



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR  
**GROWTH &  
OPPORTUNITY**  
IN EACH REGION

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**AGENDA**  
**VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD**  
**Tuesday, June 10, 2025**  
**1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**  
[Virtual Link](#)

**If unable to join virtually, please dial for technical assistance: 1-804-773-9075**

- |      |  |          |               |
|------|--|----------|---------------|
| I.   | OPENING  |          |               |
|      | a. Call to Order   |          | Chair         |
|      | b. Introduction of New Members   |          | Chair         |
|      | c. Roll Call   |          | Cody Anderson |
|      | d. Public Comment  |          | Chair         |
| II.  | CONSENT AGENDA – <b>Action Item</b>  | (pg. 2)  | Chair         |
|      | a. March 11, 2025 Meeting Minutes  |          |               |
|      | b. FY26 Regional Per Capita and Competitive Allocation                         |          |               |
|      | c. FY26 Regional Capacity Building Allocation and Continuation of Match Waiver |          |               |
|      | d. FY26 Regional Capacity Building Budget Approvals                            |          |               |
|      | e. Board Bylaws  |          |               |
| III. | DEPUTY DIRECTOR’S REPORT   | (pg. 18) | Sara Dunnigan |
|      | a. <b>Action Item:</b> Per Capita Applications (8)                             |          |               |
|      | b. Max Regional Per Capita Carryover Allowance (Board Policy #14)              |          |               |
| IV.  | GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT   |          | Emily O’Quinn |
| V.   | REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT  |          | Leah Fremouw  |
| VI.  | INFORMATION ITEMS  | (pg. 50) | Sara Dunnigan |
|      | a. DHCD Administratively Approved Projects                                     |          |               |
| VII. | ADJOURNMENT  |          | Chair         |

**2025 Meeting Schedule**

September 9, 2025– BOARD RETREAT & Quarterly Meeting (Richmond, VA)  
December 9, 2025 - Virtual

## II. CONSENT AGENDA - ***Action Items***

- a. March 11, 2025 Meeting Minutes
- b. FY26 Regional Per Capita and Statewide Competitive Allocation
- c. FY26 Regional Capacity Building Allocation and Continuation of Match Waiver
- d. FY26 Regional Capacity Building Budget Approvals
- e. Approval of Board Bylaws



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**VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD MEETING**

**March 11, 2025**

**1:00 PM**

**Location:**

**Library of Virginia**

**1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room**

**800 E Broad St, Richmond, VA 23219**

Members Present

Nancy Howell Agee  
Reggie Aggarwal – Virtual  
The Honorable Steve Cummings  
Ben J. Davenport, Jr  
Senator Creigh Deeds  
W. Heywood Fralin  
Leah Fremouw  
Joel Griffin - Virtual  
Delegate Terry Kilgore - Virtual  
John King  
Senator L. Louise Lucas - Virtual  
Delegate Michelle Maldonado  
Senator Ryan McDougle – Virtual  
Emily O’Quinn  
Jon Peterson  
Fouad Qreitem  
Delegate Don Scott  
The Honorable Bryan Slater  
Todd A. Stottlemeyer

Members Absent

Jim Cheng  
Cliff Fleet  
Kenneth Johnson  
The Honorable Caren Merrick  
Delegate Luke Torian

Call to Order

Ms. Nancy Howell Agee, Chair of the Virginia Growth and Opportunity (GO Virginia) Board, called the meeting to order.

Chair Agee provided welcoming comments and formally welcomed

Joel Griffin and Secretary of Labor Bryan Slater to the Board.

Roll Call

Mr. Cody Anderson, GO Virginia Program Administrator for the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), called the roll and stated that a quorum was present.

Public Comment

Ms. Agee opened the floor for public comment.  
No members of the public appeared before the Board for the public comment period.

The public comment period was closed.

Consent Agenda

Ms. Agee noted that the consent agenda, including the December 10, 2024 meeting minutes, an extension to Board Policy #19: the Helene Business Recovery Initiative, and the accepted withdrawal of the Lee County, Western Lee Sewer Project Phase I-A would be voted on as a block.

A motion was made by Delegate Scott and seconded by Ms. O'Quinn to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed.

