

Community First...



*Regional Partners
in a
Global Marketplace*

New River Valley 2009 Vision 2020 Update

New River Valley
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
June 30, 2009

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The New River Valley –

Regional Partners in a Global Marketplace

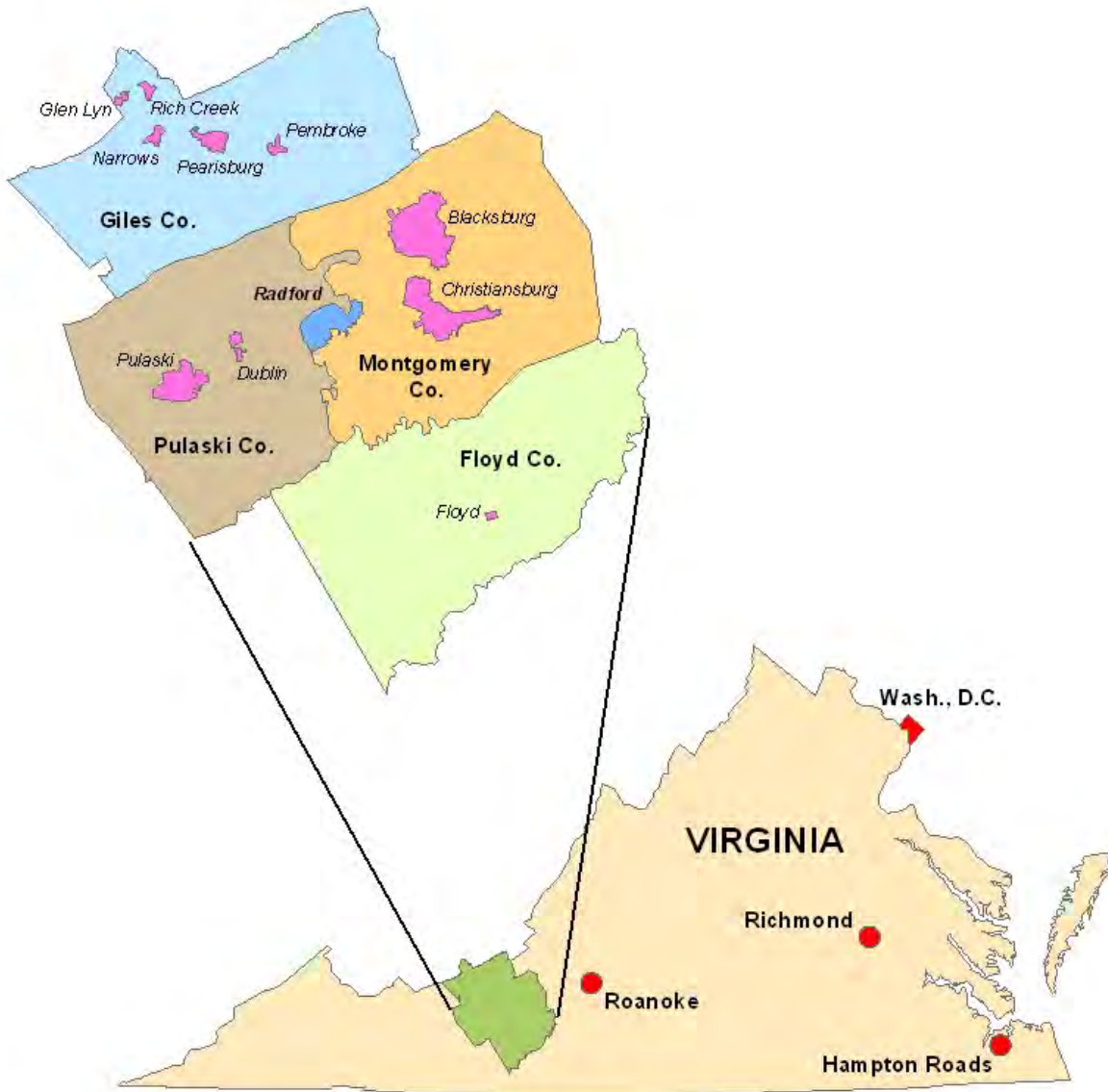


Figure 1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Community First: Regional Partners in a Global Marketplace is the 2009 update to the New River Valley's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan (or the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy). Recognizing the value of working together, to accomplish long- and short-term goals, and the need to share resources across political lines, the area's citizens built a plan highlighting "regional" goals, objectives, projects and programs in this newest update. Many of the listed projects and/or programs will need to be completed in order to become more competitive in a global marketplace.

As the plan update process began in early 2009, the area had already been suffering from the effects of the recession since late 2007, with a continual loss of jobs in the manufacturing sector (approximately 3,600 jobs lost since January 1, 2007), the national economy was in a downward spiral, and a new presidential administration was preparing to begin. There was a strange mix of fear, frustration and hope that played out in the early planning process.

Four vision areas were identified to guide the plan's process:

- People
- Business/Industry and Employment
- Natural and Cultural Resources
- Physical Infrastructure

Through community meetings, needs, visions, ideas, concerns, and opportunities were explored for each vision area by asking:

1. What can be done immediately to shore up our local business, organizations and people?
2. What are things we need to do today to support a bright future for our children?

With the advancement of technology and the world wide web, businesses in the New River Valley are competing with businesses from all over the world. *Community First* can be achieved by focusing on the immediate needs of our people and businesses in these uncertain economic times through initiatives to "buy local," and to cultivate and preserve local culture and heritage. And we can become more competitive in the global marketplace by becoming *Regional Partners* (and not regional competitors) in economic strategies. The strength of the New River Valley has always been its people and their commitment to education, innovation, and preservation of the area's history and natural resources.

Many projects written in this report will be very difficult to achieve as they will require local governments, organizations, and citizens to erase political lines, pool financial and other resources and to give up "turf" control. But the opportunity for success is clearly possible given the right leadership and investment (of time and finances). This document is a tool to guide the many agencies, organizations and governments of the New River Valley towards a stronger and sustainable economy for the area.

OVERVIEW OF THE NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT

The New River Valley is located in southwestern Virginia between the Blue Ridge and the Allegheny Mountains. It is composed of the counties of Giles, Montgomery, Floyd and Pulaski and the city of Radford. This 1,458-square mile region is bordered on the southeast by the Blue Ridge Mountains and on the northwest by West Virginia. The New River Valley is a vibrant area for industry and trade, partly because Interstate 81 passes through the region and Interstate 77 is located close by to the south. These key access points place the region within a day's drive to approximately three-quarters of the nation's major markets.



Along with easy accessibility for business, the New River Valley also offers many opportunities for outdoor recreation. Residents can participate in a variety of recreational pursuits at a number of public and private facilities located in the region. The Jefferson National Forest runs through Giles, Pulaski and Montgomery Counties, providing spectacular landscapes and easy access to hiking, camping, fishing, picnicking and hunting. The New River, one of the oldest rivers in the nation, runs right through the middle of the NRVPD and offers many recreational opportunities. The New River Trail State Park extends 52 miles from the town of Pulaski to the city of Galax, along the banks of the Claytor Lake and the New River. These sites are popular for bicycling, walking, swimming, and horseback riding. The New River and the Gatewood Reservoir Recreation Area encourage fishing, canoeing, and tubing, camping, and picnicking. The Nature Conservancy's Fall Ridge Preserve, just east of Blacksburg, includes a stunning 30-meter waterfall and is a great location for many naturalists including botanists, and bird watchers. For cyclists, the Blacksburg Bikeway and Walkway, the Huckleberry Trail, and the Trans America Bike Route are favorites among tourists and residents alike. Hiking and cycling are also encouraged along the easily accessed Blue Ridge Parkway and Appalachian Trail. The Blue Ridge Parkway crosses through Floyd County offering another recreational venue. Art and music abound in the region, offering everything from traditional Appalachian to contemporary and new wave.

The people of the New River Valley have developed an excellent educational system. The area's dedication to excellence in education benefits everyone including students, parents, and employers. The New River Valley is home to Virginia Tech, Virginia's largest university and one of the nation's leading research centers. Radford University provides superb programs



in business, nursing, communications, and education. New River Community College has excellent associate degree programs and is committed to training and retraining the region's labor force. They have also been identified as one of the few Virginia Community College's offering an alternative energy program. The New River Valley is devoted to a progressive secondary education system for our young people. Alternative education opportunities, vital to education success, are present and greatly supported in the region. Head Start programs throughout the area also provide students equal opportunities to education at the pre-school level. Lifelong learning through technology and community use of public school facilities ensures educational opportunities to adults in the region.

The New River Valley has not only developed excellent educational programs, but has also developed many facilities to foster business growth and entrepreneurship. The New River Valley Competitiveness Center is an industrial development incubator that can house 22 tenants in Fairlawn. The Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center in Blacksburg provides an opportunity for inventive high-tech companies to bring their ideas to market. The Jacksonville Center, an art and craft incubator in Floyd, supports the fast growing art community in the region and also partners with the "trails" of the Crooked Road and

Round the Mountain that serve the larger region of Southwest Virginia in promoting music and art.



The New River Valley is surrounded by natural beauty and has citizens who work together as a region to get things done through education, innovation, conservation and leadership. The

people of the New River Valley are proud of the quality of life they have achieved. The regions priorities are clear: develop and maintain a sustainable economy, and provide opportunities for jobs for all of its residents while maintaining environmental and cultural quality. The New River Valley is an exciting place to live, work, and play.

Timeline

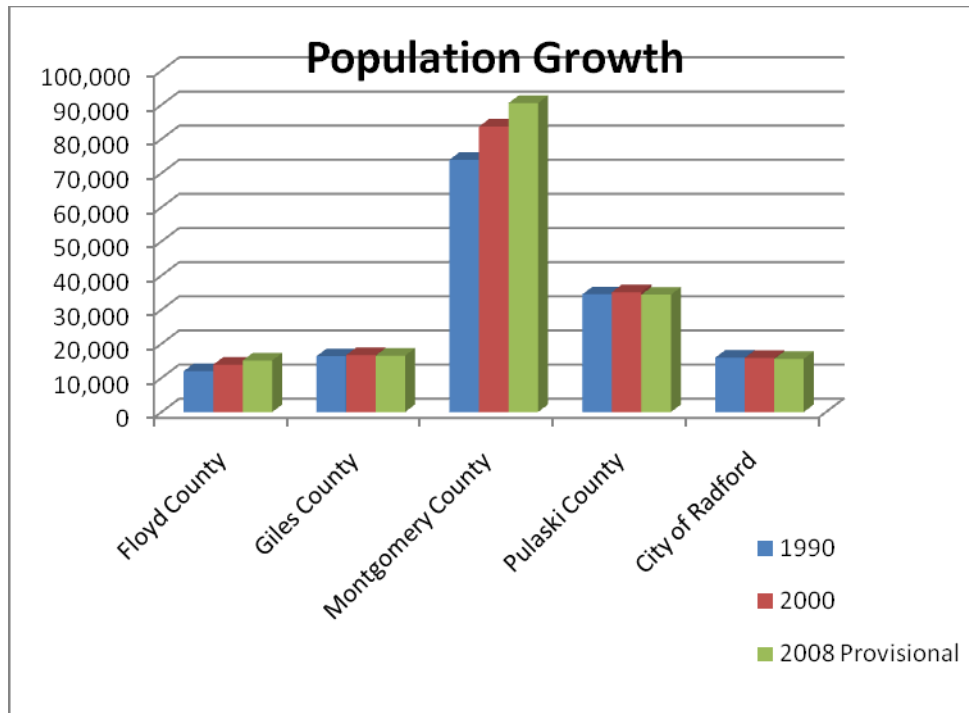
- 1989-1992
 - Over 2,600 jobs lost in the New River Valley
- 1992-1993
 - Armament Retooling and manufacturing Support (ARMS) Initiative enacted by Congress
 - New River Valley Planning District Commission (NRVPDC) establishes NRV Economic Adjustment Strategy Steering Committee
 - NRVPDC successfully applies for US Department of Defense economic recovery funds totaling nearly \$200,000
- 1993-1995
 - Targeted Industries and Economic Analyses completed
 - Community meetings held and working groups formed
 - Alliant Techsystems, Inc purchases Hercules Aerospace Division and takes over operation of Radford Army Ammunition Plant
 - Vision 2020 Strategic Plan completed, distributed, and placed on website for electronic access
 - NRVPDC contract with Alliant Techsystems, Inc. to develop strategic reuse plan for RFAAP
- 1995-2001
 - NRVPDC advocates for and is given community representation on National ARMS Task Force
 - New River Valley Competitiveness Center is completed and expanded for start-up and developing businesses in the region
 - Giles Business Incubator and the Jacksonville Center develop support and space for targeted business start-ups in those locations
 - Jurisdictional Departments of Social Services collaborate to form Partners for Self Sufficiency in response to Welfare to Work legislation
 - The New River Valley is awarded over \$750,000 in direct grant funding for community development and training through the Managing Information with Rural America (MIRA) program at the Kellogg Foundation
- 2001-2003
 - State budget crisis deepens with drastic cuts in education and local government support
 - NRVPDC and Vision 2020 Steering Committee host Vision 2020 Celebration and Update Kick-off – highlighting over \$500,000,000 in community investment since 1993
 - Demographic and economic trend data is analyzed and reviewed for update process
 - Community brainstorming and program/project development meetings are held
 - Community First: Harnessing Change and Building Connections strategic plan is developed, distributed, and posted on the NRVPDC website as Vision 2020 update

