital, Regulatory/Policy Barriers, Diversification, Downtown Revitalization, and Employability/Skilled Workforce.

CEDS Committee

PRESENT: Jim Flowers, VT KnowledgeWorks; John White, Town of Pulaski; Marty Holliday, New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board; Tommy Loflin, New River Bank; Michelle Linkous, Radford Chamber of Commerce; Basil Edwards, City of Radford Economic Development Director; Richard Mastalski, Carilion New River Valley Medical Center; Kevin Byrd and Brad Mecham, NRVPCD

Economic Development Working Group – NRV Livability Initiative

Dennis Reece and Gary Reedy, Citizens Telephone Cooperative; Mel Jones, Community Housing Partners; Marty Holliday, NR/MR WIB; Mike Burton, Sustain Floyd; Carol Davis and Kim Thurlow, NRVPCD

CEDS Committee

ABSENT: Brad Jones, American Electric Power Company, Inc.; John Hawley, Town of Pulaski; Henry Showalter, ALCOVA Mortgage; David Shanks, Radford University Small Business Development Center; Aric Bopp and David Denny, New River Valley Economic Development Alliance; Michael Miller, Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties; Jim Loux, Allegheny Brokerage Company, Inc.; Sam Moore, Retired VDOT; Kamala Bauers, Wall Residences; Peggy White, Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce; Joe Fortier, Taylor Hollow Construction.

**II. Small Group Reporting**

Each small group, made up of CEDS Committee members and Working Group members, discussed key contributing factors with regard to the 8 categories. Each group's facilitator then reported to the large group for further comments on any missing factors that should be included. The next meeting will be held on January 17, 2012 at 9:00 AM at the NRV Competitiveness Center. The meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM.

## **New River Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Meeting Minutes for January 17, 2012**

9:00 AM – New River Valley Competitiveness Center, Fairlawn

### **I. Non-Traditional Economic Development**

Carol Davis, Community Outreach Facilitator with the NRVPCD, gave a presentation on citizen comments and other groups' feedback with regard to the New River Valley Livability Initiative. Any comments to this point relating to economic development were shared with the CEDS Committee.

#### CEDS Committee

PRESENT: Jim Flowers, VT KnowledgeWorks; John White, Town of Pulaski; Marty Holliday, New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board; Tommy Loflin, New River Bank; Sam Moore, retired VDOT; Jim Loux, Alleghany Logistics; Aric Bopp, NRV Economic Development Alliance; Randall Rose, Virginia Tourism Corporation; Kamala Bauers, Wall Residences; Rick Weaver, Montgomery County Public Schools; Kevin Byrd and Brad Mecham, NRVPCD

#### Economic Development Working Group – NRV Livability Initiative

Dennis Reece and Gary Reedy, Citizens Telephone Cooperative; Mel Jones, Community Housing Partners; Karen Drake, Blacksburg; Marty Holliday, NR/MR WIB; Carol Davis and Kim Thurlow, NRVPCD

#### CEDS Committee

ABSENT: David Shanks, Radford University Small Business Development Center; David Denny, New River Valley Economic Development Alliance; Michael Miller, Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties; Peggy White, Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce; Joe Fortier, Taylor Hollow Construction; Basil Edwards, City of Radford.

### **II. Small Group Reporting**

Mr. Brad Mecham, Regional Planner with the New River Valley Planning District Commission, described the format of the joint meeting between the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee and the Economic Development Working Group for the New River Valley Livability Initiative. Three groups were created for a small group discussion based on identified weaknesses in the SWOT analysis. Each group was presented with a project list from last year's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, a list of New River Valley weaknesses contributing factors, and a set of three questions. The questions presented were: 1) If implemented, do the projects identified assist in remedying the issues in the subject area; 2) Are we missing critical projects to address the subject area; and 3) Are there projects that do not need to be on the list because they do not address the subject area. The first group discussed projects related to access to

capital, regional identity/awareness, and buildings and land. The second group discussed transportation infrastructure, downtown revitalization, and regulatory/policy barriers. The final group discussed projects relating to water/sewer infrastructure, technology infrastructure, employability/skilled workforce, diversification, and education. Each group identified future projects to add to the projects list that will be included below.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM.

# **New River Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee**

## **Meeting Minutes for February 14, 2012**

9:00 AM – New River Valley Competitiveness Center, Fairlawn

### **I. Review of Strengths Identified by CEDS Committee**

Brad Mecham, Regional Planner with the NRVPCD, gave a presentation on strengths that were previously identified using a SWOT analysis of the New River Valley economy.

#### CEDS Committee

PRESENT: Joe Fortier, Taylor Hollow Construction; Michael Miller, Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties; Sam Moore, retired VDOT; Jim Loux, Alleghany Logistics; Randall Rose, Virginia Tourism Corporation; Rick Weaver, Montgomery County Public Schools; Kevin Byrd and Brad Mecham, NRVPCD

#### Economic Development Working Group – NRV Livability Initiative

Gary Reedy, Citizens Telephone Cooperative; Mel Jones, Community Housing Partners; Karen Drake, Blacksburg; Carol Davis and Kim Thurlow, NRVPCD

#### CEDS Committee

ABSENT: Kamala Bauers, Wall Residences; Aric Bopp, NRV Economic Development Alliance; Tommy Loflin, New River Bank; Marty Holliday, New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board; John White, Town of Pulaski; Jim Flowers, VT KnowledgeWorks; David Shanks, Radford University Small Business Development Center; David Denny, New River Valley Economic Development Alliance; Peggy White, Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce; Basil Edwards, City of Radford.

### **II. Livability Strengths Identified in Public Meetings**

Ms. Carol Davis, Community Outreach Facilitator with the New River Valley Planning District Commission, presented strengths of the New River Valley that had been identified by NRV citizens during public meetings in association with the NRV Livability Initiative. Kim Thurlow, Project Coordinator with the NRVPCD, also presented some information regarding current statistics and future projections of the NRV.

### **III. Small Group Discussion**

The Committee broke out into four separate groups to discuss intersections between the CEDS Committee's identified strengths and those strengths identified through the Livability Initiative. The Livability Initiative has nine element areas: agriculture and food systems, arts and culture, economic development, energy, housing, internet access, natural and water resources, transportation, and community health. Each table was assigned two element areas to focus on with one table having three areas. Each table then identified projects based on where there were intersections between the CEDS Committee identified strengths and strengths identified by the Livability Initiative.

#### IV. Large Group Discussion

Each group reported their projects with opportunities for all to comment or make additional suggestions to the projects identified. The identified projects are attached. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.

##### INTERNET

NRV	Seek ISP interest in extending fiber from middle mile project to homes and businesses within the New River Valley
NRV	Upgrade existing infrastructure where it currently exists
NRV	Support public access points in community centers, schools, and other public buildings
NRV	Encourage community organization to do internet/computer trainings for rural areas and small businesses by using existing social networks
NRV	Support tower infrastructure for wireless internet connectivity Tower placement studies and streamlining of the zoning process
NRV	Support co-working spaces for internet-based businesses Utilization of underused facilities

##### TRANSPORTATION

NRV	Support public transportation 'feeder routes' between where employees reside and major employment centers
NRV	Support carpooling efforts/initiatives throughout the New River Valley Support the expansion and marketing of Ride Solutions

##### HOUSING

NRV	Build affordable housing in close proximity to employment centers
NRV	Adopt zoning that allows for responsible LMI housing that is needed in the community by its employees Increase density with smaller, energy efficient homes with common green space



NRV	Support community organizations and land trusts to preserve land for LMI housing development
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#### AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

NRV	Create a network of growers and producers in the region
NRV	Support and market educational and tourist visit experiences in communities
NRV	Develop and support a regional farmer's market supply chain Support networking between existing farmer's markets
NRV	Revolving loan fund or other capital support to help with farm start-up
NRV	Conduct farming visioning with agriculture stakeholders, farm bureau and extension
NRV	Support Public Private Partnerships for agriculture infrastructure needs
NRV	Creation of a slaughterhouse facility
NRV	Increase access to local food for low income populations
NRV	Research and develop opportunities for local farmers to take advantage of Virginia Tech cannery and processing center
NRV	Create and support networking event for local farmers and potential buyers
NRV	Market buying local goods to support local economic growth