Presentations

Ms. Agee welcomed Ms. Erin Burcham, President of the Roanoke-Blacksburg Innovation Alliance to present on the emergence of the biotechnology cluster in GO Virginia Region 2.

Ms. Agee welcomed Ms. Julie Brown, Vice President of Advanced Learning at the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research to present on the Institute's progress toward expansion and evaluation of the Greater Opportunities in Technology and Engineering Careers Program (GO TEC).

Deputy Director's Report

Ms. Sara Dunnigan, Deputy Director of Economic Development and Community Vitality at DHCD, provided a brief overview of the application review process for GO Virginia grant applications.

Ms. Dunnigan presented the Board with 4 Per Capita applications regarding cluster scale-up, site development and infrastructure, and workforce development: Virginia Industry Implementation from Region 9, Rivanna Futures from Region 9, Electrical Technology Modernization Initiative from Region 1, and Economic Access Initiative from Region 5.

Ms. Dunnigan also presented the Board with 1 Competitive Fund Application: Minority Small Business Launch Center Expansion from Regions 4, 5, 6, and 7.

Ms. Agee noted that the Board would vote on the proposed projects as a block.

After discussion, a motion was made by Delegate Scott and seconded by Delegate Maldonado to approve the projects as recommended by staff. The motion passed.

Ms. Dunnigan provided the Board with an overview of two new application questions that staff will add as an addendum to the current application for site development and infrastructure projects. These two questions are designed to assess workforce housing planning as it relates to GO Virginia site investments for economic development purposes. Ms. Dunnigan noted that these questions help to address the Governor's Administration's request to consider the housing topic as outlined in Executive Order 42: Catalyzing Housing Development for Critical Workforce and Economic Needs with Interagency Collaboration.

Program Performance  
and Evaluation  
Committee Report

Ms. Agee recognized Mr. Stottlemeyer, Vice Chair of Program Performance and Evaluation, to provide an update for the Program Performance and Evaluation Committee. Mr. Stottlemeyer provided an update on Project VITAL, which was a series of applications that the Board approved contingent on execution of an MOU between the three applying organizations and a series of state agencies. Mr. Stottlemeyer announced that the MOU had been executed among all of the parties and that all three projects were under contract.

Governance and Policy  
Committee Report

Ms. Agee recognized Ms. O'Quinn, Chair of the Governance and Policy Committee to provide a report on the Committee's work.

Ms. O'Quinn presented the Board with a draft of proposed changes to the GO Virginia Bylaws. Ms. O'Quinn noted that the process for updating the bylaws requires presentation at a meeting and then approval of the presented changes at a future meeting of the Board. Ms. O'Quinn also noted that the presented bylaws required one change, that would grant the power to preside over the Board in the absence of the Chair during Board meetings to either the Vice Chair of Program Performance and Evaluation or the Vice Chair of Regional Councils.

A motion was made by Delegate Scott and seconded by Mr. King to amend the proposed bylaws to include language that would grant authority to the Chair of the Board to grant delegated authority to preside over the Board in their absence to either the Vice Chair of Program Performance and Evaluation or the Vice Chair of Regional Councils. In addition, the amended language shall include that, should the Chair of the Board be unable to delegate authority to preside over the Board, the Secretary of the Board shall exercise the power to delegate authority to preside over the Board to either the Vice Chair of Program Performance and Evaluation or the Vice Chair of Regional Councils. The motion to amend the proposed bylaw changes passed.

Ms. O'Quinn also noted that the Board would be considering elections for the Chair and Vice Chair of Program Performance and Evaluation at the September meeting. Ms. O'Quinn discussed that the Governance and Policy Committee is charged with serving as a nominating committee for those Board leadership positions and that any member who wishes to be considered or who wishes to nominate another member for a leadership position should contact either the Board Chair or the Chair of Governance and Policy. Ms. O'Quinn announced that the meeting to consider nominations for these positions will take place in July.

Regional Councils  
Committee Report

Ms. Agee recognized Ms. Fremouw, Vice Chair of Regional Councils, to provide an update on the Committee's work. Ms. Fremouw noted that the Committee met in February finalized and approved the Committee charter. Ms. Fremouw noted that the committee also discussed topics such as recruitment, leadership development, industry cluster alignment, project pipeline development.