- 2003-2005
 - Updated RFAAP Strategic Plan
 - Constructed Phase II of the NRV Competitiveness Center
 - Acquired Phase III of Commerce Park
 - James Hardie opened a manufacturing facility in the Town of Pulaski
 - NRV Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan was completed
 - VT Knowledge Works was initiated
 - Chamber Coalition Leadership Training Program began
 - Regional Trails Development began (bikeways and walkways)
 - The “Crooked Road” – Virginia’s Music Heritage Trail received official recognition (Floyd County is the only NRV jurisdiction with a trail site)
- 2005-2008
 - Over 3,600 jobs lost in the New River Valley through plant closures and lay-offs in the textile, furniture and auto industries
 - Revitalization projects are begun in the towns of Blacksburg, Christiansburg and Floyd
 - National economic crisis
 - “Round the Mountain” – Southwest Virginia’s Artisan Trail Network was initiated (with trail sites being developed throughout the NRV)
 - Region continues to work towards the implementation of community broadband
 - Pulaski Town and County successfully applies EDA funding to analyze the area and develop the Pulaski Economic Adjustment Strategy
- 2009
 - State budget crisis deepens with drastic cuts in education and local government support
 - New River Wireless Authority is formed by Pulaski and Giles Counties
 - NRVPDC and Vision 2020 Steering Committee begins update process
 - Demographic and economic trend data are analyzed and reviewed
 - Community brainstorming and program/project development meetings are held
 - Community First: Regional Partners in a Global Marketplace strategic plan is developed, distributed, and posted on the NRVPDC website as Vision 2020 2009 update

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Population

Population growth is a sign of a vibrant economy. Only Montgomery and Floyd Counties have shown growth over the last two decades, whereas Giles, Pulaski, and Radford have remained flat.



Source: US Census Bureau, Virginia Employment Commission and Weldon Cooper Center.

Figure 2

Education

Locations with higher levels of educational attainment generally have lower unemployment rates and higher incomes. The NRVPD lags behind Virginia and the US in secondary certificate (HS Diploma) in the overall population, but has performed better in the 25-44 year old cohort. Despite the fact that two state universities are located in the NRVPD, it lags slightly behind Virginia and the US in Bachelor level degrees, but has a higher percent of Graduate level degrees. This phenomenon may be due to new university college graduates not staying in the area (possibly due to few job opportunities and low pay rates), but professors and graduate teaching assistants are employed by the two universities.

Educational Attainment by Population Percentage - 2000							
Region	Age	Less than High School Diploma	High School Diploma	Some College	Associates Degree	Bachelors Degree	Graduate Degree
New River Valley PD	All						
	25+	21.6%	29.7%	18.1%	6.3%	12.8%	11.6%
Virginia	25-44	11.6%	30.7%	20.8%	8.1%	17.1%	11.7%
	All						
US	25+	18.5%	26.0%	20.4%	5.6%	17.9%	11.6%
	25-44	12.8%	26.0%	22.3%	6.8%	21.4%	10.7%
US	All						
	25+	19.6%	28.6%	21.1%	6.3%	15.5%	8.9%
US	25-44	15.6%	27.2%	22.7%	7.9%	18.6%	8.0%

Source: US Census Bureau (2000 Census) and Virginia Economic Bridge.

Table 1

Employment

A number of the region's top manufacturing employers have had layoffs over the last few years and a number of companies from the furniture and textile industries, that were already in decline in 2000 have finally closed. Volvo's slow down (which caused layoffs at their plant) that occurred in 2008 caused layoffs and closure of many smaller suppliers in the auto industry.

Top Employers

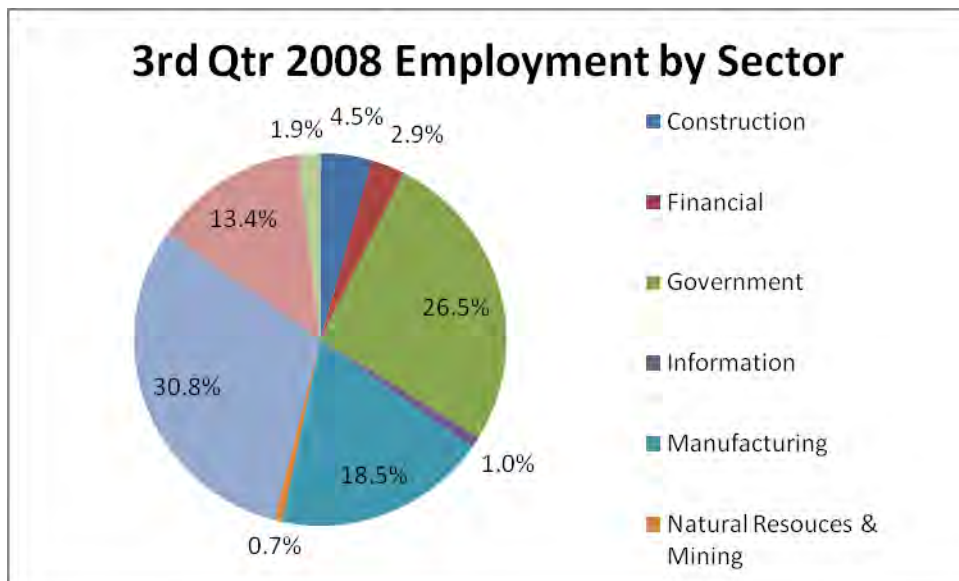
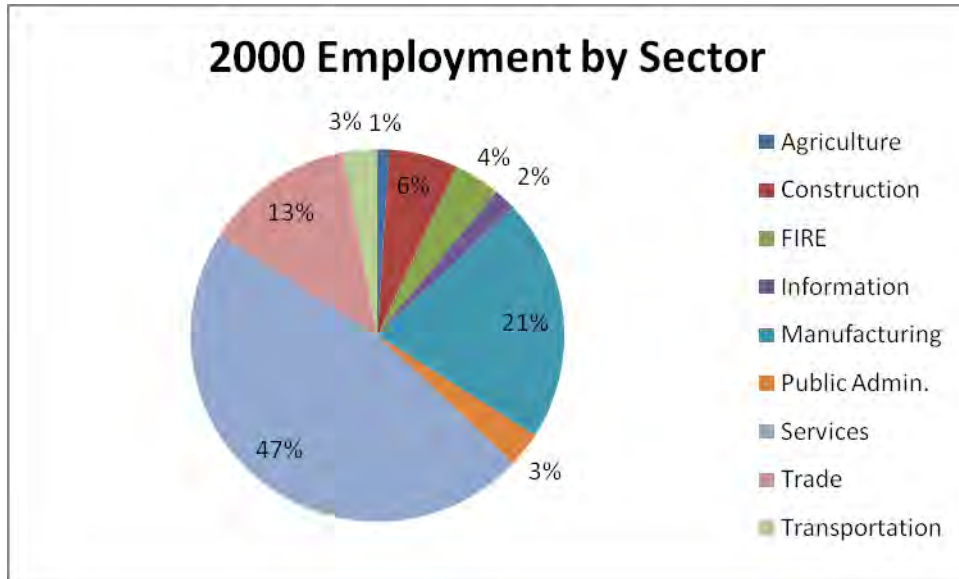
4th Quarter 2003			3rd Quarter 2008		
Company Name	Type	Size	Company Name	Type	Size
Virginia Tech	Education	5,000+	Virginia Tech	Education	5,000+
Volvo Trucks North America	Manufacturing - Auto	1500+	Volvo Trucks North American	Manufacturing - Auto	1500+
Montgomery County School Board	Education	1,000+	Montgomery County School Board	Education	1,000+
Radford University	Education	1,000+	Radford University	Education	1,000+
Echospere Corporation	Call Center	1,000+	Alliant Techsystems, Inc.	Explosives	600+
Wal-Mart	Retail	1,000+	Wal-Mart	Retail	1,000+
Alliant Ammunition and Powder	Explosives	1,000+	Moog, Inc	Manufacturing - Electronic	1,000+
Pulaski County School Board	Education	500+	Carilion New River Valley Medical Center	Health Care	500+
Celanese Acetate	Manufacturing - Manmade fibers	500+	Echospere Corporation	Call Center	500+
Rowe Furniture Manufacturing	Manufacturing - furniture	500+	Pulaski County School Board	Education	500+
Carilion New River Valley Medical Center	Healthcare	500+	Kollmorgen Corp.	Manufacturing - Electronic	500+
Kollmorgen Corp.	Manufacturing - Electronic	500+	Lexington Rowe Furniture, Inc.	Manufacturing - furniture	500+
Moog Components Group, Inc.	Manufacturing - Electronic	1,000+	Celanese Acetate	Manufacturing - Manmade fibers	500+
Montgomery Regional Hospital	Healthcare	500+	Giles County School Board	Education	500+
Murphy Brothers	Construction	500+	Montgomery Regional Hospital	Healthcare	500+
Town of Blacksburg	Government	500+	Town of Blacksburg	Government	500+
Giles County School Board	Education	500+	Kroger	Retail - Food	250+
Hubbell Lighting	Manufacturing - Electronic	250+	County of Montgomery	Government	250+
Federal Mogul Corp	Manufacturing - Auto parts	250+	New River Valley Community Services	Health Care	250+
Kroger	Retail - Food	250+	Floyd County School Board	Education	250+

Layoffs

Source: Quarterly Employment and Wage – Virginia Employment Commission

Table 2

The tables below show the percent of employment by Industry Sector in 2000 and in the 3rd quarter of 2008. The two charts are not comparable due to the change in sector grouping from SIC to NASICS code groupings. Despite the difference in coding, the NRVPD shows a loss in the manufacturing sector and an increased reliance on the “government” employment sector, mostly due to public education, state and local (some of this increase is due the coding change).



Source: Virginia Employment Commission

Figures 3 & 4

Unemployment

The unemployment rate in most of the NRVPD has been consistently higher than State averages over the last 10 years, and some localities (Pulaski and Giles) have been higher than National averages.

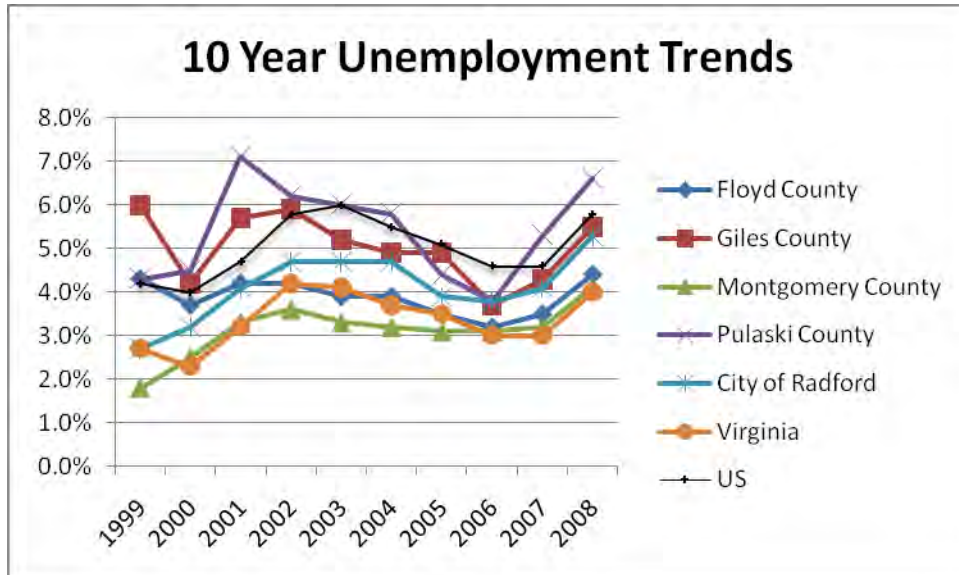


Figure 5

Source: Virginia Employment Commission, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Evaluating a 15-month trend in unemployment rates reveals a steady increase in unemployment for most NRV Localities. For Pulaski and Giles they increased at a much higher rate than the State or National averages.