#### ARTS AND CULTURE

NRV	Regional networking and marketing of the arts
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## NATURAL RESOURCES

Montgomery County	River access in Montgomery County
NRV	Preserve large tracts of land for outdoor recreation activities

## OTHER

NRV	Increase support to small businesses:  Emphasis on marketing current resources available to small businesses while exploring potential for virtual office space
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## EDUCATION, WORKFORCE, AND HUMAN CAPITAL

NRV	Integrate approach to workforce development from K-12 vs. post-secondary to a more robust “K-20” approach
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## ENERGY

Blacksburg	Expand revolving loan fund for energy audits and retrofits
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.
NRV	Build upon wind/solar project
NRV	Compile and analyze data from various private and non-profit entities working with energy efficiency

## COMMUNITY HEALTH

(No new projects identified at this meeting)

## **New River Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Meeting Minutes for March 13, 2012**

2:00 PM – New River Valley Competitiveness Center, Fairlawn, VA

### **I. Overview of Project Ranking Criteria Changes**

Brad Mecham, Regional Planner with the NRVPCDC, gave a presentation on the changes that had been made to the Project Ranking Criteria with respect to the CEDS Committee, Livability Initiative Working Group, and citizen feedback.

#### CEDS Committee

PRESENT: Tommy Loflin, New River Bank; Kamala Bauers, Wall Residences; Jim Flowers, VT KnowledgeWorks; John White, Town of Pulaski; Marty Holliday, New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board; Michael Miller, Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties; Sam Moore, retired VDOT; Jim Loux, Alleghany Logistics; Randall Rose, Virginia Tourism Corporation; Rick Weaver, Montgomery County Public Schools; Kevin Byrd and Brad Mecham, NRVPCDC

#### Economic Development Working Group – NRV Livability Initiative

Marty Holliday, New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board; Gary Reedy, Citizens Telephone Cooperative; Karen Drake, Blacksburg; Carol Davis and Kim Thurlow, NRVPCDC

#### CEDS Committee

ABSENT: Joe Fortier, Taylor Hollow Construction; Aric Bopp, NRV Economic Development Alliance; David Shanks, Radford University Small Business Development Center; David Denny, New River Valley Economic Development Alliance; Peggy White, Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce; Basil Edwards, City of Radford.

### **II. Small Group Discussion – Project Ranking Criteria**

The Committee broke out into four separate groups to discuss the Project Ranking Criteria. The groups were divided in the same way as the four sections of the CEDS; people, business/industry and employment, natural and cultural resources, and physical infrastructure. Each group then reported their changes and recommendations for the Project Ranking Criteria.

### **III. Overview of Goals and Objectives Changes**

Brad Mecham, Regional Planner with the NRVPCDC, gave a presentation on the changes that had been made to the Goals and Objectives with respect to the CEDS Committee, Livability Initiative Working Group, and citizen feedback. One new goal was added along with several objectives.

#### **IV. Small Group Discussion – Goals and Objectives**

The Committee broke out into the same four groups as with the Project Ranking Criteria to discuss their section of the CEDS. Each group made recommendations for further additions, subtractions, and modifications. Each group then reported the changes to the large group.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 PM.

## **New River Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Meeting Minutes for May 2, 2012**

2:00 PM – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

### **I. Overview of the Final Draft of the CEDS**

Mr. Brad Mecham, Regional Planner with the New River Valley Planning District Commission, presented the final draft of the CEDS to the Committee for review and comments. Mr. Mecham highlighted the changes approved by the Planning District Commission as well as the top ten projects by rank. In total, more than 160 projects were included in the 2012 CEDS for the New River Valley.

#### CEDS Committee

PRESENT: John White, Town of Pulaski; Marty Holliday, New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board; Randall Rose, Virginia Tourism Corporation; Kamala Bauers, Wall Residences; Becky Greer, Radford Public Schools; Kevin Byrd, Jan Gilbertson and Brad Mecham, NRVPCD

#### Economic Development Working Group – NRV Livability Initiative

Dennis Reece and Gary Reedy, Citizens Telephone Cooperative; Mel Jones, Community Housing Partners; Marty Holliday, NR/MR WIB; Carol Davis and Kim Thurlow, NRVPCD.

### **II. Large Group Discussion: Next Year's Five-Year Update**

Mr. Mecham presented the themes from this year's process and led a discussion on which areas of focus should be included in the 2013 Five-Year CEDS Update. After identifying key focus areas for next year's process, the Committee held a discussion regarding who was missing from the table on the CEDS Committee and what sectors were underrepresented. Suggestions were made and finally the Committee discussed the public process for the Five-Year Update.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

# **NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION**

## **Minutes of the Commission Meeting**

**held on**

**August 25, 2011**

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

### **I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mrs. H. Lesko, Chair, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. M. Patton, Vice-Chair, Town of Floyd; Mr. S. Weaver, Treasurer, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. R. Alvarez, Radford University; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. Cox, City of Radford; Mr. G. Eaton, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. Gerald, Floyd County; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Ms. E. Janney, Floyd County; Mrs. A. Perkins, Montgomery County; Mr. J. Sheffey, Pulaski County; Mr. K. Sullivan, Virginia Tech; and Mr. D. Warren, Pulaski County.

**ABSENT:** Mr. D. Dent, Virginia Tech; Mr. D. Langrehr, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. M. Welker, Town of Pulaski; and Vacant, Giles County.

### **II. APPROVAL OF MAY & JUNE MINUTES**

Mrs. Lesko stated that due to the lack of a quorum at the June meeting the May minutes were be tabled and will need to be approved along with the June minutes.

Motion: Mr. Eaton moved that the May and June minutes be approved. Mr. Gerald seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

### **III. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mrs. Lesko welcomed new members, Richard Alvarez, representing Radford University; Ray Chambers, representing Montgomery County; and Charles Via, representing the Town of Pearisburg. Then each member and staff introduced themselves.

At this time, Mrs. Lesko asked that the public address portion be moved to this section of the agenda.

### **VIII. PUBLIC ADDRESS**

Mrs. Lesko welcomed visitors and asked if they wished to address any items on the agenda.

Several visitors wanted to address the NRV Livability Initiative project.

Catherine Turner, property owner in Pulaski County: She stated she had spent a lot of time looking at every available document and was not endeared to turning over her rights to the EPA, HUD and Department of Transportation. She stated that Pulaski County has not voted on the Initiative but the Administrator signed off on it. She and others have been attending area meetings since May and have spoken against the project. She deemed it unlawful and will continue to do all within her power to see that it isn't agreed to.

11-49

Debbie Mohay: She stated she had spoke with Mr. Byrd earlier in the week. She had attended the Board of Supervisors meeting and others spoke as to how they felt about the kick-off meeting held at Claytor Lake. She stated that one of the facilitators was unprofessional and their comments were inappropriate. A lot of people have gone on record that their voice was not heard and the Summit meeting was not a good experience. Ms. Mohay also indicated the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association has a document on their website concerning how to deal with activist.

Linda Wagner, Floyd Town resident: She stated that she also had spoken with Mr. Byrd. She stated that her experience at the kick-off meeting was also unpleasant. She had to remind the facilitator that they were just a facilitator not a participant. The facilitator also called names and shouted. She wanted the Commission to know how they were treated.

The public address portion of the meeting was then closed.

#### **IV. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

None.

#### **V. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT FOR MAY, JUNE, AND JULY**

Mrs. Lesko stated that due to the lack of a quorum at the June meeting the Treasurer's Report for May was tabled and will need to be approved along with the June and July Treasurer's Report.