Legislative Update

Ms. Agee recognized Mr. Bryan Horn, Director of the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, to provide a legislative update. Mr. Horn briefed the Board on House Bill 2397, which would allow the Board to consider activities and services that would negatively affect the ability of a Region to grow one or more traded sector industry.

Information Items

Ms. Agee noted that in the Board Packet, members can find a list of DHCD administratively approved items.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

## Board Action: GO Virginia Per Capita Allocation

**TITLE:** FY '26 Per Capita Allocation and Competitive Fund Redistribution

**BACKGROUND:** To align with the Board's June 4, 2024, action regarding FY 2025 per capita allocations, a request is being made to reallocate \$721,151 from the competitive pool to the per capita allocations, ensuring that each region receives a minimum of \$1,000,000.

**BUDGET LANGUAGE:** "[N2] Of the amounts provided in this paragraph, the appropriation shall be distributed as follows: ... (ii) \$16,900,000 the first year and \$16,900,000 the second year from the general fund shall be allocated to qualifying regions based on each region's share of the state population; and (iii) \$10,850,000 the first year and \$10,850,000 the second year from the general fund shall be awarded to regional councils on a competitive basis. [N3] The Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board may allocate monies among the distributions outlined in paragraph N.2. of this item to meet demonstrated demand for funds. However, only those regional councils whose allocation is less than \$1,000,000 in a fiscal year based on the region's share of state population shall be eligible to receive an additional allocation, and the amount shall be limited such that the total allocation does not exceed \$1,000,000 in a fiscal year."

**RECOMMENDATION:** A standard formula allocation of the \$16,900,000 FY 26 per capita allocation would result in three of the nine regions receiving less than \$1,000,000. As such, DHCD recommends that the Board move to create a floor of \$1,000,000 for these three regions by reallocating \$721,151 from the competitive pool to per capita. The competitive pool will be reduced from \$10,850,000 to \$10,128,849 while the per capita pool will be increased from \$16,900,000 to \$17,621,152. DHCD recommends approval of the above described FY26 per capita allocation contingent on the availability of resources allowed by the state budget.

### FY '26 PER CAPITA ALLOCATION SCENARIOS:

Region	FY25 Per Capita Allocation with \$1M Floor	FY26 Per Capita Formula Allocation	Recommended FY26 Per Capita Allocation with \$1M Floor
1	\$1,000,000	\$692,588	\$1,000,000
2	\$1,515,210	\$1,506,951	\$1,506,951
3	\$1,000,000	\$691,713	\$1,000,000
4	\$2,592,511	\$2,608,599	\$2,608,599
5	\$3,393,714	\$3,384,637	\$3,384,637
6	\$1,054,919	\$1,061,688	\$1,061,688
7	\$4,968,886	\$4,970,139	\$4,970,139
8	\$1,085,209	\$1,089,137	\$1,089,137
9	\$1,000,000	\$894,547	\$1,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,610,449</b>	<b>\$16,900,000</b>	<b>\$17,621,151</b>

**DATE APPROVED: 6.10.2025**





## Board Action: GO Virginia Capacity Building Allocation

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**TITLE:** FY '26 Capacity Building Match Requirement

**BACKGROUND:** To maintain consistency with the Board’s June 4, 2024, action regarding FY 2025 capacity building funds, it is requested that the Board waive the 1:1 match requirement for FY 2026 capacity building funds. This waiver would allow regions to prioritize matching funds for project implementation.

**BUDGET LANGUAGE:** “[N2] Of the amounts provided in this paragraph, the appropriation shall be distributed as follows: (i) \$2,250,000 the first year and \$2,250,000 the second year from the general fund shall be allocated to qualifying regions to support organizational and capacity building activities, which, notwithstanding § 2.2-2489, Code of Virginia, may not require matching funds if a waiver is granted by the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board to a qualifying region upon request.”

**RECOMMENDATION:** DHCD recommends that the Board approve a waiver of the 1:1 match requirement for the \$2,250,000 in FY 2026 capacity building funds (\$250,000 per region), contingent upon the availability of resources as authorized by the state budget.