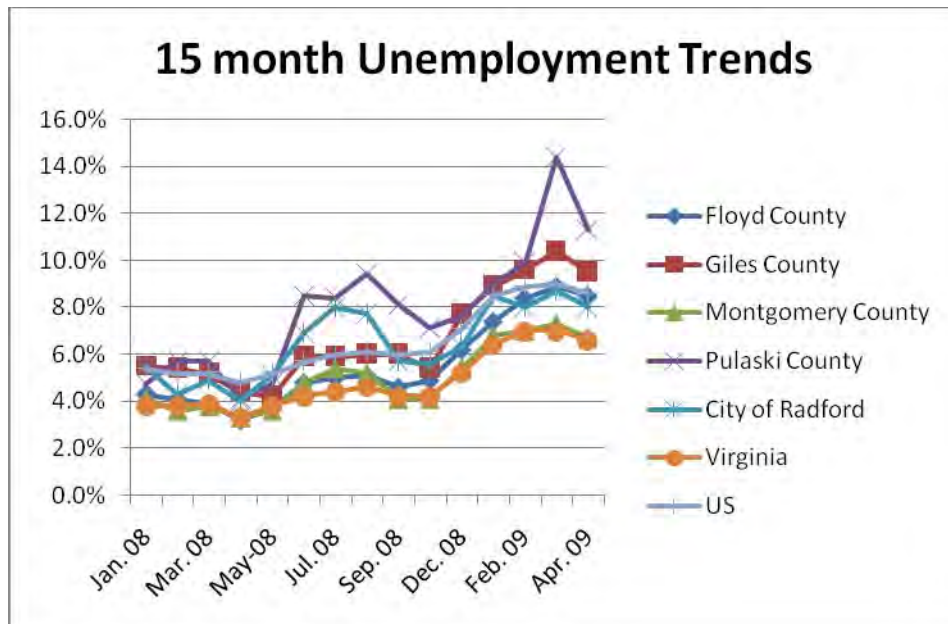


Figure 6

Source: Virginia Employment Commission, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Commuting Patterns

Not all residents live and work in the same area. The job market is reflective of an area-wide economy and regional cooperation where people and jobs unite. It is not surprising that the majority of commuters are from adjacent jurisdictions; however the number of commuters daily and the increases seen over a 10-year period reflect a trend of workers willing to drive farther distances for (presumably) better pay, stability and job opportunities.

An assumption is if jobs are plentiful in a given area, local people will seek these positions closer to their residence. The job market is not insular, but regional in its approach. When discussing economic conditions and job factors, the impact of job creation is felt beyond political boundaries. Indeed, all industries regionally depend on other localities for recruiting workforce.

In light of current economic conditions, (i.e.-rising gasoline cost, rising unemployment, deterioration of national economic stability) telecommuting, carpooling, additional mass transit routes and shorter work weeks may (and probably are) impact local and regional jobs and commuting patterns.

The following map illustrates the commuting patterns among the localities in the New River Valley.

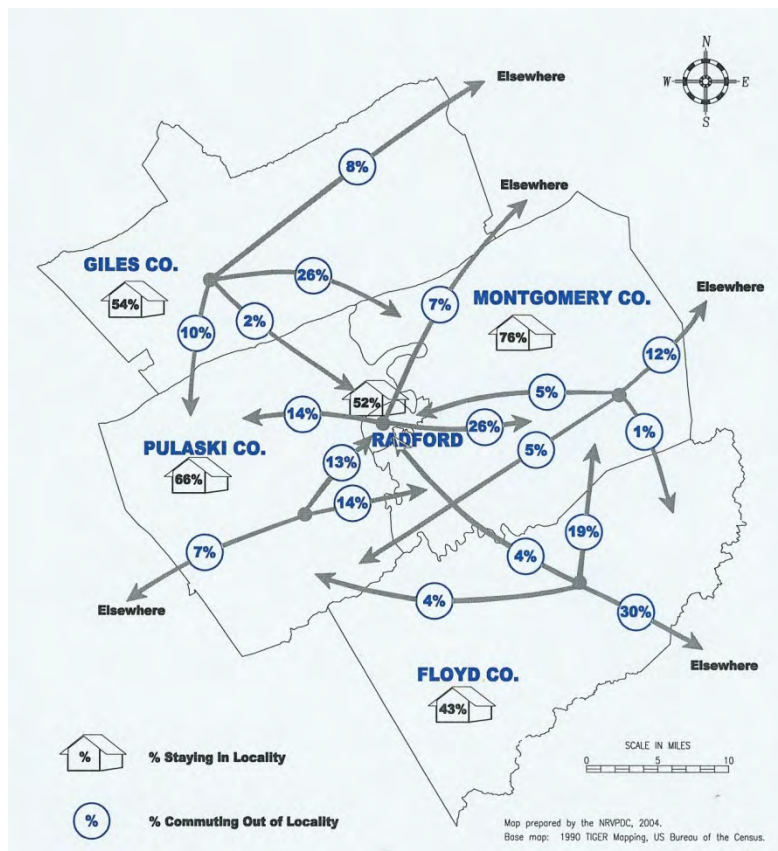


Figure 7

Poverty Levels

Poverty levels are also helpful in providing a picture of the economy. Poverty status is determined for all persons except institutionalized persons, person in military group quarters or in college dormitories, and unrelated individuals under 15 years old. The following table shows the percent of the population living in poverty for the five jurisdictions of the NRV and in Virginia. Although poverty levels have remained at about the same level in the State of Virginia, since 2000 poverty levels have increased in all jurisdictions in the NRV. One contribution to the statistical levels of poverty is related to the region's population participating in higher education. While students have significant levels of money to invest, there is a low participation in the workforce and contribution to income generation.

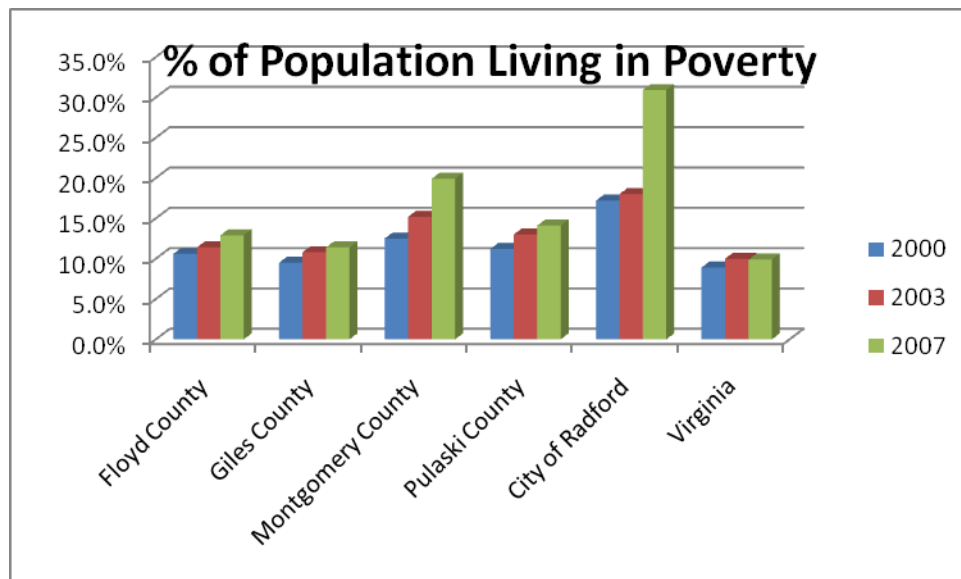


Figure 8

Source: Weldon Cooper Center

VISION 2020 UPDATE PROCESS

The NRV PDC and the Vision 2020 Steering Committee (made up of 18 community, civic and governmental leaders of the New River Valley) met on January 9, 2009 to develop the process by which the Vision 2020 was updated.

During this initial meeting, it became obvious that there was apprehension about the current national economic conditions and how the New River Valley would be affected. There was also a concern that too much emphasis was put on the writing and submitting the report and not enough emphasis on what the actual concerns of the citizens might be. The Committee voiced a need to have *community conversations* throughout the region to hear the concerns and to gather ideas from a wide array of NRV citizens on how the region is to survive this crisis and continue to build a sustainable economy for the future.



A second meeting was held by a small group of the steering committee members to decide how to reach out to the “every day” citizen of the New River Valley. A plan was developed for six *Community Conversations* that citizens, community leaders, educators and local elected officials could come together and share their opinions and ideas about the future of the New River Valley. The *Community Conversations* were held on February 19, 2009 in Dublin; February 26, 2009 in Radford; March 12, 2009 in Floyd; March 19, 2009 in Christiansburg; March 31, 2009 in Pearisburg; and April 14, 2009 in Shawsville. *Community Conversations* were publicized through media notices (web-based, print and radio PSAs), mailed and e-mailed invitations, and radio interviews.



A wiki was developed to keep steering committee members abreast of the outcomes of the various meetings and media notices.

The vision areas were modified to **People, Business/Industry and Employment, Natural and Cultural Resources, and Infrastructure**. Ideas were generated for these areas by answering the following two questions:

1. What can be done immediately to shore up our local business, organizations and people?
2. What are things we need to do today to support a bright future for our children?

Community Conversation attendees were asked to sign in and provide an e-mail address (if possible). At each session, notes were taken and distributed to attendees from any (and all) *Community Conversation*, so that each area could see what ideas had been generated at the others.

Along with the *Community Conversations*, citizen input was also gathered from other civic/community organizations through a written survey.



A final area-wide meeting was held on April 30, 2009 where all the ideas gathered were reviewed and prioritized. Most of the region's Planners attended that session and participated in the final round of prioritization of the project and program ideas.

Throughout the process, citizens provided input, suggestions, comments, and concerns on many issues facing the New River Valley and its individual jurisdictions. Several common themes presented themselves: A need to be more regional in our planning and program

development; a need to provide residents, businesses and industry with affordable broadband services to enable greater participation and global access; a need to grow and support small local business (especially high, bio and nano tech); a need to make energy conservation and education an integral part of our everyday life; and a need to preserve our cultural and natural heritage (this includes supporting and encouraging growth in family farms). It is from this process that the projects presented in this report were developed.



SWOT ANALYSIS

The SWOT analysis was first developed by the New River Valley Planning District Commissioners and added to by citizens at the six *Community Conversations*.

Strengths

- Availability of higher education
- Abundance of natural beauty
- All education systems (private & public school systems and high education systems)
- Good work ethic
- Involvement by Faith-based organizations (community support)
- Community spirit
- Clean environment
- Abundance of waterways (the New River, Claytor Lake, etc.)
- Friendly people
- Recreational opportunities
- Leadership
- U.S. Customs
- Available land for development
- Two regional airports (Tech and NRV)

Weaknesses

- Lack of job opportunities
- Geography (dispersion)
- Lack of infrastructure (cost)
- Transportation limitations (road systems and public transportation)
- Lack of recycling
- Unwillingness to change
- Lack of diversity
- Lack of funding (capital) sources
- Distance from urban centers
- Arsenal (environment and safety concerns)
- Lack of focus on Early Adolescent Education (often overlooked and needs unaddressed)
- Lack of 25-45 year olds in leadership positions
- Lack of vision by elected officials
- We rely too much on RU and VA Tech to “solve” our region’s problems (leads to false security)

Opportunities

- Growth in nano tech / high tech / bio tech Companies
- Growth in green and environmental federal policies
- Growth in tourism
- Growth in alternative energy (wind)
- Availability of educational opportunities

- Increased entrepreneurship opportunities
- Opportunities for ride sharing/solutions
- Availability of space (green/industrial)
- Increase recreational facilities/trails
- Opportunity to enhance regionalism
- Opportunity to grow better and bigger
- Expand broadband to the home for home based “cottage” industries

Threats

- Brain drain (educated youth leaving the area)
- State budget cuts
- Air and water pollution
- Short-term compromises (instead of long-term solutions to regional problems)
- Low education attainments
- Loss of identity (as a community)
- Loss of family farms
- Poverty
- The economy
- Fear
- Loss of political power

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.

Goal: To create educational programs that transcends 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 delivery and to 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.

Goal: To improve the Industry / Education interface at all levels.

Objective: To establish partnerships between industry/business and 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: Create a 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.

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.

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.

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 corporate training and professional development programs.

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 9th through 12th 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.

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 growth and support for alternative education in vocational training which would include: marketable occupational 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.

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.

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.

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., Access to Rides).

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.

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.

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).

Goal: To recognize and celebrate the emerging cultural diversity.

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

Objective: Integrate emerging cultural diversity.

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.

Goal: To establish youth involvement in the regional community.

Objective: Establish youth leadership training.

Objective: Encourage 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.

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: Establish quarterly human service community meetings to discuss service delivery and system constraints and promote community input and collaborative problem solving.

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.

Goal: To assist in 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.

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.

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

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.

Goal: To increase the development and support of local family farms.

Objective: Develop educational and mentoring programs to support and encourage the continuation of family farms.

Objective: Expand the availability 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 facilities for local farm products (i.e. eggs, meats, 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.

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.

Goal: 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 industry.

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.

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.

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 existing industrial, technology, and research space.

Objective: Expand multi-regional marketing campaigns involving the New River Valley Economic Development Alliance, and similar organizations throughout Western Virginia.