Motion: Mr. Sheffey moved that the May, June and July Treasurer's Reports be approved. Mr. Patton seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

#### **VI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ms. Lesko stated that the Executive Committee discussed the new GMS accounting system now in place. She stated there have been a lot of surprises and lots of questions, but it is progressing.

## VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd's report is attached to these minutes. He reported: The Commerce Park Water Tank bolting ceremony was held on August 10<sup>th</sup>; Regional Tourism Website launched May 31<sup>st</sup>; The City of Radford and Radford University launched Radford Transit on August 8<sup>th</sup>; Draft of Bikeway, Walkway, Blueway Plan can be found on the PDCs website; The broadband project is under construction starting in the Prices Fork area; Heartwood opened to the public on June 15<sup>th</sup>; GMS financial accounting system has been installed and payroll has been made each time since then.

11-50

## IX. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Proposed Bylaw Amendments

Mrs. Lesko stated that this item was tabled at the June meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

Mrs. Lesko noted that the changes were only minor. Two of the main changes were adding an additional at-large member to the Executive Committee and changing the term of office for officers from two years to one year as reflected in the Charter. Mr. Sheffey stated that the first year is a learning curve for the second year. Mr. Byrd stated that nothing is stipulated how long you can serve; you can be re-elected as long as you agree.

Mr. Garrett stated that this item has to be presented at this meeting since a quorum was reached and voted upon at the next meeting.

Mr. Byrd stated that the item will be placed on next month's agenda.

### B. Proposed Personnel Policy Amendments

Mrs. Lesko explained the changes proposed and asked for question.

#### **Office Hours:**

Mr. Warren asked what assurances you have that certain people will be there during a time they might be needed. There seems to be a contradiction in the office hours. He asked why this change needed to be made. Mr. Byrd stated that it would make it blanket policy for everyone opposed to certain employees. He added the staff is professional and accountable, so he does not anticipate abuse of the policy. If so, disciplinary measures will be taken.



Mr. Sullivan stated that it could be a flex hour policy instead of a core hour policy and the time be at the discretion of the Director.

Mrs. Perkins asked if this allows someone to work 10 hours a day and take off Friday or Monday. Mr. Byrd stated no, the amount of work days stays the same. However, the Commission does offer compensation time hour-for-hour worked above 37.5 hours.

Mr. Sheffey asked if any other PDCs implement a similar policy. Mr. Byrd stated that several have a similar policy and discussion with other directors is where the idea originated.

#### **Community Volunteer Time:**

Mrs. Lesko asked if there were questions concerning this item?

Mr. Warren asked who makes the decision as to what is a community activity? Mr. Byrd stated the policy indicates the Executive Director has the discretion to approve/disapprove the activity. He acknowledged there may be difficult decisions based on discretion and added he spoke with staff about staying away from requesting permission for activities that may be questionable.

11-51

Mr. Garrett stated that the items have been discussed and should be put forth for a vote.

Motion: Mr. Garrett moved that the change to the Personnel Policy dealing with office hours be approved. Mr. Chambers seconded the motion.

Action: Motion was put to vote and passed by a 9 to 6 vote, with 3 abstentions.

Motion: Mr. Garrett moved that the addition to the Personnel Policy dealing with community volunteer time be approved. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion.

Action: Motion was put to vote and passed by a 14 to 4 vote.

#### **X. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A. VA Department of Housing and Community Development Annual Report**

Mr. Byrd stated that the report is compiled as a requirement of DHCD.

Motion: Mr. Patton moved for approval of the Annual Report for DHCD. Mr. Cox seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Comment from the public that none of the agenda items are posted on line. Mr. Byrd stated that in the future the agenda and any memos will be posted on line.

#### B. NRV Livability Initiative Exercise/Commissioner Input

Mrs. Lesko stated that this portion of the meeting will be turned over to Mr. Byrd for implementation.

However, an item needs to be added to the agenda.

#### C. Election of Officers

Mrs. Lesko stated that since the By-law amendment adding a new member was not voted upon, she proposed that the Officers remain as:

Chair - Holly Lesko

V. Chair - Mike Patton

Treasurer - Scott Weaver

She asked for any nominations from the floor.

If the By-law change adding an At-Large member to the Executive Committee is approved, Mr. Sullivan has agreed to the position.

11-52

Motion: Mr. Sheffey moved for approval of the slate of officers and pending approval of the By-law amendment, include Mr. Sullivan. Mr. Cox seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

### XI. OTHER BUSINESS

None

**XII. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS**

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

None

B. Regular Project Review

None

C. Environmental Project Review

None

The meeting was then turned over to the Livability Initiative Exercise.

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Holly Larson Lesko, Chair  
New River Valley Planning District Commission

# **NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION**

## **Minutes of the Commission Meeting**

**held on**

**September 22, 2011**

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

### **I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mrs. H. Lesko, Chair, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. S. Weaver, Treasurer, Town of Christiansburg;; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. R. Chambers, Montgomery County; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. Cox, City of Radford; Mr. G. Eaton, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. Gerald, Floyd County; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Mr. D. Langrehr, Town of Blacksburg; Mrs. A. Perkins, Montgomery County; Mr. J. Sheffey, Pulaski County; Mr. K. Sullivan, Virginia Tech; Mr. C. Via, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. D. Warren, Pulaski County; and Mr. M. Welker, Town of Pulaski.

**ABSENT:** Mr. R. Alvarez, Radford University; Mr. D. Dent, Virginia Tech; Ms. E. Janney, Floyd County; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; Mr. M. Patton, Vice-Chair, Town of Floyd; Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg; and Vacant, Giles County.

### **II. APPROVAL OF AUGUST MINUTES**

Mrs. Lesko asked for approval of the August minutes if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mr. Eaton moved that the August minutes be approved. Mr. Cox seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

### **III. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mrs. Lesko announced that the Floyd County will co-host the annual Commissioners Dinner Meeting. A reception will be held at 6:30 p.m. and the dinner at 7:00 p.m. on October 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Chateau Morrisette in Floyd. The Commission meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. prior to the reception. Andy Morikawa, Community Foundation-Retired, will be the guest speaker.

### **IV. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

Mr. Byrd explained that during this part of the agenda, the mutual concerns portion is an opportunity for the Commissioners to ask questions or talk about issues and how to work through them, like an open forum. The commissioners' report portion is for the Commissioners to make reports, such as Mrs. Janney when she reports on the Roanoke River Watershed. Mrs. Lesko added that Mr. Patton had asked Commissioners to speak and she asked if anyone wished to do so.

Mr. Langrehr stated that a conditional use permit had been approved for the new Blacksburg High School and groundbreaking would be held on October 11, and also for the new Auburn High School.

Mr. Warren stated that a new restaurant would be locating at the site of the old Mexican Restaurant in Fairlawn. The name is Cookout Restaurant, a chain from North Carolina.

11-52

## **V. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT FOR AUGUST**

Mr. Byrd went over the report and explained why some of the budget categories' percent expended were high. He stated that the meeting expense category included the Livability Initiative Summit and the budget for that category will be adjusted since it is a three year grant. The media expense category includes mostly Tourism which will have expense of \$5,000. The copies/copier maintenance expense category budget will be increased toward the end of the year.

Mr. Weaver stated that the Commission was still solvent.

Motion: Mrs. Perkins moved that the August Treasurer's Reports be approved. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

## **VI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mrs. Lesko announced that Mrs. Quesenberry had submitted a letter of retirement to the Executive Committee. She read the content of the letter which stated her official retirement date is February 29, 2012, but will be leaving the Commission December 31, 2011. Mrs. Lesko stated that Mr. Byrd is in the process of looking for her replacement.

Mrs. Lesko then welcomed and introduced the newest PDC staff member, Tommi Godwin. She received her Master's Degree from VA Tech and is a Minnesota transplant. Her work at the Commission will focus on natural resources, community health as well as green infrastructure.