### FY '26 CAPACITY BUILDING ALLOCATION SCENARIOS:

Region	FY '24 Capacity Building Allocations
1	\$250,000
2	\$250,000
3	\$250,000
4	\$250,000
5	\$250,000
6	\$250,000
7	\$250,000
8	\$250,000
9	\$250,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,250,000</b>

**DATE APPROVED: 6.10.2025**



## Board Action: GO Virginia Capacity Building Approved Budgets

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**TITLE:** FY '26 Capacity Building Approved Budgets

**BACKGROUND:** To maintain consistency with the Board's June 4, 2024, action regarding FY 2025 capacity building funds, it is requested that the Board approve the FY 2026 capacity building budgets submitted by the respective regional councils. One regional council has elected to submit its budget at the September 9, 2025, Board meeting to allow additional time for development.

**RECOMMENDATION:** DHCD recommends that the Board move to approve the submitted regional capacity building budgets.

**DATE APPROVED: 6.10.2025**

FY 26 GO Virginia Regional Capacity Building Budgets									
	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8	Region 9
Admin (General)					\$8,334		\$17,500		\$32,000
Audit			\$1,500		\$6,250		\$2,900	\$1,500	\$9,000
Contract Services	\$3,342	\$6,950	\$122,902				\$188,677	\$100,000	\$7,000
Fiscal /Accounting Services	\$18,519				\$12,500		\$5,000		
Legal Expenses							\$3,000	\$500	
Marketing, Outreach, and Websites	\$4,000		\$32,880		\$1,350	\$500	\$7,050	\$4,000	\$3,000
Meetings and Workshops	\$3,000		\$6,750		\$1,000	\$7,250	\$4,000	\$2,100	\$2,500
Rent	\$1,600				\$17,250				\$12,000
Salaries (Fringe if applicable)	\$210,539	\$232,895	\$84,000		\$146,112	\$219,688		\$130,000	\$177,000
Supplies & Equipment	\$3,000	\$6,155	\$150		\$5,000	\$3,750	\$2,450	\$1,500	\$2,500
Taxes and Insurance					\$2,004		\$5,673		
Travel	\$5,000	\$4,000			\$200	\$4,749	\$3,750	\$3,000	\$2,500
Program Support Total	\$249,000	\$250,000	\$248,182		\$200,000	\$235,937	\$240,000	\$242,600	\$247,500
Contract Services	\$1,000				\$50,000			\$7,400	\$2,500
Technical Assistance			\$568			\$5,586			
Growth and Diversification Plan Development			\$1,250			\$8,477	\$10,000		
Planning Grants									
Planning Total	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,818		\$50,000	\$14,063	\$10,000	\$7,400	\$2,500
Project Reserves	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000		\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000

Note: The region without a budget will submit their council approved FY26 regional capacity building budget at the September 2025 Board meeting.

## Memorandum

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**TO:** GO Virginia State Board

**FROM:** DHCD Staff

**RE:** GO Virginia Board Bylaws

**DATE:** 06/10/2025

**BACKGROUND:**

At the March 11, 2025, meeting of the GO Virginia State Board, the Board viewed proposed changes to the bylaws. These changes included the following:

- a) Updated the membership section to increase the number of members on the GO Virginia State Board from 24 to 25 and increasing the number of Cabinet members the Governor may appoint to the Board from 3 to 4. This change is reflective of legislative changes that took place during the 2024 General Assembly session.
- b) Updated the name of the Program Evaluation Committee to the Program Performance and Evaluation Committee, which better reflects the role of the Committee in reviewing the overall performance of the program.
- c) Removed language that makes membership on committees an appointed duty by the Chair and added language that clarifies that membership on each committee is accepted on a volunteer basis.
- d) Changed the committee structures to remove the Chair and each Vice Chair as automatic ex-officio members of all committees. Note that Board leadership may, on a volunteer basis, continue to serve on each committee should they so choose.
- e) Removed Article IX, which described requirements for Regional Council composition as well as setting the terms for Council members. Regional Councils are separate bodies governed by their own bylaws. In addition, the Regional Council composition is specifically set forth in the Code of Virginia.