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.

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.

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.

Objective: Develop a process for coordination of regional events to incorporate tours, sites, weekend packages that would include multiple NRV localities.

Objective: Develop a process to better utilize current marketing resources (radio, internet, print, etc) for region wide initiatives.

Objective: Attract support services.

Objective: Participate, support, and encourage southwestern Virginia initiatives such as 'Round the Mountain, Crooked Road, and Heartwood Center.

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

Objective: Pursue a targeted 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).

Objective: Seek firms with an international focus to utilize the strategic assets of the New River Valley International Airport and Commerce Park.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 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.

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.

Goal: To capitalize on the region's unique human resources.

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

Objective: To utilize specialty skills (e.g. artists and artisans).

Objective: To utilize basic skills in newer industries (e.g. hand dexterity).

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, and 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.

Goal: To develop eco-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.

Goal: To manage the impacts of future development 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 ensure that critical or high risk areas are protected from inappropriate development.

Objective: Educate the public on the issues of land use planning and controls.

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.

Objective: Promote local comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances that support preservation and conservation efforts.

Objective: Investigate program funding to assist in the cost of providing conservation easements.

Objective: Support existing agriculture and forestry operations and assist in developing alternative agriculture opportunities.

Goal: To encourage regional recycling as a way to reduce demand for new or expanded solid waste facilities.

Objective: Continue public awareness of benefits and needs for recycling.

Objective: Develop convenient means to recycle throughout the New River Valley.

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.

Goal: To develop activities and attractions that would better utilize the tourism potential of the New River Valley.

Objective: Identify, develop, and package the region's inventory of historical, cultural, natural features, and events and market to outside markets.

Objective: Examine opportunities to attract travelers from the Blue Ridge Parkway.

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: 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.

Objective: Support creative economy highlighting skills indigenous to the Appalachian Mountains.

Goal: Encourage conservation of natural resources and develop alternative energy resources.

Objective: Evaluate the region for implementation of alternative energy developments.

Objective: Promote and support "green" development practices.

Objective: 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).

Physical Infrastructure

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

Goal: To improve the capacity, condition, 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.

Objective: Seek to expand public transportation services and private transportation providers.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Goal: To assure that the region has an ample supply of affordable housing to meet the needs of people in all income ranges.

Objective: 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.

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.

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.

Goal: Increase mobility of the region's citizens, 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: Use system design to support the transportation needs of both citizens and visitors.

PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

The Community Conversations, local governments, economic development agencies and organizations, as well as regional partner organizations contributed to the listing of projects and programs found on pages 47-54. These projects have been identified and given priority based upon the Project Selection Criteria found on pages 43-46. The goal “to become a greener region” has been added to the selection criteria and utilized in the project ranking.

Two projects were identified which have strong potential for leading a transformational shift in the regional economy into the 21st Century; Materials Manufacturing and Workforce focused career education.

Priority Projects

Virginia’s Nanotechnology Park

Background

The establishment of Virginia’s Nanotechnology Park (VNTP) and the construction of the Park’s first multi-tenant Anchor Building are the area’s number one high priority project designed to lead in the transformation of the economy from traditional manufacturing to a major position in the economy of the 21st Century Virginia. The concept of Virginia’s Nanotechnology Park has been a major component in the preparation of the Economic Adjustment Strategy.

Virginia Tech was commissioned to undertake the Virginia’s Nanotechnology Park: Industry Cluster Analysis. The Cluster/Market study indicated that establishing a nano park can aid the region in capturing a niche in the technology lifecycle of fostering innovation from research concept through product development into commercialization. The study also indicates that the Pulaski Area is geographically at the heart of what is developing as a nano cluster in western Virginia from Danville to Wise County and the Area’s proximity to the resources of Virginia Tech.

Draper-Aden Associates was commissioned under Appalachian Regional Commission Grant # VA-15655-07 to provide an analysis of wastewater treatment requirements and options to support a nanotechnology cluster. The focus of their work was on the impacts of sulfate in the production of nano particle and products. The results of the study included a discussion of the chemistry of sulfur compounds typically found in wastewater, the physical, chemical, and biological wastewater treatment techniques for removal of sulfur compounds. The recommendations included considerations for the establishment of pretreatment facilities.

VNTP Location and Design

Utilizing the concepts developed in these two studies, Thompson and Litton (T & L) along with McKinney and Company began a location and design study, throughout the Area, of VNTP as a “mini-hub” related to the work undertaken at a technology park such as the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center (CRC) and linked to private business investment nearby. Such hubs are less dense developments accommodating businesses that use skilled labor to make advanced products rather than pursuing R&D activities. Hub functions typically include processing, manufacturing, and some back office functions. Locations have available workforce, common utilities and facilities, and offer sufficient space to accommodate future expansion.

The results of the T+L McKinney review identified Parcel 4 at the New River Valley Commerce Park as a location which meets the selection criteria. That location is illustrated on SK-1, following. The site is located just southeast of the Park’s wastewater pump station. Site 2C provides a location for a pretreatment plant, should it be required. Plate SK-2 illustrates the development of the VNTP. The Park design will accommodate facilities to support some 2,000 technology employees. Additional details may be found in *Virginia’s Nanotechnology Park*.

VNTP Anchor Building Conceptual Design

The T+L study then moved to the development of the Anchor Building Design. The facility is designed to support:

Administrative and operation functions	2,110 square feet
Educational operations (Center for Manufacturing Excellence)	8,395
Laboratory/ Production facilities	26,400
Facility Support	10,930
Efficiency Rating 85%	8,440
Total	56,280

Plates SK-3, 4, and 5 illustrate the design of the buildings first floor, second floor and a prototypical design of lab layouts. Three dimensional illustrations of the building and the site design follow the floor plans. A cost estimate has been developed and is provided.

For additional information in the project development studies, please see www.nrvpdc.org for a link to “Virginia’s Nanotechnology Park Reports, Programmed Conceptual Designs.”

Project Leadership

The VNTP and Anchor Building projects lend themselves to development on a partnership basis. The partnerships may include local governments, educational institutions and their foundations, state government, and the private sector.

Virginia's First Regional Industrial Facility Authority is the vehicle the General Assembly has provided for the localities to undertake such a project. Fifteen local governments are participants in the VA 1st and eleven have joined together to purchase nearly a 1,000 acre Commerce Park. Pulaski Town and County officials have secured the formation of a Participation Committee to continue development of this project. The Park and or the Anchor Building is the subject of a Committee. Its formation could be started by the local governments and applications for financial assistance could be started in the name of Virginia's First. Then as the project becomes better defined, other Virginia First members, private organizations, non-profits, foundations, and others could be added to the membership for one or both of the projects.

The illustration of the Continuing Leadership structure for the Pulaski Economic Adjustment Strategy illustrates the organizational structure for the VNTP. There is a component for the development of the Park and a more critical component which should be modeled after the Virginia Tech Nano Park Advisory Committee to lead the development of the Anchor Building.

Financing

Virginia First offers a structure that can allow a mix of financing mechanisms to work together to achieve the projects.

Other Infrastructure Needs

Two projects are just beginning that will enhance the potential for successful development of the VNTP at the Commerce Park. First water and sewer infrastructure are being improved through a grant to the Commerce Park and the Pulaski County Public Service Authority. The New River Wireless Authority is working on financing a broadband telecommunications project that will provide an alternate broadband service to the park.



Figure 9

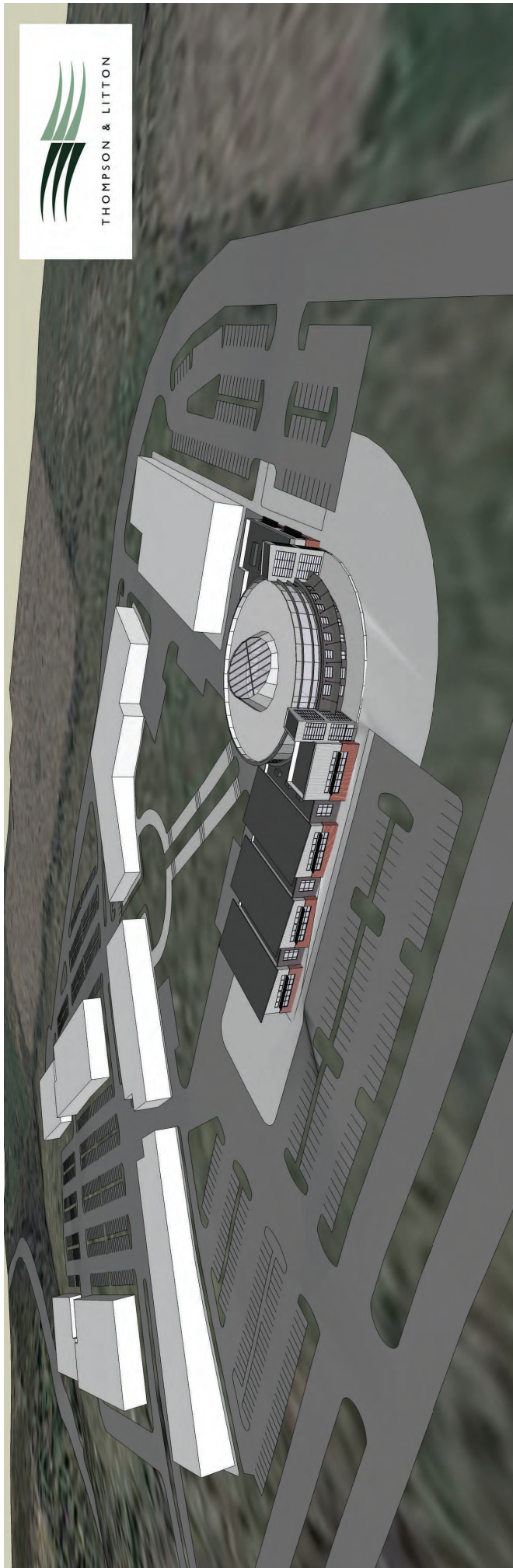


Figure 10

Integrated Workforce Curriculum and Career Pathways

Background

An integrated workforce curriculum, in select career pathway models (high growth occupations), can make the necessary connection between academics, workforce and employability. Using a “building block” approach that starts in the vocational programs of secondary education, moves through apprenticeships and/or community college certificate or degree programs, and ends in the university system with a bachelors or advanced degree, the learner will have less duplication in the learning process and have a number of “jumping off” points at which they can begin their career. By using this approach, educational institutions, economic developers and regional employers will have the opportunity to meet the regions workforce needs in select occupations.

Currently there is a group of regional partners made up of representatives from New River Community College, the New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board, the New River Valley Planning District Commission, and Virginia Tech that have begun discussing a pilot project using the occupation cluster of *Building Retrofitting* and grant development for possible Department of Labor funding for this project. It is the intent of this group to have a larger regional group (including PDCs 3, 4 and 5) when applying for grant funding.

Occupations that are found in the *Building Retrofitting* cluster are (but not limited to): Electricians, Heating/Air Conditioning Installers, Carpenters, Construction Equipment Operators, Roofers, Insulations Workers, Carpenter Helpers, Industrial Truck Drivers, Construction Managers, Energy Auditors and Building Inspectors.

Another aspect of this project would be in entrepreneur and/or small business management training or education as this particular occupational cluster lends itself to small business development and self-employment. Under grant funding it is possible to integrate skills training, team work, organizational structure and business support, with result being business formation.

This occupational cluster was chosen based on several factors:

1. The push for “green” business development and alternative energy development and education during the Vision 2020 plan process.
2. The slowdown in new home construction in the region due to the recession and collapse of the mortgage industry (leaving a workforce that will need minimal retraining).
3. Loss of jobs from the region’s auto industry that can be easily retrained into this occupational cluster.
4. Other regional initiatives in weatherization, energy auditing, and sustainable/alternative energy options that are in early development stages that can supplement this project.

5. All five of the local school districts have some type of building trades program currently offered in their CTE programs.
6. Virginia Tech and New River Community College currently have programs that can be linked to a *Building Retrofitting* training program.

Funding

This project is in the early development stage an initial scope of work. To develop and implement an integrated workforce curriculum in the 9-16+ grade levels has been estimated at \$350,000. An experiential format for Career Pathways would be higher and have an economic development focus.

Project Leadership

A consortium, made up of representatives from the local Workforce Investment Board, regional economic development, CTE Directors, New River Community College, Virginia Tech, and regional employers, would oversee the project's development and implementation.