## **VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Byrd provided a report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported: Brad Mecham has been assisting the Development Corporation talking with businesses about the Development Corporation's Revolving Loan Fund. The NRV Rural Long Range Transportation Plan is submitted for adoption by the PDC Board. A regional learning experience will be held at the Volvo Plant on October 27 from 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and all Commissioners are invited. The PDC partnered with VT-Institute for Policy and Governance for a successful Community Health grant to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

## VIII. PUBLIC ADDRESS

Mrs. Lesko welcomed visitors and asked if they wished to address any items on the agenda. No one addressed the Commission.

## IX. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Approval of Proposed Bylaw Amendments

11-53

Mrs. Lesko stated that the by-laws were reviewed last month and are to be voted upon this month. She asked for any comments, questions, or edits.

Mr. Garrett stated that page 4, item b, dealing with order of business under Section 1 under Article VII, should either be followed or taken out. It was the consensus to remove it. Dr. Harvey stated that page 6, Section 3, Duties of Executive Director, under Article X needs to be revised. Mrs. Lesko stated that the Committee has reviewed this draft for several months and not a lot of comments have been received. However, we do owe Mr. Byrd a job description. Mr. Welker stated that a statement could be added "and other duties". Mr. Sheffey stated that the first sentence says something similar, "but not limited to".

Mrs. Lesko asked for a vote.

Motion: Mr. Garrett moved for approval of the Bylaw Amendments with the change on page 4. Mr. Sheffey seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried, 1 no vote.

B. Election of Officers for FY 2011-2012

Mrs. Lesko stated that at the last meeting since the By-law amendment adding a new member was not voted upon, she proposed that the Officers remain the same until such approval. Since the by-laws were approved, the slate of officers submitted for approval are:

Chair - Holly Lesko  
V. Chair - Mike Patton  
Treasurer - Scott Weaver  
Past Chair - Annette Perkins  
Member-at-Large - Kevin Sullivan

Motion: Mr. Sheffey moved for approval of the slate of officers. Mr. Cox seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Revisit Bylaws and Personnel Policies

Mrs. Lesko stated that the Committee members reviewing these documents previously have been she, Mrs. Perkins, and Mr. Patton. She stated that more participants are needed and asked for volunteers. She asked for everyone to think about it and let her know.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Radford Transit Presentation

Mrs. Lesko introduced Mike Grega with NRV Community Services. Mr. Grega stated that the Radford Transit

11-54

Service has been in operation little over a month. The concept of this service was started with a study almost 3 years ago. The City of Radford in conjunction with Radford University utilizes NRV Community Services employees. So far things have been moving smoothly. One of the buses does travel to the New River Valley Mall and occupancy has been favorable. The bus route pick-up points will be more visible when permanent larger signs have been posted.

Mr. Sheffey asked if all buses are handicap accessible and have bike racks. Mr. Grega stated yes to both.

Mr. Garrett asked if it will always be subsidized. Mr. Grega sated at this time, he believes it will be.

Mr. Cox stated he hopes that citizens will over utilize the service.

B. NRV 2035 Rural Long Range Transportation Plan

Mr. Sharp made an overview presentation of the Plan. He highlighted the roadway system deficiencies and presented the recommendations for improvements. The Plan has in detail the recommendations by jurisdiction.

Mrs. Lesko stated that a resolution of endorsement of the plan was provided at each Commissioners place at their table to be reviewed for approval.

Motion: Mr. Sheffey moved for approval of Transportation Plan. Mr. Welker seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Commission Annual Report for FY 2011

Mrs. Lesko asked if there were any questions concerning the report. She stated that Jan Gilbertson had worked hard compiling the report. Mr. Byrd stated the report highlights the Commission activities for the previous year.

Motion: Mr. Cox moved for approval of the FY 2011 Annual Report. Mr. Welker seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

D. Resolution of Understanding - NRV Livability Initiative

Mr. Byrd stated that this resolution acknowledges that the NRV Livability Initiative is a planning process and any implementation by local governments will follow public protocols as determined by local governments.

Motion: Mr. Sullivan moved the Resolution be approved. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried. Two abstentions, Mr. Via and Mr. Gerald.

Mr. Byrd noted that all Commission Agenda materials are posted on the PDC website.

11-55



## XI. OTHER BUSINESS

None

## XII. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

- A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)  
None

- B. Regular Project Review  
1. I-81 Exit 105 Bridge Replacement - VDOT

Mr. Cox asked why the bridges are being replaced. Mr. Sharp responded the bridge design utilized required the replacement earlier than other structures. Questions also arose concerning access to the boat ramps located near the bridges, and the possibility of improvements to other boat ramps during construction, and how will the traffic be rerouted.

Motion: Mr. Sheffey moved that the project does not conflict with regional plans, policies or goals and that the questions/comments be submitted with approval. Mr. Cox seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Environmental Project Review  
1. VPDES Permit Reissuance - Chemical Lime Company of Virginia

Motion: Mr. Sullivan moved that the project does not conflict with regional plans, policies or goals. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried. One abstention, Mr. Via.

The meeting was then adjourned.

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Holly Larson Lesko, Chair  
New River Valley Planning District Commission

## August 25, 2011

### Executive Director's Report

#### Economic Development:

- Commerce Park Water Tank bolting ceremony held August 10<sup>th</sup> to recognize the progress made on increasing water supply to the Commerce Park and eastern Pulaski County. By the City of Radford providing water to Pulaski County the county does not need to build an additional water treatment plant.
- VA's 1<sup>st</sup> with PDC assistance applied for a Governor's Regional Economic Development Competiveness Grant to help with costs for a strategic plan at the Commerce Park.
- Regional Tourism Website launched May 31 and visits are steady to the Events page, Parks, Trails and Local Flavor (local restaurants) [www.explorenewrivervalley.com](http://www.explorenewrivervalley.com)
- NRV App (for mobile phones) coming soon developed by NRV Magazine using above website information from events, lodging and dinning.

#### Transportation:

- City of Radford and Radford University launched Radford Transit on August 8<sup>th</sup>. 83 riders first day before 6:30, 350 riders four days of service.
- Regional Transit Organizational Analysis study scheduled to be complete in September. Partnership between PDC and MPO to identify solutions for working together across the region for transit delivery.
- Draft of the NRV Bikeway, Walkway, Blueway Plan can be found at the link below <http://www.nrvpdc.org/Transportation/bwwwbw.html>

#### Regional:

- Broadband project is under construction, starting in Prices Fork area. Delays on ordering fiber to install because of impacts from tsunami in Japan.
- Heartwood opened to public 6/15, grand opening was 7/23, over \$100,000 in local craft has been sold in two months. October expected to be busiest month. Already re-ordering from local artists to keep inventory available.
- Summit for Livability Initiative was on August 11 at Claytor Lake. All staff contributed significant effort for the event.

#### PDC:

- GMS financial accounting system installed and made payroll each time! Still working through details and some changes.
- September 18-20, attending an ARC conference-Employment Law Training
- Regional Learning Experiences-localities hosting PDC staff for tours of their communities. Toured Pulaski County including tornado damage 8/5, Giles County 8/25.

# **NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION**

## **Minutes of the Commission Meeting**

**held on**

**October 27, 2011**

**5:30 p.m.– Chateau Morrisette, Floyd**

### **II. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mrs. H. Lesko, Chair, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. R. Chambers, Montgomery County; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. F. Gerald, Floyd County; Ms. E. Janney, Floyd County; Mrs. C. Newcomb, Town of Blacksburg; Mrs. A. Perkins, Montgomery County; Mr. J. Sheffey, Pulaski County; Mr. K. Sullivan, Virginia Tech; Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County; and Mr. M. Welker, Town of Pulaski.

**ABSENT:** Mr. S. Weaver, Treasurer, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. M. Patton, Vice-Chair, Town of Floyd; Mr. R. Alvarez, Radford University; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. T. Cox, City of Radford; Mr. D. Dent, Virginia Tech; Mr. G. Eaton, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. C. Via, Town of Pearisburg; and Vacant, Giles County.