In addition to these changes, a proposed change would have made either the Vice Chair for Program Performance and Evaluation or the Vice Chair for Regional Councils the presiding officer over meetings in which the Chair would not be present. This proposed change did not include a defined process for how the designation of the presiding officer would be determined. A motion was made at the March meeting to move forward with the proposed minutes with an amendment that would give authority to designate the presiding officer to the Chair, and in the event that the Chair is unable to make that designation, the authority would be granted to the Secretary. This language can be found in the redline version of the document attached to the memorandum.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends approval of the bylaws as presented.

# **VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD BYLAWS**

## **ARTICLE I            NAME**

The name of the board is the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board, hereinafter referred to as GO Virginia or Board.

## **ARTICLE II           AUTHORIZATION**

The Board was established pursuant to Title 2.2, Chapter 24, §§ 2.2-2484 through 2.2-2490 of the Code of Virginia (2016), as amended.

## **ARTICLE III          LOCATION**

The Office of the Board shall be in the Department of Housing and Community Development. Regular meetings of the Board will occur at designated locations in the Commonwealth.

## **ARTICLE IV          POWERS AND DUTIES**

The Board shall have all rights, powers and duties bestowed by and be subject to the limitations and restrictions set forth in the Code of Virginia or the Appropriations Act.

Board business shall be conducted in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Virginia Conflict of Interest Act (COIA) unless exempt pursuant to §2.2-3711. A.48 of the Code of Virginia.

## **ARTICLE V           MEMBERSHIP**

*Section 1*        Number, Appointment and Confirmation: (As established in the Code of Virginia, §2.2-2485 B)

The Board shall consist of twenty-five(25) members; fourteen (14) nonlegislative citizen members: two (2) appointed by the Governor not subject to confirmation by the General Assembly, eight (8) appointed by the Governor subject to confirmation by the General Assembly, two (2) appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and two (2) appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; seven (7) legislative members, and three (4) Cabinet Secretaries appointed by the governor to serve ex-officio terms.

*Section 2*        Term: (As established in the Code of Virginia, §2.2-2485 C)

Members appointed by the Governor and the General Assembly shall serve for terms not

to exceed four years and no nonlegislative member shall serve more than two successive full terms. The legislative members and Cabinet Secretaries shall serve terms coincident with their terms in office. No member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates shall serve more than four successive two-year terms and no member appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules shall serve more than two successive four-year terms.

## **ARTICLE VI            COMMITTEES**

### *Section 1                      Standing Committees*

The Board shall establish 4 standing committees: Executive Committee, Regional Council Committee, Program Performance and Evaluation Committee, and Governance and Policy Committee.

#### *(a) Executive Committee*

Members of the Executive Committee shall be the Chair, Vice Chairs, and the Chair of the Governance and Policy committee. The Board Chair shall serve as Chair of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall identify and set agenda items and propose and implement Board strategy.

#### *(a) Program Performance and Evaluation Committee*

The Program Performance and Evaluation Committee shall ensure that projects approved by the GO Virginia Board are meeting Board established criteria and are consistent with the GO Virginia mission by conducting a semiannual review of funded projects; assessing program performance, ensuring contract compliance of projects; and identifying projects that are scalable. The Vice Chair for Program Evaluation will Chair the Program Performance and Evaluation Committee. Any member may serve on the Program Performance and Evaluation Committee on a volunteer basis.

#### *(b) Regional Council Committee*

The Regional Council Committee shall be responsible to develop strategies to ensure communication between the Board and Regional Councils and create synergy among the GO Virginia regions by inviting feedback; sharing information on project focus and purpose; and ensuring that Regional Councils are briefed on direction and strategies for implementing the GO Virginia mission. The Vice Chair for Regional Councils will Chair the Regional Council Committee. Any member may serve on the Regional Council Committee on a volunteer basis.

#### *(c) Governance and Policy Committee*

The Governance and Policy Committee is responsible for establishing and implementing a policy for development of Board members; developing Board member orientation programs and periodic Board retreats; and developing recommendations to the Governor on policy matters consistent with the GO Virginia mission. The Chair shall appoint a Board member to serve as

Chair of the Governance and Policy Committee. Any member may serve on the Governance and Policy Committee on a volunteer basis.