Project Selection Criteria

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

PROJECT TYPE*

Priority Level 1

!	Water, sewer and communications	!	Primary/Arterial Roads
!	Entrepreneurial/small business assistance	!	Interstate Connections
!	Regional School & Educational Facilities	!	Rail and Airport service
!	Community Facilities	!	Technology Career Facilities
!	Employment Creation/ Technology and Industrial	!	Clean Energy Projects

Priority Level 2

!	Drought Management	!	Secondary Roads
!	Drainage/Flood Control	!	Other Economic Dev.
!	Housing Production	!	Central Business District Revitalization
!	Facilities for Protected Populations	!	Mixed Use Development
!	Tourism	!	Green Infrastructure Projects
!	Local School & Educational Facilities		

Priority Level 3

!	Sheltered Workshop
!	Care Facilities
!	Community Centers/Recreation
!	Other Community Services Facilities
!	Homeownership Program
!	Protection of Cultural and Natural Resources

Priority Level 4

!	Employment Creation/Retention - Commercial
!	Other Housing
!	Other Community Facilities
!	Other Community Services Facilities
!	Community Development Programs

*Administrative facilities to support project types have the same priority as the project type.

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”

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

- 4 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 50% or more above State average
- 2 B. If 25 - 49% above State average
- 1 C. If 1 - 24% above State average
- 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”

Points

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

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.

New River Valley 2010 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
42	Blacksburg	Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, Phase II Construction of support infrastructure for Phase II of Virginia Tech's CRC.	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000		\$2,000,000	2009	Virginia Tech Foundation
42	Virginia's First Region	Implementing Project NEEMO Building on the region's capacity in the material sciences, the development of an advanced manufacturing facility at the Commerce Park is projected. The project will be broken down into at least three parts.	\$7,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$21,000,000	2011	VA's First Regional Industrial Facility Authority-Participation Committee
41	NRV	New River Valley Development Revolving Loan Fund Fund to provide assistance for business and non-profit development.	\$25,000		\$25,000	\$50,000	2010	New River Valley Development Corporation
41	Giles County	Giles Multi-tenant Business Facility (Giles Co) A facility located in the Bostic Industrial Park.				\$2,000,000	2010	Giles County IDA
40	NRV	NRV Community Regional Broadband Network Interconnect government facilities, schools, industrial parks; in addition business and residents may be able to have advanced telecommunication services.	\$2,500,000		\$2,500,000	\$5,000,000	2009	New River Valley Wireless Authority
40	NRV	Complete Broadband Infrastructure Throughout the NRV	\$8,000,000		\$8,000,000	\$16,000,000	2014	NRV Wireless Authority
39	NRV	Communications Center Purchase telecommunications equipment to make the New River Valley Competitiveness Center a world-class telecommunications center.		\$30,000	\$30,000	\$60,000	2011	NRVDC
38	Giles County	Carilion Giles Memorial Hospital Construction of new hospital.			\$3,500,000	\$30,000,000	2008	Carilion/Giles County IDA
37	Giles County	New Water Tank in Hoges Chapel	\$750,000		\$750,000	\$1,500,000	2010	Giles County
36	Christiansburg	Christiansburg Institute The Black Educational Experience, Cultural Learning Curriculum, Oral History, and Site preservation.	\$1,500,000		\$1,500,000	\$3,000,000	2010	Christiansburg Institute
34	NRV	NRV Airport Runway Overlay Strengthening of runway to enable use by heavier aircraft and maintain existing runway length and width.	\$1,960,000		\$40,000	\$2,000,000	2010	Airport Commission
34	NRV	New River Valley Commerce Park-Water and Sewer Project To provide water and sewer and support other economic development.	\$2,500,000		\$2,500,000	\$6,000,000	2009	Virginia's First
34	Pulaski	Brownfields Redevelopment Redevelopment of existing industry and housing.	\$500,000		\$500,000	\$200,000	2009	Pulaski Town
33	Floyd County	Jacksonville Center E-Commerce Project (Floyd Co) Establishment of an e-commerce catalog of of crafts and products.				\$50,000	2009	Jacksonville Center, Inc.
33		Small Business Development (Green/Nano/Bio) Program Develop educational program through the community college and university that support the development and/or recruitment of small businesses/industries in the green, nano and/or bio technology fields.	\$500,000		\$500,000	\$1,000,000	2011	Universities, NRCC, School Divisions
33	Town of Christiansburg	Phase II of the Route 114 widening project Widening Route 114 from Walters Drive Area to the New River Valley Mall Area		\$23,690,000		\$23,690,000	2014	VDOT, Christiansburg
32	NRV	Regional Conference/Civic Center Determine feasibility and appropriate site, engineering and architectural plans for regional conference center.	\$7,000,000		\$8,000,000	\$15,000,000	2015	Virginia's First and Partners
32	Montgomery County	Montgomery County Flex Building Construction of a scalable building for small businesses in Falling Branch Industrial Park.	\$1,100,000		\$1,100,000	\$2,200,000	2011	Montgomery County

New River Valley 2010 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
32	NRV	Create a Consortium of School Districts, Community College, Economic Development and Local Business Representatives - Develop a Pilot Program Integrated Workforce Curriculum To develop a integrated workforce curriculum focusing on current/future business and industry needs (including Career Pathways development).	\$250,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$350,000	2010	LWIB, K-12 Public Schools CTE, NRCC, VT and Regional Economic Development
32	NRV	Develop Regional Dual Enrollment and AP Programs Using Distance Technology and/or "On-line" Programs						
32	Town of Christiansburg	Interchange ramp at Route 460 Bypass and N. Franklin Street Connection of east bound 460 Bypass to west bound Business 460		\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000	2012	VDOT, Christiansburg
31	Floyd County	Floyd Revolving Loan Fund	\$200,000			\$200,000	2009	Floyd IDA
31	NRV	Team Business Development of Companies.	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$1,000,000	2011	NRVPDC
31	NRV	21st Century Secondary Education - Alternative School A facility providing regional instruction for alternative study.	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$12,000,000	2012	NRV School Divisions
31	NRV	Technology Magnet School: Workforce Development Designed to develop a specialized workforce in the NRV by providing advanced technology education to secondary schools. Federal funds will be used to purchase training equipment and construction of a facility.	\$4,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$8,000,000	2015	New River Community College & School Div's
31	NRV	Implement a feasibility study on a Regional Technology/Vocation School To maximize resources for specialty educational opportunities.						
31	Town of Pulaski	Submission of Southeast Side Project Grant This neighborhood project grant is under consideration by the Department of Housing and Community Development.				\$3,000,000	2010	Town of Pulaski
31	Town of Christiansburg	Upgrade of Waste Water Plant Upgrade waste water plant to accommodate eight million gallons per day	\$10,000,000			\$10,000,000		Christiansburg
30	NRV	Intermodal Transportation Center Further explore the possibility of developing an intermodal transportation site on under-utilized US Army property near Dublin, Virginia.	\$4,000,000		\$4,000,000	\$8,000,000	2010	VA's First/ATK
30	Pulaski County	Radford Army Ammunition Plant Infrastructure Improvements Water, sewer, road, and rail upgrades at the New River site.	\$36,000,000			\$36,000,000	2012	Virginia's First
30	Floyd County	Rocky Knob Interpretative Ctr. & Lodge, Reg. Collaborative (Floyd Co) A bi-county commission is working on the development of a major tourism destination along the Blue Ridge Parkway. A lodge and interpretive center are planned.	\$8,000,000		\$2,000,000	\$10,000,000	2015	Rocky Knob
30	Giles County	Public Transportation	\$1,600,000		\$400,000	\$2,000,000		NRV employment service
29	NRV	Parallel Taxiway To provide taxiway parallel to runway and offer an opportunity to provide air access to the Industrial Park (NRV Commerce Park).	\$5,880,000		\$120,000	\$6,000,000	2013	Airport Commission
29	NRV	Link Road: Pulaski County and Blacksburg New road to connect industrial area to Blacksburg.	\$12,000,000	\$12,000,000		\$24,000,000	2020	VDOT Public/Private
29	Pulaski County	Pulaski County School Construction Replace middle school.			\$34,000,000	\$34,000,000	2010-13	Pulaski County
29	Floyd County	East Floyd Truck Route Develop east Floyd industrial bypass.		\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$4,000,000	2015	Floyd County/VDOT

New River Valley 2010 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
29	Floyd County	Multi-Tenant Facility for Floyd County To house growing businesses as well as meet space needs for governmental agencies and non-profits.	\$750,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,500,000	2013	Floyd County
29	Radford	Industrial Park Development - Radford Corporate East Acquisition and development of new Industrial Park within City limits. Includes construction of roadway, sanitary sewer, waterline, landscaping, grading, surveying, etc.	\$800,000		\$800,000	\$1,600,000	2014	Radford
29	City of Radford	Third Avenue Parking Lot The public parking lot located adjacent to Grove Avenue and Third Avenue would be improved to include a stormwater system, paving, landscaping, traditional light poles and hanging baskets. This project is needed to improve the lot's aesthetic appeal.				\$250,000	2014	City of Radford
28	NRV	Route 114 Bridge To replace the Route 114 bridge that has structural damage.		\$20,000,000		\$20,000,000	2009	VDOT
28	Pulaski	Calfee Park Renovations (Pulaski Town) Improvements to bring the facility up to baseball standards. Visitor dugouts, dressing rooms, and infrastructure improvements are needed.	\$1,000,000			\$1,000,000	2010	Pulaski Town
28	Radford	Passenger Rail Station in Radford To develop a passenger rail station in the City of Radford.				\$10,000,000	2015	Radford City
28	Floyd County	Phase II Development of Floyd Regional Commerce Center Grade lots 1 and 2.	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	2009	Floyd County
28	Floyd County	Route 8 Improvements (South) (Floyd Co) Road Improvements on Route 8 southbound from Floyd, South.		\$1,500,000		\$1,500,000	2012	VDOT
28	NRV	Develop a Regional Meat Processing Plant for Organic Meat Processing and Production						
28	NRV	Implement K-12 Curriculum on Organic Food Production						
28	Town of Pulaski	Building a New Transportation/History Museum Envisioned to be located across from Historic Depot. The Town has secured funding from TEA-21 and state budget appropriations for the project. The project is currently under environmental review.						Town of Pulaski
27	Floyd County	Marketing Floyd County Regional Commerce Center As a locality that already has advanced telecommunications infrastructure, access to higher education opportunities, available and affordable workforce, and available industrial space, Floyd County is seeking funding to create a model of promotion for Southwest Virginia.			\$50,000	\$50,000	2009	Floyd County
27	Pulaski County	Exit 101 Interchange Improvements and Connector Route 11 Provide interstate access to the proposed Veteran's Cemetery and Route 11 with a urban 3 lane typical on 4 lane right of way.	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000		\$16,500,000	2010	Virginia's First/ATK
27	Rich Creek	Rich Creek Downtown Enhancement Project Ensure the stability and success of downtown Rich Creek.		\$1,000,000	\$250,000	\$1,250,000	2009	Rich Creek Town
27	NRV	Youth Planning Council Involve youth in discussing regional development issues.	\$10,000		\$10,000	\$20,000	2011	NRVPDC
26	Pulaski County	Shell Building-Industrial Park	\$750,000	\$750,000		\$1,500,000	2011	Pulaski County
26	NRV	NRV Airport Taxiway-Commerce Park Connection To provide airside access for the Commerce Park.				\$2,000,000	2015	Airport Commission
26	Christiansburg	Passenger Rail Station in Christiansburg To develop a passenger rail station in the Town of Christiansburg.					2015	Christiansburg Town
26	Glen Lyn	Glen Lyn Regional Wastewater Facility To combine wastewater from Rich Creek and Glen Lyn into a single operation. The Towns will undertake the project.				\$3,000,000	2010	Glen Lyn
26	NRV	Promote Civil War Historical Sites To promote civil war historical sites throughout the NRV.					2012	Round the Mountain