### **II. CONSENT OF AGENDA**

- B. Approval of September Minutes
- C. Approval of Treasurer's Report for September

Mrs. Lesko stated that a quorum was not present and the Minutes and Treasurer's Report would be carried until the next meeting.

### **III. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mrs. Lesko introduced Cecile Newcomb, who will be replacing Don Langrehr for the Town of Blacksburg. Mrs. Newcomb stated she looked forward to working with the Commission.

### **IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS**

None

### **V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mrs. Lesko stated the Executive Committee did not meet.

11-57

## VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### Economic Development:

- Provided technical assistance to Development Corporation to issue loans through NRV Revolving Loan Fund to small business in Montgomery County, 3 Birds Berry Farm (Prices Fork); and another is being considered in the Town of Floyd.
- Two new CEDS members for appointment consideration at Commission meeting.
- United States Assistant Secretary of Commerce, John Fernandez, coming to visit region on November 9<sup>th</sup> to observe regional success with TEMCI project and VT-CRC.
- Commerce Park water/sewer infrastructure installation nearing completion in December. PDC providing technical assistance for grant administration.
- Participated in discussion at Mountain Lake concerning their future operations.

### Transportation:

- VDOT Six-Year Improvement Plan Public Hearing scheduled for October 26<sup>th</sup> at Montgomery County Government Center at 6:00pm. PDC will display rural transportation plans for the region.
- Coordinated meetings with Dana Martin, the Commonwealth Transportation Board Member for the Salem District, on October 17. Several localities met with Mr. Martin to discuss upcoming Transportation Enhancement grant applications along with general transportation issues in their community.

### Regional:

- Volvo Plant Tour POSTPONED from October 27<sup>th</sup> to December 16<sup>th</sup> 10:00-12:30. RSVP by December 9<sup>th</sup> to Ken Hall at [khall@nrvpdc.org](mailto:khall@nrvpdc.org).
- PDC reconvened Green Infrastructure collaborators on October 13<sup>th</sup> discuss wrapping up existing report due on December 1<sup>st</sup> and determining future directions for the effort.
- All locality Water Supply Plan adoptions are scheduled to be complete by end of October, just prior to the November regulation deadline.
- Livability Initiative working groups are taking shape in October/November. [www.nrvlivability.org](http://www.nrvlivability.org) for more information about the project and to engage.

### PDC:

- GMS (financial software) returned for a site visit October 17-19 and resolved all issues.
- Advertisement for Director of Finance and Personnel position closed on October 21. Interviews should occur in early November. VAPDC meeting with state agency heads on October 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss how PDCs can support state agencies from a regional perspective.

## VII. OLD BUSINESS

None

## **X. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. CEDS Committee Appointments**

Mr. Byrd stated that each year the PDC reviews and updates the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The purpose of the CEDS Committee is to identify projects that communities are looking to

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implement. It serves the planning needs required by the US Department of Commerce, the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the Appalachian Regional Commission. As a designated EDD, the Committee is required to engage a CEDS Committee comprised of 51% or more private sector members. New members for this year are Tommy Loflin and David Denny.

### **B. Discussion of Commission's Per Capita Assessment for FY' 13**

Mr. Byrd stated that this is the first year 2010 population figures will be used for the local assessment. Previous local assessments were based on census 2000 data. In some instances the population decreased in communities while others have increased. Mr. Sheffey commented that more funds from localities mean more projects the region can match. Mr. Byrd stated that is true and for every \$1 invested in the PDC a \$12 return is typical. Discussion followed as to which localities were affected by an increase/decrease. Mrs. Perkins asked if there would be an increase in the overall budget amount. Mr. Byrd stated the 2010 population figures do represent an overall increase because the region grew.

Mr. Byrd recommended that the per capita rate not be increased. There was a consensus that the per capita rate remain at \$1.25.

### **C. Regional Meeting of Mayors/Board Chairs/Chief Administrative Officials/PDC Commissioners**

Mr. Byrd stated that on behalf of the NRVPDC and the City of Radford, all Commissioners are invited to a regional meeting of Council Mayors, Board of Supervisors Chairs and Chief Administrative Officials. The meeting will be held at the new City of Radford Council Chambers on December 8, 2011 (10 Robertson Street, Radford) A reception will start at 6:15 p.m., with the meeting following at 7:00 p.m. The focus of this meeting will be to discuss key issues/legislative priorities for each locality. This will also be a great opportunity to meet your fellow government leaders across the region.

Mr. Byrd stated also that the Volvo tour has been rescheduled for December 16 at 10:00 a.m., and a new invitation has been sent.

## **IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

None

## **X. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

Mrs. Lesko stated that Mr. Patton usually encourages someone to give a report. She asked if anyone would like to do so. Mrs. Perkins reported that Back Country will be locating in Montgomery County as a Distribution Center. It will be a catalog store similar to Sears.

Mr. Byrd stated that Mr. Rundgren stopped by the office and left a report of his attendance at the RC & D Council Meeting. He stated that Gary Boring has been hired as the Director of the Council. Charles Shorter has been working hard to get funds to continue the important work of the Council.

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## **XI. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS**

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)  
None

B. Regular Project Review  
None

C. Environmental Project Review  
None

The meeting was then adjourned.

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Holly Larson Lesko, Chair  
New River Valley Planning District Commission

# NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

## Minutes of the Commission Meeting

held on

January 26, 2012

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

### III. CALL TO ORDER

**PRESENT:** Mrs. H. Lesko, Chair, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. M. Patton, Vice-Chair, Town of Floyd; Mr. S. Weaver, Treasurer, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. R. Alvarez, Radford University; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. R. Chambers, Montgomery County; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. Cox, City of Radford; Mr. G. Eaton, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. Gerald, Floyd County; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Ms. E. Janney, Floyd County; Mrs. C. Newcomb, Town of Blacksburg; Mrs. A. Perkins, Montgomery County; Mr. J. Sheffey, Pulaski County; Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. K. Sullivan, Virginia Tech; Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County; Mr. M. Welker, Town of Pulaski; and Mr. C. Via, Town of Pearisburg.

**ABSENT:** Mr. D. Dent, Virginia Tech; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; and Vacant, Giles County.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd; Elijah Sharp and Janet McNew

### II. CONSENT AGENDA

- D. Approval of Minutes for September and October
- E. Approval of Treasurer's Report for September, October, November and December

Mrs. Lesko called for approval of the consent agenda items if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mr. Garrett moved for the approval of the consent agenda items. Mr. Cox seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

### III. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mrs. Lesko, on behalf of the Commission, presented a plaque and gift to retiree Shirl Quesenberry in recognition and appreciation for 35 years of service to the Commission.

### IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

### V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mrs. Lesko reported the Executive Committee, which routinely meets one hour before the Commission meeting, was considering alternative meeting times. This month they met for over an hour at lunch time

earlier in the day. In February they will meet Wednesday prior to the Thursday Commission meeting. She also stated the Committee discussed the development of a strategic plan for the Commission.

## **VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Byrd highlighted several areas of the report provided in the Commission agenda packet. He reported:  
Healthy

NRV project- first meeting of the Community Health Working Group scheduled for January 31 at Pulaski Community Hospital. Also on January 31, the final report of the Blacksburg Business Climate Task Force will be presented to Blacksburg Town Council. The PDC hosted a Social Media in Local Government Workshop on January 20. The Volvo Plant tour held on December 16 drew 25 attendees from across the region.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

The Mayors, Chairs, Chief Administrative Officials meeting cancelled in December will be discussed with Chief Administrative Officials to determine an appropriate reschedule date.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Review/Endorsement of Regional Transit Organization Analysis - Presentation-Elijah Sharp**

Mr. Sharp presented the report that was provided in the Commission agenda packet highlighting the significant level of stakeholder participation. Further, he explained the enabling legislation in Virginia that allows transportation providers to work together in service delivery. A number of comments and questions were raised by the Commission and it was agreed to table endorsement of the study to the next meeting to allow for additional review time.