## *Section 2*                      Other Committees

The Board may, from time to time, establish other committees to consider specific issues and provide guidance to the Board.

## *Section 3*                      Appointment and Removal

The Chair shall appoint the Chair of the Governance and Policy Committee and any other committee as provided in Article VII Section 2 of the Bylaws. The Chair may remove a committee Chair or committee member at any time.

# **ARTICLE VII                      OFFICERS**

## *Section 1*                      Election of Officers

The Board shall hold elections for the Chair, the Vice Chair for Regional Councils, and the Vice Chair for Program Performance and Evaluation at the first meeting of each fiscal year, as applicable. Legislative and ex-officio Board members shall not serve as Chair or Vice Chair. The Chair and Vice Chairs may serve a single two-year term that may be renewed for an extended term of one additional year.

## *Section 2*                      Duties of the Chair

The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Board at which the Chair is present and shall vote as any other member. The Chair may call special meetings as necessary and shall in general act as the Board's spokesman and perform such other duties as the Board may direct. The Chair shall have the authority to designate either the Vice Chair for Program Performance and Evaluation or the Vice Chair for Regional Councils to preside over meetings of the Board in which the Chair would be absent. Should the Chair be unable to make this designation for any reason, the power to designate either the Vice Chair for Program Performance and Evaluation or the Vice Chair for Regional Councils as the presiding officer shall be the duty of the Board's Secretary.

## *Section 3*                      Duties of the Vice Chair for Program Performance and Evaluation

~~The Vice Chair for Program Performance and Evaluation shall, in the absence of the Chair, and the Vice Chair for Regional Councils, have authority to perform all duties and exercise all powers of the Chair and shall perform other duties as the Board may direct.~~ The Vice-Chair for Program Performance and Evaluation shall be charged with conducting annual reviews of funded projects to assess program performance, ensure programmatic compliance, and identify projects that are scalable in accordance with Board policy. The Vice-Chair for Program Performance and Evaluation shall Chair the Program Performance and Evaluation Committee.

#### *Section 4*

#### Duties of the Vice Chair for Regional Councils

The Vice-Chair for Regional Councils shall be charged with coordination and oversight of the work of Regional Councils. The Vice Chair for Regional Councils shall be charged with development of strategies to ensure communication between the Board and Regional Councils, shall create synergy among the Regions, shall invite feedback from Regional Councils, share information on project focus and purpose, and ensure that Regional Councils are briefed on direction and strategies for implementing the GO Virginia mission. The Vice-Chair for Regional Councils shall Chair the Regional Council Committee.

#### *Section 5*

#### Designation of a Secretary

The Director of the Agency that has fiduciary responsibility for the Growth and Opportunity Fund shall serve as Secretary to the Board. The Board may designate and select someone else to serve as Secretary and to serve in that capacity as well.

#### *Section 6*

#### Duties of the Secretary

The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Board, keep a record of proceedings, and notify members of all meetings. In general, the Director shall perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and may also perform or direct Department staff to perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board. The Secretary is responsible for drafting the annual report on behalf of the Chair.

### **ARTICLE VIII      COMPENSATION**

Legislative members of the Board shall receive such compensation as provided in § 30-19.12, and nonlegislative citizen members shall receive compensation as provided in § 2.2-2813 for the performance of their duties. All members shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as provided in §§ 2.2-2813 and 2.2-2825.

### **ARTICLE IX      MEETINGS**

#### *Section 1*

#### Regular Meetings

Regular meetings may be held as determined by the Board; the Board must meet at least quarterly. Committee meetings will be held as needed at a time and place agreed to by the Board. The meeting notice of time, location and purpose shall be given to all Board members at least 30 days prior to the date of meeting. The Board will provide for public participation as directed by the Code of Virginia.

The Board will adhere to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Conflict of Interest Act (COIA) except as exempted pursuant to §2.2-3711. A.48 of the Code of Virginia.



## *Section 2*                      Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by and at the discretion of the Chair or shall be called by the Chair upon petition of three other Board members. At least 3 days' notice must be given to all Board members in writing or by telephone stating the time, place and purpose of the special meeting.