New River Valley 2010 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
26	NRV	Implement the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Program in Regional K-12 schools						
26	NRV	Implement the Farms to School Program with at Least 1 School District by 2011.					2011	
26	NRV	Develop/Implement a Regional Glass Recycling Program						
26	Town of Christiansburg	Emergency Services Station Emergency Services Station located on Quin W. Stuart Blvd	\$3,000,000			\$2-\$3,000,000	2014	Christiansburg
26	Town of Christiansburg	Railroad Street Water Extension Installation of 400 LF of 6-inch water main				\$25,000		Christiansburg
25	Floyd Town	Floyd Farmer's Market	\$200,000		\$200,000	\$400,000	2011	Floyd Town
25	Pearisburg	Downtown Pearisburg Revitalization Project To revitalize downtown Pearisburg.		\$700,000	\$180,000	\$880,000	2009	Pearisburg Town
25	Pulaski County	New Facility, Sheriff's Department				\$900,000		Pulaski County - Sheriff
24	NRV	New River Valley Park and Ride Lot Development Development of new park and ride facilities.	\$750,000	\$750,000		\$1,500,000	2011	VDOT
24	Pulaski County	Highland Park Subdivision Sewer (Pulaski Co) Provide sewer services to 233 residences.	\$2,274,000			\$2,274,000	2010	Pulaski County
24	Pulaski County	Dublin Area Sewer Project To provide sewer to approximately 160 residences.	\$1,849,400		\$13,300	\$1,862,700	2010	Pulaski County
24	Pulaski County	Pulaski County Central Water and Sewer Project Phase 2 (Pulaski Co) To provide water and sewer.	\$2,300,000			\$2,200,000	2009	Pulaski County
24	Pulaski County	Fairgrounds Area Sewer (Pulaski Co) Provide sewer to NRV Fairgrounds & 148 residences.	\$1,800,000			\$1,800,000	2010	Pulaski County
24	Pulaski County	New Facility for Pulaski Library To replace existing building.		\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$3,000,000	2012	Pulaski County
24	Blacksburg	Huckleberry Trail Extension Assist in the construction of the Huckleberry Trail extension from Prices Fork to Glade Road. Will connect the Hethwood Community to the Heritage Park and then link to the National Forest. Grading, site amenities, and surfacing are needed for this project.			\$100,000	\$100,000	2009	Town of Blacksburg
24	Pulaski County	The New River Trail Extension Extend trail from Xaloy facility to Randolph Park.	\$4,000,000		\$1,000,000	\$5,000,000	2009	Pulaski County
24	Pearisburg	Whitt-Riverbend Park Trail Construct 1.1 mile loop trail and rest room.		\$60,000	\$20,000	\$80,000	2010	Pearisburg Town
24	Pulaski	The New River Trail Extension Extend trail from Cool Springs to Xaloy facility.				\$200,000	2009	Pulaski Town
24	NRV	Connectivity of Trails, Regional Trail System Interconnect various local, state and federal trails to create a continuous network in southwest Virginia.	\$400,000		\$400,000	\$800,000	2012	Trail Operators
24	Pearisburg	Whitt-Riverbend Park Development Phase II 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	2010	Pearisburg
24	NRV	Create Formal Regional Leadership Organization Create formal leadership organization, hold community awareness workshop, and establish certified leadership development program.					2011	Leadership Organizations
24	NRV	Develop and Implement a Program to Support Small Family Farms Using "Cultivating Success" Farm Mentoring Project as a model.						

New River Valley 2010 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
24	Town of Pulaski	Rebuilding of Historic Depot Also along with potential enhancements at the head of Dora Trail Extension. The reconstruction effort will require construction bids. Architectural contract has already been secured.			\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	2011	Town of Pulaski, VACoRMP
24	City of Radford	Bisset Park Modular Restroom A modular restroom would be provided at the third shelter in Bisset Park.				\$55,000	2012	City of Radford
24	City of Radford	Bikeway/Walkway Modular Restroom A modular restroom would be provided at the old Police department firing range to provide facilities to the eastern most portion of the Riverway.				\$55,000	2013	City of Radford
24	Town of Christiansburg	Phase IB of the Downtown Enhancement Project South side of East Main Street – new sidewalks, planting, paving	\$1,191,718		\$297,929	\$1,489,647.36		Town of Christiansburg, Gay and Neel, Inc.
24	Town of Christiansburg	Phase II, Huckleberry Trail Extension Extension of the existing Huckleberry Trail from the present terminus at the New River Valley Mall to the south side of Route 114, including pedestrian bridge.	\$657,844		\$164,461	\$822,305	2012	Montgomery County and Town of Christiansburg
24	Town of Christiansburg	Phase III, Huckleberry Trail Extension Extension of Huckleberry Trail from the south side of Route 114 near the New River Valley Mall to the Christiansburg Recreation Center	\$228,000		\$912,000	\$1,140,000	2014	Montgomery County, Town of Christiansburg
23	Radford	High Meadows Development (Radford) Improve the water system to include line work and a water tank.			\$806,000	\$806,000	2010	Radford
23	Blacksburg	Rescue Squad Station Replacement To replace the current station on Progress Street. Presently not equipped to handle new ambulances and other specialized equipment. Does not meet current ADA access requirements.			\$1,625,000	\$1,625,000	2011	Town of Blacksburg
23	Pulaski County	Maple Shade Government Center Complete renovation.			\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	2009	Pulaski County
23	NRV	Develop Region-Wide Bike Paths Used as both a tourism asset and an alternative/green method of transportation.	\$5,000,000		\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	2014	NRVPDC, Localities
23	NRV	Build & Coordinate Regional Art Initiatives (Groups & Trails) Connect and/or build off of current local and regional art & music initiatives - eliminate current competition between them.					2014	Art Community (Round the Mtn, Crooked Road, Jax Center & other local art groups
23	NRV	Incorporate "Green" Training into Secondary and Post-secondary Vocational Construction Programs Change current curriculum in Construction Trades to include "retro fitting" remodeling for energy efficiency in homes.	Policy Change-\$ support current programs				2011	CTE Directors, Community College Workforce Departments
23	Town of Narrows	Replace Existing Water Lines that are Deteriorating 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	2012	Town of Narrows
23	Town of Narrows	Town's Recreation Department This site is used not only by the Town's recreation department, but also by the athletics department at Narrows High School. We have been hoping that we could complete the ball fields with donations, but that is looking unrealistic due to the current state of our economy.				\$1,101,675	2013	Town of Narrows

New River Valley 2010 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
22	Radford	Harvey Water Tank Project To replace the Harvey Water Tank and add new water mains in the area to promote development and improved service.	\$1,250,000		\$1,250,000	\$2,500,000	2012	Radford
22	Christiansburg	Christiansburg Aquatic Center Indoor swimming pool, etc.			\$14,000,000	\$14,000,000	2008	Christiansburg Town
22	Radford	Public Safety Building (Police Department) Renovate building replace the aging Police/Public Safety building.	\$5,150,000		\$850,000	\$6,000,000	2010	Radford
22	Pulaski County	Newbern Area Enhancements Creation of Wilderness Road Exhibit and other area enhancements.		\$53,387	\$21,613	\$75,000	2009	Pulaski County
22	Giles County	Eggleston Water Extension Phase 2 (Giles Co) Extend water service to 160 residencies.	\$1,400,000			\$1,400,000	2010	Giles County
22	Giles County	Route 635 Water Extension (Giles Co) Provide public water to approximately 150 residents in the Big Stoney Community of Giles County.	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000		\$3,000,000	2009	Giles County
22	Pearisburg	Pearisburg Fire Station Construct new fire station.				\$1,500,000	2012	Pearisburg Town
22	NRV	Promote Agricultural Tourism Program to encourage farmers to evaluate agricultural tourism to enhance incomes.					2010	Virginia Tourism Corporation
22	NRV	Regional Website Develop and maintain a website that would highlight the NRV's many cultural, natural & business resources. Connecting into each jurisdiction's websites.	\$15,000		\$15,000	\$30,000	2011	Local Chambers and Community Developers
22	Town of Pulaski	Intensifying Blight Elimination Program The Town submitted an EPA Brownfields Grant application in the Fall of 2008 and is awaiting response. The local budget is under review to determine the possibility of increasing Town resources toward blight elimination.	\$200,000			\$200,000	2010	Town of Pulaski
22	Town of Narrows	Replace Existing Collection System Piping Collection system piping is leaking and/or broken.				\$728,370	2012	Town of Narrows
22	City of Radford	Visitor's Kiosk A kiosk would be constructed on City owned property at exit 105 along West Main Street. The kiosk would contain visitor information, a city map, points of interest and attractions. Elements of the project would include structure, lighting, parking, and landscaping.				\$50,000	2013	City of Radford
22	City of Radford	Hercules Street Sewer Line Replacement: 575 linear feet of 8" sanitary line would be replaced along Hercules Street between Roosevelt and Pershing Avenue.				\$102,600	2011	City of Radford
22	City of Radford	Jackson and Sixth Sewer Line Replacement 450 linear feet of 8" sanitary sewer line would be replaced in an existing easements between Jackson Street and Sixth Avenue.				\$91,700	2013	City of Radford
22	City of Radford	Arnold and Pershing Sewer Line Replacement 525 linear feet of 8" sanitary line would be replaced in an existing easement between Arnold Avenue and Pershing Avenue.				\$96,750	2014	City of Radford
22	City of Radford	Radford Village Water Line Replacement 3,225 linear feet of 6" main water line would be replaced with an 8" service throughout the Radford Village residential area improving service reliability and water flow to forty homes.				\$117,500	2012	City of Radford

New River Valley 2010 Annual Project Package

Score	Area	Description	Fed. \$	State \$	Local \$	Total Funding	Const. Date	Responsible Agency
22	City of Radford	Grove Avenue Enhancement Grove Avenue will be improved from Tyler Avenue to Third Avenue. Improvements will include bike lanes, landscaping, new sidewalks and signage.				\$300,000	2014	City of Radford
22	City of Radford	Sidewalk- Tyler Avenue A new sidewalk would be constructed along the south side of Tyler Avenue from Hammtt Street to Auburn Avenue. The project would improve public safety, as well as provide pedestrian service to the adjacent churches, shopping centers, and residential developments.				\$72,000		City of Radford
22	Montgomery County	Falling Branch Corporate Park - Stormwater pond	\$175,000		\$175,000	\$350,000	2009	Montgomery County
21	NRV	TransDominion Express - Capital Costs A statewide project to provide passenger rail transportation from Bristol through the New River Valley, and on to Richmond and Washington, D.C.		\$9,300,000		\$9,300,000	2015	VA Department of Rail and Public Transportation
21	Radford	East Radford Fire Station An east radford fire station would be constructed with three bays, offices and parking.			\$450,000	\$450,000	2010	Radford
20	Radford	Belle Heth School (Radford) Would undergo a multi-phase renovation which would include upgrades to mechanicals, new additions, etc.			\$805,683	\$805,683	2014	Radford
20	Radford	Radford High School Radford High School would be expanded by 1,280 sq. ft. to accommodate a Biology laboratory to meet Virginia Dept. of Education standards.			\$160,346	\$160,346	2009	Radford
20	Radford	Wildwood Park Entrance Improve the Park entrance with parking facilities, a kiosk, pergola, new gate, and interpretive exhibits.	\$100,000		\$50,000	\$150,000	2011	Radford
20	Floyd Town	Floyd Town Trails Program (final phase)	\$240,000		\$60,000	\$300,000	2010	Floyd Town
20	City of Radford	Miscellaneous drainage project Design and construction of drainage improvements identified in 1993 Facility Plan in various locations throughout the city. The improvements would prevent runoff damage to public and private properties.				\$75,000	2009-2014	City of Radford
20	Town of Christiansburg	Public Works Complex Moving current complex out of the floodplain	\$10,000,000			\$10,000,000		Christiansburg
19	Radford	Aquatic Center (Radford) An indoor 25 meter 8 lane swimming pool would be constructed adjacent to the New Recreation Center.			\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	2014	Radford
19	Dublin	Dublin Fire Department Expansion To add two bays.	\$750,000			\$750,000	2010	Dublin Town/Pulaski County
19	Floyd County	Geo-engineering Studies Groundwater Resources in Floyd Co. To identify groundwater resources and calculate carrying capacity. Recharge areas and other important water resource areas would be mapped.	\$250,000			\$250,000	2009	Floyd County
19	Floyd County	Engineering Studies on Extending Water and Sewer to areas of Floyd Co. To study water and sewer extensions and to understand hydrogeologic systems resources. Include protecting critical recharge and well-head areas.	\$1,200,000	\$200,000	\$100,000	\$1,500,000	2010	Floyd County
19	Radford	Outdoor Swimming Pool (Radford) A new 25 meter outdoor swimming pool facility would be constructed next to the Radford Recreation Center.			\$1,800,000	\$1,800,000	2012	Radford
19	Radford	Bisset Park Improvements To expand parking facilities, benches, tables, river access points, and vistas.		\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000	2013	Radford
19	Pulaski County	Indoor Recreation - Wellness Center			\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000	2014	Pulaski County-Recreation
19	Pulaski County	Riverbend Subdivision Sewer (Pulaski Co) Provide sewer services to 45 residences.	\$1,000,000			\$1,000,000	2015	Pulaski County
19	Floyd County	Trails for Floyd (pedestrian, biking, and hiking)	\$2,500,000		\$2,500,000	\$5,000,000	2011	Floyd County
18	Pulaski County	Pulaski County Dispatch/Communications To upgrade Pulaski County's dispatch/communications system.				\$1,600,000	2010	Pulaski County

APPENDIX

- A. Figure and Chart List
- B. Key Economic Indicators for the NRV
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A