### **B. Transportation Program Updates - Presentation-Elijah Sharp**

Mr. Sharp discussed anticipated funding issues for VDOT and the department's desire to pursue public-private partnerships to address funding gaps. Mr. Sharp also explained the economic impact related to transportation implementation was equivalent to \$4 billion in construction has a \$13 billion impact with 100,000 jobs. Mr. Sharp closed the presentation with an overview of the Governor's Transportation Plan.

### **F. Devolution of State Transportation System-Commission Discussion**

Mr. Byrd opened the conversation referencing materials provided in the agenda packet and expressed a desire for localities to discuss potential impacts associated with a major state service potentially becoming a local service. Commission members discussed the impacts and identified the following: rural localities have less taxing capacity to maintain roadways; localities may need another revenue option other than real estate, the potential for more primary roads so federal funds could be accessed; concern for tolling on I-81 or other facilities and the cost for students and low-income. As



the issue continues to develop, the Commission asked staff to research how other states that already devolved handle their road programs.

G. Review and Approval of FY11 Audit

Mr. Byrd overviewed the FY11 Audit as prepared by Robinson, Farmer, Cox and Associates.

Motion: Mr. Sheffey moved to accept the audit. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

H. Identification of Key Legislative Issues – Commission Discussion

Mr. Byrd opened the conversation referencing VACO's Legislative Program enclosed in the agenda packet. He asked what the major issues are facing localities in this General Assembly session. Concerns were expressed regarding the Machinery and Tools Tax no longer being enabled in favor of BPOL and the Commission discussed inequities between cities and towns when using BPOL. Mr. Welker also expressed concern for changes to eminent domain laws that may require a local government to pay for potential loss of income for a given project. Ms. Janney explained the state-level Farm Bureau supports the legislation so appropriate compensation is provided for the agriculture community.

**IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**X. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

Mr. Byrd stated the New River Valley Development Corporation Revolving Loan Fund program has funded four applications in the last couple of months. Mr. Sheffey reported John Wyatt is Pulaski County's new representative to the Development Corporation and Dr. Harvey expressed appreciation of locality support to the Development Corporation.

Mrs. Lesko commented the Joint Budget Review meeting is scheduled for January 30 and will be held at the Competitiveness Center, please think of PDC funding as budgets are being developed.

**XI. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS**

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

New River Valley Senior Services vehicle purchase – DRPT

Giles Health & Family Center vehicle purchase - DRPT

B. Regular Project Review

None

- C. Environmental Project Review  
None

The meeting was then adjourned.

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Holly Larson Lesko, Chair  
New River Valley Planning District Commission

# NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

## Minutes of the Commission Meeting held on

February 23, 2012

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

### IV. CALL TO ORDER

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

**ABSENT:** Mr. D. Dent, Virginia Tech; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; Mr. G. Eaton, Town of Rich Creek; Ms. E. Janney, Floyd County; Mrs. C. Newcomb, Town of Blacksburg; Mrs. A. Perkins, Montgomery County; Mr. M. Welker, Town of Pulaski; and Vacant, Giles County.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd; Tommi Godwin and Julie Phillips

### II. CONSENT AGENDA

- I. Approval of Minutes for January
- J. Approval of Treasurer's Report for January

Mrs. Lesko called for approval of the consent agenda items if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mr. Gerald moved for the approval of the consent agenda items. Dr. Harvey seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

### III. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mrs. Lesko announced the Commission meeting would now be audio recorded and reminded all commissioners that payroll would now be done via direct deposit and asked that a voided check be provided.

### IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

### V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mrs. Lesko reported the Executive Committee would now meet at lunch time Wednesday prior to the Thursday Commission meeting. She also stated a strategic plan for the Commission will be developed; the first meeting will be at her house March 6, 2012 at 5:30pm with Jim Youngquist of SERDI attending to inform the planning process.

## **VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Byrd provided a report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported: The I-81 tolling will not happen at this time because the toll on I-95 will precede it. The state is only allowed to toll one interstate facility at a given time. Also the state is continuing the public-private partnership (P3) projects to counteract decreases in public funding; please let the PDC know of any ideas for our area. ARC/Oak Ridge National Laboratory Residential Science Academy is seeking middle and high school students for a one week science academy July 15 to 20, 2012. The PDC will be going to Google Business for email, central calendaring and central contacts. HB823 was passed-by indefinitely in sub-committee and was not reintroduced at full committee. The NRVPCDC met with our legislators on this issue. A video of a news clip from WSLs was shown on the NRV Revolving Loan Fund.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

The review/endorsement of Regional Transit Organization Analysis was delayed until March.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Setting up Community Development Block Grant Priorities for 2012.**

Mr. Byrd gave discussed the priorities for both 2011 and 2012. He asked any projects within the NRV be relayed to the NRVPCDC staff.

Mrs. Lesko called for a motion to adopt.

Motion: Mr. Garrett moved for a motion to adopt. Mr. Patton seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

### **B. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)**

Mr. Byrd overviewed the schedule for the CEDS Committee and their work with the Livability Initiative Economic Development Working Group. A schedule was included in the agenda packet.

### **K. Healthy NRV project update**

Ms. Godwin opened with a presentation on the Healthy NRV project and gave an overview of the project. She stated the NRVPCDC is partnering with the Virginia Tech Institute for Policy and Governance. This is a two year grant awarded to the NRVPCDC; with only twelve being awarded nationally by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Ms. Godwin explained youth ambassadors create digital videos know as digital story telling which will be shared via social media. She also stated the outcomes expected of this project are a better understanding of health issues and concerns within the NRV and to help generate new ideas about local government fiscal impact relating to healthcare.

## IX. OTHER BUSINESS

None

## X. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Patton spoke about the need to promote the work of the commission to communities across the region. He stated that the Commission is the only place where a member of every community in the NRV is represented. He expressed how important it is to tell our story.

## XI. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

### A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

New River Valley Community Services vehicle purchase - DRPT

### B. Regular Project Review

None

### C. Environmental Project Review

1. Reissuance of VPDES Permit No. 0052850 Blacksburg-Christiansburg-VPI Water Authority Water Treatment Plant

Motion: Mr. Patton moved for a motion to approve.

Mr. Weaver seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried. One abstention, Mr. Via

2. Virginia Tech-Montgomery Executive Airport Runway Expansion

Mr. Patton asked what the expansion means for the airport and Virginia Tech. Mr. Sullivan responded this means bigger jets can land at the airport and ensures the number of planes landing at the airport will be allowed to land in the future.

Motion: Mr. Showalter moved for a motion to approve.

Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried. One abstention, Mr. Via

The meeting was then adjourned.

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Holly Larson Lesko, Chair  
New River Valley Planning District Commission

# NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

## Minutes of the Commission Meeting

held on

March 22, 2012

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

### V. CALL TO ORDER

**PRESENT:** Mr. M. **Patton**, Vice-Chair, Town of Floyd; Mr. S. **Weaver**, Treasurer, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. C. **Bopp**, Pulaski County; Mr. R. **Chambers**, Montgomery County; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. **Gerald**, Floyd County; Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Mr. J. **Sheffey**, Pulaski County; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. K. **Sullivan**, Virginia Tech; Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County; and Mr. C. **Via**, Town of Pearisburg; Ms. L. **LaClair**, Virginia Tech; Mrs. C. **Newcomb**, Town of Blacksburg; Mrs. A. **Perkins**, Montgomery County; Mr. M. **Welker**, Town of Pulaski.

**ABSENT:** Mrs. H. **Lesko**, Chair, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. R. **Alvarez**, Radford University; Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County; Mr. G. **Eaton**, Town of Rich Creek; Ms. E. **Janney**, Floyd County; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. **Cox**, City of Radford; and Vacant, Giles County.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd; Brad Mecham; Elijah Sharp; and Julie Phillips.

### II. CONSENT AGENDA

#### L. Approval of Minutes for February

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

Motion: Mr. Sheffey moved for the approval of the consent agenda items. Mrs. Newcomb seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

#### M. Approval of Treasurer's Report for February

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

Motion: Mr. Garrett moved for the approval of the consent agenda items. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

### III. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Patton announced Mrs. Lesko was absent from the meeting due to other commitments and he would be conducting the meeting in her place. He introduced the newest Commission member; Ms. LaClair from

Virginia Tech and welcomed her to the Commission. Mr. Patton also explained the reason Virginia Tech has two Commission members while Radford University has only one because of student population.

#### **IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS**

None

#### **V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Patton referenced an email sent by Mrs. Lesko regarding the agency assessment/strategic plan. He talked about the focus groups that will be conducted and asked for input on the best format to get input from our members. He also asked each Commission member to provide names of people to take the survey before the focus group conversations take place. Mr. Byrd will be collecting names.

#### **VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Byrd provided a report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported: The ARC Grant awards for 2012 have been announced, also a grant opportunity for Rural Jobs and Innovation Accelerator was released in March with a May due date. The Commission may consider submitting an application or partnering on an application. He also announced there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony April 25<sup>th</sup> for the New River Valley Broadband project and Competitiveness Center name change. All Commission members, local, state, federal elected officials will receive invitations. Livability Initiative updates can be found each month on the project website [www.nrvlivability.org](http://www.nrvlivability.org). Mr. Byrd plans to secure a speaker from DCR at the Commission meeting next month to discuss new stormwater regulations. Mr. Sheffey asked if local government staff could attend. Mr. Byrd indicated an invitation will go out to local government managers to the meeting for them to share with their staff involved with stormwater management.

#### **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

#### **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A. Approval of Rural Transportation Work Program FY13**

Mr. Sharp gave a presentation of the proposed program along with discussing the projects underway in the current fiscal year.

Mr. Patton called for a motion to adopt the proposed Work Program.

Motion: Mr. Sullivan moved for a motion to adopt. Dr. Harvey seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

##### **B. Review of Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Goals, Objectives and Ranking Criteria**

Mr. Mecham gave an overview of the FY 12 update and revised ranking criteria based on input from the CEDS committee. The full Goals, Objectives and Ranking Criteria materials are on the Commission website for review. A FY 12 CEDS project list will be reviewed at the Commission meeting in April.

N. NRVPDC Economic Development Program Overview

Mr. Mecham discussed the different Economic Development programs the PDC conducts. He overviewed the CEDS program, the NRV Revolving Loan Fund, marketing assistance to the newly renamed NRV Business Center, and explained recent success of PDC staff providing technical assistance to localities thru grant writing assistance. He also overviewed other PDC staff member roles within the Economic Development Program.

O. Memorial Resolution Honoring Malvin L. "Pug" Wells

Mr. Patton called for a motion to adopt.

Motion: Ms. Perkins moved for a motion to adopt. Mr. Bopp seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

## IX. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Newcomb announced the Town of Blacksburg along with the Wounded Warriors Project will be hosting a welcome home parade for veterans on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. and encouraged everyone to come.

## X. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Showalter talked about a new tourism brochure for the Town of Christiansburg. They are being distributed to hoteliers and have been successful in promoting area businesses and destinations. Mr. Sheffey reminded the Commissioners when Pulaski Co. hosted Bike VA last year it had an economic impact of \$2.8 - \$3 million for the region.

## XI. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

1. Hotel Feasibility Study – RBEG Application
2. EDA of Floyd County RBEG Application to recapitalize local small business loan pool.

B. Regular Project Review

None

C. Environmental Project Review

3. Management of Vulture Damage in Virginia

Motion: Mr. Sullivan moved for a motion to approve.



Action: Mrs. Perkins seconded the motion.  
Motion carried. One abstention, Mr. Via

4. [12-12] FY 2012 Sec 103 PM 2.5 Air Monitoring Program

Motion: Mr. Sheffey moved for a motion to approve.  
Dr. Harvey seconded the motion.  
Action: Motion carried. One abstention, Mr. Via

5. Falling Branch-Merrimac 138 kV Transmission Line Project, PUE 201-0007

Discussion: Mrs. Perkins moved for a motion to approve with all comments  
attached  
Motion: Mrs. Newcomb seconded the motion.  
Action: Motion carried. One abstention, Mr. Via

The meeting was then adjourned at 7:15pm.

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Holly Larson Lesko, Chair  
New River Valley Planning District Commission

# NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

## Minutes of the Commission Meeting

held on

April 26, 2012

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

### VI. CALL TO ORDER

**PRESENT:** Mrs. H. **Lesko**, Chair, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. M. **Patton**, Vice-Chair, Town of Floyd; Mr. S. **Weaver**, Treasurer, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. C. **Bopp**, Pulaski County; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. **Cox**, City of Radford; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. **Gerald**, Floyd County; Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg; Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County; Ms. L. **LaClair**, Virginia Tech; Mrs. C. **Newcomb**, Town of Blacksburg; Mrs. A. **Perkins**, Montgomery County; Mr. M. **Welker**, Town of Pulaski Mr. G. **Eaton**, Town of Rich Creek; Ms. E. **Janney**, Floyd County.

**ABSENT:** Mr. R. **Alvarez**, Radford University; Mr. R. **Chambers**, Montgomery County; Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County; Mr. J. **Sheffey**, Pulaski County; Mr. C. **Via**, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. K. **Sullivan**, Virginia Tech; and Vacant, Giles County.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd and Julie Phillips.

### II. CONSENT AGENDA

- P. Approval of Minutes for March
- Q. Approval of Treasurer's Report for March

Mrs. Lesko called for approval of the consent agenda items if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Ms. Perkins moved for the approval of the consent agenda items. Mr. Eaton seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried. Two abstentions, Mrs. Janney and Mr. Cox.

### III. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mrs. Lesko apologized for missing the March meeting.

### IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

### V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mrs. Lesko talked about the agency assessment/strategic plan. She thanked the Commissioners for providing names to take surveys and announced there will be six focus groups that will be based geographically. She also noted there is a work session planned for the August 30<sup>th</sup> commission meeting; there are three time slots available, 4:00 – 7:30, 5:00 – 8:30, or 5:30 – 9:00. Please let Mr. Byrd know which time slot works best as soon as possible so the schedule can be finalized. Mr. Patton also mentioned possibly having a potluck dinner along with the work session.

## **VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Byrd provided a report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported: The ARC Grant for Rural Jobs and Innovation Accelerator application is due in May. He spoke about the possibility of a network of downtown theaters to entice musicians to book all venues in our area. The PDC would provide staff assistance only; there will be no PDC cash match. He also discussed attending an ARC conference on Local Food Economy in Appalachia and mentioned the need to keep agriculture thriving in the NRV. There was a ribbon cutting for Broadband project and recognition of the name change from the NRV Competitiveness Center to the NRV Business Center, with approximately 50 people in attendance. The broadband is currently being installed and will be ready to use in the fall. Mr. Byrd also mentioned the Hazard Mitigation Mapping Project Proposal and gave an update on the Livability Initiative. The Livability Initiative is currently working on a Lower-Literacy Survey, which has never been done, to date there are over 200 surveys completed. The staff is also working with a contractor to design a planning game called BUILT intended to engage the public in planning with a launch in late May or Early June. A Digital Story Telling Training session was held in March, this tool will assist in providing information to a wider audience. It was also noted the PDC will be hosting a Training Session on downtown revitalization on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, which is open to interested parties within our community.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Regional Transit Organization Analysis – Resolution of Endorsement**

It was noted that all involved parties have met and are in agreement.

Mrs. Lesko called for a motion to endorse the resolution.