Figure & Chart List

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B

Key Economic Indicators

Key Economic Indicators

Jurisdiction	2000 Census Count	Provisional 2008 Population	Est. Population Change from 2000 to 2008	% of WIA population by Jurisdiction	2003 Per Capita Annual Personal Income	2006 Per Capita Annual Personal Income	Per Capita Dollar Change	2005 Median Household Income	2007 Median Household Income	Median Household Dollar Change	2006 Average Weekly Wage	2007 Average Weekly Wage	Quarter 3 2008 Average Weekly wage	Difference from State Average	2006 Annualized Unemployment	2007 Annualized Unemployment	2008 Annualized Unemployment	April 2009 Unemployment	Avg. Unemployment for last 6 months	2000 - % of Population (16 & over) not in Labor	2005 % Living in Poverty	2007 % Living in Poverty
Floyd County	13,874	15,094	8.8%	4.2%	\$ 22,051	\$ 24,277	\$ 2,226	\$ 37,659	\$ 39,378	\$ 1,719	\$ 479	\$ 476	\$ 484	\$ 393	3.2%	3.5%	4.4%	8.5%	7.5%	38.6%	12.3%	12.9%
Giles County	16,657	16,518	-0.8%	4.7%	\$ 21,929	\$ 24,982	\$ 3,053	\$ 37,582	\$ 41,186	\$ 3,604	\$ 626	\$ 610	\$ 628	\$ 249	3.7%	4.3%	5.5%	9.5%	8.7%	41.9%	12.2%	11.4%
Montgomery County	83,629	90,517	8.2%	25.0%	\$ 20,634	\$ 23,973	\$ 3,339	\$ 36,853	\$ 42,029	\$ 5,176	\$ 650	\$ 697	\$ 725	\$ 152	3.1%	3.2%	4.1%	6.7%	6.3%	41.0%	20.9%	19.9%
Pulaski County	35,127	34,391	-2.1%	9.6%	\$ 25,725	\$ 29,228	\$ 3,503	\$ 35,014	\$ 40,427	\$ 5,413	\$ 669	\$ 647	\$ 590	\$ 287	3.8%	5.3%	6.6%	11.3%	10.0%	39.3%	15.7%	14.1%
City of Radford	15,859	15,584	-1.7%	4.3%	\$ 20,634	\$ 23,973	\$ 3,339	\$ 28,201	\$ 33,012	\$ 4,811	\$ 671	\$ 680	\$ 710	\$ 167	3.8%	4.1%	5.3%	8.0%	7.6%	45.2%	28.2%	30.9%
WIA II	354,092	362,586	2.4%		\$ 22,392	\$ 25,276	\$ 2,883	\$ 34,015	\$ 36,957	\$ 2,942	\$ 592	\$ 610	\$ 615	\$ 262	4.0%	4.4%	5.3%	9.2%	8.5%	42.2%	16.4%	16.6%
Virginia	7,079,030	7,769,089	9.7%		\$ 34,001	\$ 39,540	\$ 5,539	\$ 54,207	\$ 59,575	\$ 5,368	\$ 847	\$ 885	\$ 877		3.0%	3.0%	4.0%	6.6%	6.1%	10.0%	9.9%	
US					\$ 31,504	\$ 36,714	\$ 5,210	\$ 46,242	\$ 49,951	\$ 3,709					4.6%	4.6%	5.8%	8.6%		13.3%	13.0%	

Source: US Census, Weldon Cooper Center and Virginia Workforce Connection

Youth Key Indicators

Jurisdiction	2000 Census Count	Provisional 2008 Population	Est. 2007 Population of 15-19 year olds	Median Income for Families with Children 2000	Median Income for Female Headed Families 2000	2005 Median Household Income	2007 Median Household Income	2007 Average Weekly Wage	Quarter 1 2008 Average Weekly Wage	Quarter 2 2008 Average Weekly Wage	Quarter 3 2008 Average Weekly Wage	Difference from State Average	2007 Annualized Unemployment	2008 Annualized Unemployment	April 2009 Unemployment	Avg. Unemployment for last 6 months	2007 % Living in Poverty	2005 % of population under the age of 18 living in Poverty	2007 % of Population Under age 18 in Poverty	2008 Fall Membership Grades 8-12	2007-08 Graduates	2007-08 Non-Standard Diplomas (not advanced)	2008 Free/Reduced Lunch (HS) %	2007-08 Drop Out Rate	2007-08 Truancy***	2006-07 Pupil to Teacher Ratio 8-12	2007-08 Pupil to Instructor Ratio Grades 8-12	2007 Special Ed Students 14-22+ years old	Special Ed % of Student Population	2006 LEP Enrollment%	2006 Births to teen girls (per 1,000)	Mothers with less than 12th grade Education	2007 # of Children in Foster Care	2006 Juveniles Arrested for Violent Crimes	
Floyd	13,874	15,094	1,019	\$35,579	\$15,197	\$37,659	\$39,378	\$476	\$ 460	\$ 471	\$ 484	\$ 393	3.5%	4.4%	8.5%	7.5%	12.9%	16.0%	16.0%	800	150	6	32.0%	2.23%	99	7.8	12.5	13	2%	41	n/a	12%	10	3	
Giles	16,657	16,518	1,040	\$42,407	\$17,542	\$37,582	\$41,186	\$610	\$ 692	\$ 603	\$ 628	\$ 249	4.3%	5.5%	9.5%	8.7%	11.4%	16.3%	14.4%	975	194	26	34.6%	3.23%	77	9	10.9	22	3%	2	n/a	19%	31	0	
Montgomery	83,629	90,517	10,642	\$45,091	\$18,378	\$36,853	\$42,029	\$697	\$ 661	\$ 656	\$ 725	\$ 152	3.2%	4.1%	6.7%	6.3%	19.9%	14.7%	13.6%	3,681	708	70	27.7%	2.19%	n/a	12.3	8.1	53	2%	211	14	9%	45	4	
Pulaski	35,127	34,391	2,083	\$41,918	\$14,946	\$35,014	\$40,427	\$647	\$ 669	\$ 654	\$ 590	\$ 287	5.3%	6.6%	11.3%	10.0%	14.1%	21.3%	19.8%	1,947	356	47	35.8%	0.52%	230	7.7	14.3	34	2%	31	23	13%	78	4	
Radford	15,859	15,584	2,673	\$46,338	\$19,154	\$28,201	\$33,012	\$680	\$ 743	\$ 722	\$ 710	\$ 167	4.1%	5.3%	8.0%	7.6%	30.9%	15.5%	16.7%	553	119	12	25.3%	0.28%	22	9.1	10.2	3	1%	8	n/a	17%	9	0	
WIA 2	355,126	362,586	28,770	\$39,276	\$17,250	\$34,015	\$36,957	\$610	\$ 613	\$ 606	\$ 615	\$ 262	4.4%	5.3%	9.2%	8.5%	16.6%	20.2%	19.9%	18,635	3,665	442	1.80%	2667	9	10.9	357	2%	788	23	17%	404	30		
Virginia	7,078,515	7,769,089		\$54,169	\$21,602	\$51,914	\$59,575	\$885	\$ 915	\$ 885	\$ 877		3.0%	4.0%	6.6%	6.1%	9.9%	13.3%	12.9%				1.90%		11.1					16	15%	7,342	1,179		
US						\$ 1,992	\$49,951						4.6%	4.6%	8.6%	8.1%	13.0%	18.5%	18.0%																

Source: US Census, Weldon Cooper Center, VA Deptment of Education, & Virginia Workforce Network

** Includes: Special Diplomas, Certificates of Program Completions, GED, ISAEP, GAD, Modified Standard

*** Number of students with whom a comderence was scheduled after the student missed six days of school



**Samples of Vision 2020 Update Agenda, Media Notices
& Invitations**

NEW RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

6580 Valley Center Drive, Suite 124

Radford, Virginia 24141

Phone: (540) 639-9313

Fax: (540) 831-6093

E-Mail: [nrpdc@nrpdc.org](mailto:nrvpdc@nrpdc.org)

Website: www.nrvpdc.org



David W. Rundgren
Executive Director

From: Marty Holliday
Date: January 29, 2009
Subject: Vision 2020 Update

You have been identified as someone that is concerned about your community and takes an active role in community initiatives. Because of this you are being invited to be a part of the Vision 2020 Plan update!

What is the Vision 2020 Plan? The Vision 2020 Plan is “not about today,” it’s about meeting the challenges of the future. The purpose of the Vision 2020 Plan (through citizen input and involvement) is to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the region (and/or individual communities) and to develop projects and programs that will build on our strengths and strengthen our weaknesses. The Vision 2020 Plan is the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the whole New River Valley. The initial Vision 2020 Plan – *The New River Valley...a Global Community* was completed in 1998. The previous update, *Community First – Harnessing Change and Building Connections* was done in 2003. Implementation of the projects and programs outlined in the Plan will be the responsibility of various local and regional governments, governmental and community agencies, community and civic organizations, local businesses and private citizens.

The NRV Planning District Commission and a Steering Committee (made up of 18 community, civic and governmental leaders of the New River Valley) met to develop the process by which the Vision 2020 will be updated. The Steering Committee voiced a need to have *community conversations* throughout the region to hear the concerns and ideas from a wide array of NRV citizens on how the region is to survive this crisis and continue to build a sustainable economy for the future.

Please plan to attend one of these *community conversation* events:

February 19, 2009 (Thursday) 7-9PM in Dublin at New River Community College, Edwards Hall, Rm. 117

February 26, 2009 (Thursday) 7-9PM in Radford at the Radford Recreation Center

March 12, 2009 (Thursday) 6-8PM in Floyd at the Floyd Country Store

March 19, 2009 (Thursday) 7-9PM in Christiansburg at New River Community College in the NRV Mall

March 31, 2009 (Tuesday) 7-9PM in Pearisburg at the Pearisburg Community Center

April 14, 2009 (Tuesday) 7-9PM in Shawsville at the Meadowbrook Library

If you have any questions about the Vision 2020 Plan or process please feel free to contact me at mholliday@nrpdc.org or 633-6764.

Counties:
Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski

Towns:
Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Floyd
Pulaski, Narrows, Pearisburg, Rich Creek

Universities:
Radford University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University

City:
Radford



New River Valley Planning District Commission
 6580 Valley Center Drive, Suite 124
 Radford, VA 24141

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Counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery,
 Pulaski, and the City of Radford

Towns of Blacksburg, Christiansburg,
 Floyd, Narrows, Pearisburg, Pulaski, and
 Rich Creek

Radford University and Virginia Tech

.....
 David W. Rundgren, Executive Director
 Jan R. Gilbertson, Newsletter Editor

Vision 2020 - Your Opinion Counts!



The citizens of the New River Valley have one more opportunity to participate in a *community conversation* to voice their concerns and ideas on how the region is to survive this economic crisis and continue to build a sustainable economy for the future. The last conversation is on **April 14, 2009 (Tuesday) 7-9PM in Shawsville** at the Meadowbrook Library.

To date there have been five *community conversations*; one event was held in each of the following localities: Dublin, Radford, Floyd, Christiansburg, and Pearisburg. Local citizens have shared their ideas and opinions on needed projects and programs for the region in the areas of People (needs and education), Employers/Business/Industries, Infrastructure (water, sewer, broadband, roads, etc), Energy (consumption, production & education) and Community Resources (cultural and natural).

If you are unable to attend this last *community conversation*, your opinion can still be collected via a survey (which can be found at <http://www.nrvpdc.org/SurveyVision20202009.pdf>). Input gathered will be used to update the Vision 2020 plan. On **April 30, 2009 (Thursday) 3-7PM at the New River Valley Competitiveness Center in Fairlawn (Room #145)** NRV citizens are invited to an **Open House** to review and evaluate the projects and programs that received a high ranking at the six *community conversations*. This will be the final opportunity for public input. Information gathered will then be put into a draft report and submitted to the NRV Planning District Commissioners at their May 28th meeting for their input. The final report will be prepared during the month of June. For further information about the Vision 2020 update, the process and progress of the update please visit www.nrvpdc.org/vision2020update.html or contact Marty Holliday at (540) 633-6764 or mholliday@nrvdc.org.

**NEW RIVER VALLEY – VISION 2020
COMMUNITY CONVERSATION
7PM to 9PM**

SESSION PURPOSE

To discuss needs and issues facing the New River Valley in these challenging economic times

SESSION GOALS

1. Explore and rank ideas for projects/programs that can be done immediately
2. Explore and rank ideas for long term projects/programs
3. Identify people, organizations and/or agencies that can assist in implementing priority projects/programs

AGENDA

7:00 - 7:15	Opening Remarks
7:15 - 7:30	Introductions
7:30 – 8:00	Brainstorming/Ranking <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What can be done immediately to shore up our local business, organizations and people?
8:00 – 8:30	Brainstorming/Ranking <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are things we need to do today to support a bright future for our children?
8:30 – 8:45	Brainstorming <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organizations/People
8:45 – 9:00	Closing



**NEW RIVER VALLEY
PLANNING DISTRICT
COMMISSION**

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New River Valley News & Views



"The New River Valley Vision 2020 Plan Update has Begun" in the Spotlight

What is the Vision 2020 Plan? The Vision 2020 Plan is "not about today," it's about meeting the challenges of the future. The purpose of the Vision 2020 Plan (through citizen input and involvement) is to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the region (and/or individual communities) and to develop projects and programs that will build on our strengths and strengthen our weaknesses. The Vision 2020 Plan is the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the whole New River Valley. The initial Vision 2020 Plan – *The New River Valley... a Global Community* was completed in 1998. The previous update, *Community First – Harnessing Change and Building Connections* was done in 2003. Implementation of the projects and programs outlined in the Plan will be the joint responsibility of local and regional governments, governmental and community agencies, community and civic organizations, local businesses and private citizens.