Motion: Mr. Eaton moved for a motion to endorse. Ms. LaClair seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Stormwater Regulation Overview – Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation**

Mr. Dietz gave an overview of the Integration Bill that will become effective July 1<sup>st</sup>; it will bring together the three components of law that cover Stormwater Management. The three components are the Erosion and Sediment Control Law, the Stormwater Management Act, and the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act. There will be assigned fees for permits, 70% of which will stay in the locality, the remaining 30% will go to the state. These fees are to be used to cover the cost of implementation and cannot be used for any other purpose; the localities will have the option to increase fees if the funds are not adequate. Mr. Dietz also identified the benefits of this bill to be, “one-stop-shopping” which will help keep costs down, the bill will help reduce program confusion

and friction, it will also facilitate uniform program oversight and enforcement, and lastly it will give localities more control. All counties and cities must adopt a program, however towns (that are not classified as an MS4) will have an option. If a town chooses not to adopt a program the town will fall under the county program.

**B. Review of Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Projects**

Mr. Byrd stated the projects are ranked with a point system with 44 points being the highest. He also noted how impressive it is to see Career Pathways and Small Business Development ranked so high this year. Mrs. Lesko pointed out the overall number of projects was also impressive. Mrs. Perkins asked if this list went out to all localities for discussion. Mr. Byrd replied that all local government staff received a memo requesting projects be identified; further, the CEDS committee has representation from each locality and they had input on the list.

**R. Memorial Resolution Honoring David W. Ratcliff, Jr.**

Mrs. Lesko read the resolution aloud and called for a motion to adopt.

Motion: Dr. Harvey moved for a motion to adopt. Dr. Warren seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

**IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**X. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

Mr. Bopp brought a copy of the South West Times to share with the Commission showing Pulaski Counties Board of Supervisors support for Pulaski County Administrator, Pete Huber.

Mrs. Newcomb reminded the commission the Town of Blacksburg along with the VA Wounded Warriors Program will be hosting a welcome home parade for veterans on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. and encouraged everyone to come.

Mrs. Lesko share information about a fashion show and skit put on by Narrows High School students, they modeled prom attire and then did a short skit on the impacts of drinking and driving. She described the program had an impact on the student body and the student event coordinators really enjoyed the opportunity. This was a part of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant on Community Health the PDC is partnering with Virginia Tech-Institute for Policy and Governance.

Mr. Patton stated the construction of an addition to Hotel Floyd is approved and on the way.

Mr. Cox explained Radford High School students made a pact this year called "No Bobcat Left Behind". It is a pact that every senior at Radford High School will graduate this year. Mr. Cox also mentioned that this is organized solely by the students.

## XI. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

### A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

1. DHCD CDBG Application for Skyview Subdivision Sewer – Phase II
2. Application to EDA – Economic Development Planning Assistance

### B. Regular Project Review None

### C. Environmental Project Review

6. Reissuance of VPA Permit No. VPA02058 Mountain Lake Hotel

Motion: Mr. Patton moved for a motion to approve.  
Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.  
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

7. DEQ Grant Application for Federal funding assistance for FY 2013 Chesapeake Bay Monitoring Program (CWA 117 (e)(1)(B))

Motion: Mr. Cox moved for a motion to approve.  
Mr. Welker seconded the motion.  
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

8. DEQ Grant Application for Federal funding assistance for FY 2013 Chesapeake Bay Monitoring Program (CWA 117 d)

Motion: Mrs. Perkins moved for a motion to approve.  
Mr. Cox seconded the motion.  
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was then adjourned at 7:20 pm.

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Holly Larson Lesko, 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**

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

New River Valley Planning District Commission Contact:  
Brad Mecham, [bmecham@nrvpdc.org](mailto:bmecham@nrvpdc.org), 540-639-9313 x206

**New River Valley Livability Initiative**  
**Economic Development Working Group**

Name	Representing
<b>Karen Drake</b>	Town of Blacksburg
<b>Melanie Jones</b>	Community Housing Partners
<b>Gary Reedy</b>	Citizens Telephone Cooperative
<b>Marty Holliday</b>	New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board
<b>Dennis Reece</b>	Citizens Telephone Cooperative
<b>Carol Davis</b>	NRVPDC
<b>Kim Thurlow</b>	NRVPDC
<b>Mike Burton</b>	Sustain Floyd
<b>Jackie Pontious</b>	Community Housing Partners



**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	<b>* = Elected Official</b>

**Appendix III**  
**Letters/Resolutions from Localities**

RECEIVED

MAR 21 2012

NRVPDC

**Floyd County Board of Supervisors**

**P.O. Box 218**

**Floyd, Virginia**

**24091**

March 19, 2012

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 2012-2013**


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 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 rapid 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

MAR 21 2012

NRVPDC

March 15, 2012

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 is the development of 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 almost two years. This company is a nanotechnology firm and is located in a new LEED certified building in this EcoPark. They bring 65 current employees and plan for expansion at this location.

Wheatland EcoPark is also under consideration at this time for the location of an applied science production facility. This business would be an asset and fit into the overall concept of an eco-friendly industrial development.

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 McKlamey  
County Administrator

/sk

Telephone (540) 921-2525

Fax: (540) 921-1846

1329

NRVPDC 032012

110



OFFICE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATION  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

F. CRAIG MEADOWS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

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

March 14, 2012

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

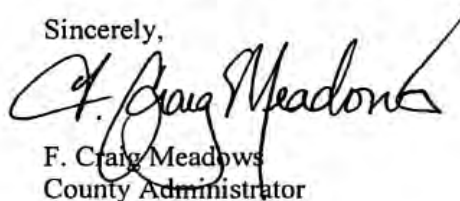
Dear Kevin:

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, 2013.

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,



F. Craig Meadows  
County Administrator

FCM/jk



**Administration**

143 3rd Street, NW Suite 1  
Pulaski, Virginia 24301  
540-980-7705  
540-980-7717



**PULASKI COUNTY**  
**IN VIRGINIA'S NEW RIVER VALLEY**

**RECEIVED**

**APR 30 2012**

**NRVPDC**

April 26, 2012

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

Dear Kevin:

Pulaski County endorses local and regional projects on the enclosed listing as amended.

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 that 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 this listing is an important part of this process.

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

Sincerely,

Peter M. Huber  
County Administrator

Attachment

Web: [www.pulaskicounty.org](http://www.pulaskicounty.org)  
Email: [bos@pulaskicounty.org](mailto:bos@pulaskicounty.org)

<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Responsible Agency</b>	<b>Estimated Total Cost</b>	<b>Source Of Funding</b>	<b>Readiness Status</b>
New Facility, Sheriff's Department	Pulaski County - Sheriff	\$900,000.00	County	on-hold
New Facility, Library Replacement	Pulaski County - Library	\$3,000,000.00	County	pending
Building Replacement, Shell Building	Pulaski County - Economic Dev.	\$1,500,000.00	County	planned for 2011-2012
Indoor Recreation - Wellness Center	Pulaski County - Recreation	\$5 to 7,000,000.00	County	on-hold
New River Trail Extension	Pulaski County - Comm. Dev/Rec.	\$5,000,000.00	VDOT - County	phase 1 engineering funded
Maple Shade Governmental Center	Pulaski County - Administration	\$2,000,000.00	County	Construction underway
NanoTech Business Facility	VA's First - Pulaski County-Pulaski Town	\$15,000,000.00	EDA - State - Local - Private	planning stage
County Administration Building Renovations	Pulaski County - Administration	\$150,000.00	County	ready for construction
Snowville Fire Department - Fire Station replacement	Pulaski County - Emergency Services	\$2,100,000.00	County - grant funded	pending
Skyview Subdivision/Fairgrounds Sewer Project	Pulaski County - Engineer	\$500,000.00	USDA RD Grant/loan	pending
Upgrade 911 Dispatch System	Pulaski County - Sheriff	\$700,000.00	County - grant funded	pending
Julia Simpkins Road Safety Improvements	Pulaski County / VDOT	\$3,300,000.00	VDOT - County	waiting for funding

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2012

NRVPDC



March 26, 2012

Mr. Kevin Byrd  
Executive Director, NRVPDC  
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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David C. Ridpath". The signature is stylized with large loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

David C. Ridpath  
City Manager