The NRVPDC and the Vision 2020 Steering Committee (made up of 18 community, civic and governmental leaders of the New River Valley) met on January 9, 2009 to develop the process by which the Vision 2020 will be updated. During this initial meeting, it became obvious that there

was apprehension about the current economic conditions and how the New River Valley will be affected. The Committee voiced a need to have *community conversations* throughout the region to hear the concerns and ideas from a wide array of NRV citizens on how the region is to survive this crisis and continue to build a sustainable economy for the future.



There will be six opportunities to participate in these *community conversation* events and everyone is invited to come out and share their opinions and ideas about the future of the New River Valley.

- **February 19, 2009 (Thursday) 7-9PM in Dublin** at New River Community College, Edwards Hall, Rm. 117
- **February 26, 2009 (Thursday) 7-9PM in Radford** at the Radford Recreation Center
- **March 12, 2009 (Thursday) 6-8PM in Floyd** at the Floyd Country Store

- **March 19, 2009 (Thursday) 7-9PM in Christiansburg** at New River Community College at NRV Mall
- **March 31, 2009 (Tuesday) 7-9PM in Pearisburg** at the Pearisburg Community Center
- **April 14, 2009 (Tuesday) 7-9PM in Shawsville** at the Meadowbrook Library

Along with the *community conversations*, citizen input will also be gathered through presentations done at other civic/community organization meetings and through a written survey (that will be available on-line). An additional area-wide meeting will be held in May (time and location to be announced later) where all the ideas gathered will be reviewed and prioritized.

A final report on the update will be completed in late June. More information about the Vision 2020 update, the process and progress of the update can be found at www.nrvpdc.org/vision2020update.html or by contacting Marty Holliday at (540) 633-6764 or mholliday@nrpdc.org.

New River Valley Vision 2020 Plan update has begun

What is the Vision 2020 Plan? The Vision 2020 Plan is a strategic plan about meeting the challenges of the future.

Through citizen input and involvement the Vision 2020 Plan intends to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the New River Valley and develop projects and programs that will build on our strengths and reinforce our weaknesses. The Vision 2020 Plan is also the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the region. The initial Plan – The New River Valley... a Global Community was completed in 1998 and was previously updated, Community First – Harnessing Change and Building Connections in 2003.

Staff of the New River Valley Planning District Commission (NRVDC) and the Vision 2020 Steering Committee (made up of 18 community, civic and governmental leaders of the New River Valley) met on January 9 to develop the process by which the Vision 2020 will be updated. The newest updated plan will outline the projects and programs that will need to be implemented by the various local and regional governments, governmental and community agencies, community and civic

organizations, local businesses and private citizens of the region.

The citizens of the New River Valley are invited to participate in some community conversations to voice their concerns and ideas on how the region is to survive this economic crisis and continue to build a sustainable economy for the future. This input will be used to update the Vision 2020 plan.

Radford's local community conversation event will be held Thursday, February 26, 7-9 p.m. at the Radford Recreation Center.

There will be five other opportunities to participate in one of these events and all area citizens are invited to come out and share their opinions and ideas about the future of the New River Valley.

February 19, 7-9 p.m. in Dublin at New River Community College, Edwards Hall, Rm. 117.

March 12, 6-8 p.m. in Floyd at the Floyd Country Store

March 19, 7-9 p.m. in Christiansburg at New River Community College at NRV Mall

March 31, 7-9 p.m. in Pearisburg at the Pearisburg Community Center

April 14, 7-9 p.m. in Shawsville at the Meadowbrook Library

Along with the community conversations, input will also be assembled through presentations done at other civic/community organization meetings and through a written survey (that will be available on-line). In late spring an additional area-wide meeting (time and location to be announced later) where all the ideas gathered will be assessed and prioritized. A final report on the update will be completed in late June.

For more information about the Vision 2020 Plan, the process and progress of the update can be found at www.nrvpdc.org/vision2020update.html or by contacting Marty Holliday at mholliday@nrvdc.org.

Community conversation event set

The citizens of the New River Valley are invited to participate in some community conversations to voice their concerns and ideas on how the region is to survive this economic crisis and continue to build a sustainable economy for the future. Floyd County's local community conversation event will be held March 12, 2009 (Thursday) 6-8 p.m. at the Floyd Country Store

There will be three other opportunities to participate in one of these events and all area citizens are invited to come out and share their opinions and ideas about the future of the New River Valley.

March 19, 2009 (Thursday) 7-9 p.m. in Christiansburg at New River Community College at NRV Mall

March 31, 2009 (Tuesday) 7-9 p.m. in Pearisburg at the Pearisburg Community Center

April 14, 2009 (Tuesday)

See CONVERSATION EVENT, Page 4B

Conversation event -

(Starts on Page 3A)

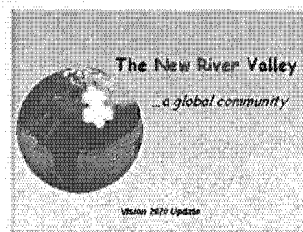
7-9 p.m. in Shawsville at the Meadowbrook Library

This input may also be used to update the Vision 2020 plan. The Vision 2020 Plan is a regional strategic plan about meeting the challenges of the future. Through citizen input and involvement the Vision 2020 Plan intends to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the New River Valley and develop projects and programs that will build on our strengths and reinforce our weaknesses. The Vision 2020 Plan is also known as the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the region. The initial Plan - The New River Valley...a

Global Community was completed in 1998 and was previously updated, Community First - Harnessing Change and Building Connections in 2003. The newest updated will outline the projects and programs that will need to be implemented by the various local and regional governments, governmental and community agencies, community and civic organizations, local businesses and private citizens of the region.

For more information about the Vision 2020 Plan, the process and progress of the update can be found at www.nrvpdc.org/vision-2020update.html or by contacting Marty Holliday at mholliday@nrvc.org.

one sent out for each meeting



Community Conversation Event Reminder

You have been identified as someone that is concerned about your community and takes an active role in community initiatives. Because of this you are being invited to be a part of one of six *community conversations* that will be held throughout the New River Valley region. These *community conversations* will allow NRV citizens to voice their concerns and share ideas on how the region is to survive the current economic crisis and continue to build a sustainable economy for the future.

Please plan to attend the following
community conversation event in your area:

February 19, 2009 (Thursday) 7-9PM in Dublin
New River Community College, Edwards Hall, Rm. 117

If you have any questions about the Vision 2020 Plan or process please feel free to contact Marty Holliday at mholliday@nrvc.org or 540-633-6764.

A community conversation

Submitted by Doug Thompson on March 12, 2009 - 6:39pm.

Faces of Floyd



The gathering at the Floyd Country Store Thursday night was billed as a "Community Conversation," conducted by New River Valley Planning District Commission as part of their Vision 2020 Plan.

As outlined by Marty Holliday ((above), program planner of the New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board, the idea was also to discuss ways residents and business owners can survive the current economic crisis that has gripped the area, state, nation and world.

Lofty goals perhaps but tough times call for lofty ambitions and ambitious attempts to deal with the problems. The program drew people like community activist Phyllis Beale (below left), former Floyd Town Manager Mike Maslaney (below center) and

Courthouse Supervisor Jerry Boothe (below right).

Hopefully, those who attended as icy weather threatened came away from the meeting with some ideas for dealing with an uncertain future.



»

[Add new comment](#)



Visit our gallery in Floyd's Village Green
201 E. Main Stree Floyd, VA 24091 Phone: 540.745.3433
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The country is facing hard economic times, and it affects everyday people who live, work and support this community. As experts on the needs of your New River Valley, your opinions, thoughts and concerns are precious insight into what this area needs not to only make it through these hard times, but to succeed in the future. The input received from this survey will enable the New River Valley Planning District Commission to update our Vision 2020 Plan. This plan helps to set priorities for programming and projects across the region and directly impacts federal funding opportunities based on the current conditions and needs of our locality. Your voice is crucial in the shaping of this vision and this survey is one way to ensure that is it heard and recorded.

Looking at Today...

How do you see the current economic crisis impacting you and your local community and in the New River Valley community? _____

What immediate actions would you suggest to address these concerns in the following categories? Please include a brief explanation if necessary. We'll use the boxes for the last question so please ignore them for now.

a. Community and Individual Growth/ Education:

b.

b. Job Creation and Employer Retention:

c.

c. Public, Cultural and Natural Resource Improvement:

d. Energy Consumption, Production and Education:

e. Other (Please Specify):

Planning for Our Future...

Looking 10 years into the future, how do you envision your ideal New River Valley? What kind of programs or projects need to be started today to achieve this vision?

a. Community and Individual Growth:

b. Job Creation and Employer Retention:

c. Cultural/Natural Resource and Public Facility Improvement:

d. Energy Consumption, Production and Education:

e. Other (Please Specify):

****PLEASE RANK**** the top *five* suggestions, from your immediate and/or future concerns, in order of priority; one being the MUST DO item and then five being the least urgent. Place the corresponding number/priority on the left hand side of your top *five* suggestions in the designated box.

The following projects/programs are from *Community First – Vision 2020 Plan 2003 Update* that have not yet been started. As we look forward for the New River Valley – how do these projects fit with our needs for now and plans for the future?

Project/Program	Description of the Project/Program	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Research and Publicize Non-Profit Contributions	Document <i>accurate</i> information about their contributions to the NRV communities and update this information regularly.			
Community Awareness Workshops for Elected Officials & Corp. Leaders	A short course for elected officials and corporation leaders that highlights community development issues and opportunities.			
Youth Leadership Recognition Programs	An award or program that recognizes and/or rewards youth leadership efforts in the region.			
Youth Leadership Training – Civic and Business	Hands-on training and mentoring through civic organizations and business partners in the program.			
Strengthen Montgomery County Human Services Commission	Opportunities for regional and local human service agencies to gather and exchange information and resources.			
Quarterly Agency/Community Sessions	Regular meetings with human service agencies and concerned/impacted citizens to discuss human service delivery issues and strategize opportunities for improvement.			
Local Philanthropy	Educational and promotional materials to engage NRV citizens about local investment.			
Youth Participation on Established Councils, Committees, Boards	Formal opportunities for youth to participate in meaningful ways on community boards and commissions.			
Regional Educational Services- regional trade school, regional alternative school, regional AP program, support Governor’s and Magnet schools.	Maximize educational resources through regional coordination of specialty education opportunities.			
Strengthen Non-profit Corporate Governance	An organizational development model that fits needs and vision of non-profit sector in the region.			
Regional Leadership Organization	Formal regional leadership forum to provide opportunities for business, non-profit, civic and public organizations.			
EAGLES Leadership Programming Across Sectors	Expand non-traditional leadership training and targeting to all sectors of the community to promote concept of personal development as the path to community development.			
First Works	Mentoring/supporting new technology graduates through process of developing new businesses in the region.			
Regional Historic Site Marketing	Identify regional historic sites and collaborative development activities.			
Youth Entrepreneurial Center	Entrepreneurial training and practice center for area youth.			
Regional Civic/Convention Center	Event/conference center to provide space for large attractions and events.			

Demographic Information: (Optional). We will use this information to identify pressing concerns among particular demographic groups. Feel free to leave sections blank.

<p><u>Gender:</u> Male _____ Female _____</p>	<p><u>Annual Household Income Level:</u> _____ Less than \$9,999 _____ \$10,000 - \$24,999 _____ \$25,000 - \$49,999 _____ \$50,000 - \$74,999 _____ \$75,000 - \$99,999 _____ \$100,000 +</p>
<p><u>Age Group:</u> _____ 18-24 _____ 25-35 _____ 36-45 _____ 46-55 _____ 56-65 _____ 65+</p>	<p><u>Marital Status:</u> _____ Married _____ Single</p>
<p><u>Ethnicity:</u> _____ Caucasian _____ African American _____ Asian _____ Hispanic/Latino _____ Other</p>	<p><u>Number of Dependents:</u> _____ 0 _____ 3 _____ 1 _____ 4 _____ 2 _____ 5+</p>

I live in (circle one):

Floyd County Giles County Montgomery County Pulaski County City of Radford other

I work in (circle one):

Floyd County Giles County Montgomery County Pulaski County City of Radford none other

I go to school in (circle one):

Floyd County Giles County Montgomery County Pulaski County City of Radford none other

If you are interested in updates concerning this process and the projects that result from your input, please print your name and e-mail address below. Thank you for your help!

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Please mail or fax this back to:

Marty Holliday
 New River Valley Planning District Commission
 6580 Valley Center Drive, Suite 124
 Radford, VA 24141
 540.831.6093