## *Section 3*                      Agenda

The Secretary, in consultation with the Chair, will prepare an agenda for distribution to the members prior to the regularly scheduled meetings. Any member may place an item on the agenda by providing notice to the Secretary fifteen days prior to the regular meeting. During a regular meeting of the Board and upon approval by a quorum of the Board, items not appearing on the agenda may be discussed under New Business and may be acted upon by the Board during the meeting or placed on the agenda for Board action during a later meeting.

## **ARTICLE X                      QUORUM**

A majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum. Any decision by the Board shall require an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Board present and voting.

## **ARTICLE XI                      PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

In all matters of procedure not specifically covered by these By-Laws, the most recent edition of Roberts Rules of Order shall be observed.

## **ARTICLE XII                      AMENDMENTS**

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the total members of the Board at any regular meeting. Action on amended bylaws may not take place at the meeting in which they are introduced. Action on amended bylaws shall take place a minimum of thirty days after proposed amendment introduction. The Bylaws shall be amended to conform to statutory requirements as required.

### III. DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

#### a. ***Action Items:***

- i. Per Capita Applications (8)
- b. Maximum Regional Per Capita Carryover Allowance (Board Policy #14)

## Per Capita Applications

## Cluster Scale-Up

## Per Capita Application

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### Innovation District

**Region:** 7

**Applicant(s):** George Mason University (GMU)

**Participating Localities:** Prince William County (cash match, in-kind match, and steering committee) and the City of Manassas (cash match and steering committee).

**Targeted Industries:** Life Sciences/Biotechnology, Emerging Technologies (includes Semiconductors and Electronics), Aerospace and Defense, Cybersecurity, and Data Infrastructure

**Investment Strategy:** Cluster Scale-up

**Type of Project:** Implementation

**Project Goal(s):** To implement a regional Innovation District that accelerates the growth of life sciences, biotechnology, and emerging technologies through coordinated workforce development, business attraction, commercialization support, and placemaking strategies.

#### **Project Description:**

This project marks the launch of the implementation phase for the Region 7 Innovation District, a regional innovation ecosystem centered on George Mason University's SciTech Campus in Prince William County. The district builds on the concept and groundwork developed through a prior GO Virginia planning grant to accelerate the growth of advanced industries, research commercialization, entrepreneurship, workforce development, and international business attraction. Spanning 3,800 acres and supported by cross-sector partnerships, the Innovation District aims to drive scalable, long-term economic growth across Northern Virginia.

#### *Innovation District Function and Purpose*

The project intends to support Virginia's statewide economic competitiveness by attracting private investment, advancing workforce training aligned with employer needs, fostering high-growth companies, and providing a soft-landing model for international business attraction. These outcomes align with Region 7's Growth and Diversification Plan and reflect broader Commonwealth goals related to innovation-led development, industry cluster growth, and regional collaboration. The initiative is guided by a regional steering committee and sustainability framework developed during the previous planning phase.

## Innovation District

### *Project Activities*

- *Establishing an Innovation Access Program* to support the commercialization of research and early-stage ventures. This program will provide early-stage ventures and university-affiliated startups with access to technical assistance and structured introductions to potential industry partners, buyers, and funders. It will include curated matchmaking events and a pilot program with a small cohort of companies to test and refine support services. The concept builds on existing models used in regional tech commercialization hubs, aiming to help local ventures bridge the gap between idea and market.
- *Develop and test a business attraction model for international companies*, positioning the Innovation District as a soft-landing zone for foreign firms seeking U.S. market entry and collaboration opportunities. The district will pilot a soft-landing zone model that includes tailored support services for international companies interested in establishing a presence in the region. These services will consist of site selection assistance, navigation of regulatory processes, and introductions to regional research partners. The goal is to refine a repeatable model for future use across the region.
- *Launch a Life Sciences Career Accelerator and Certificate Program* in partnership with George Mason University and Prince William County Schools to train displaced workers, high school students, and early-career talent for high-demand roles in the life sciences sector. The program will incorporate both lab-based and classroom instruction, aligning with employer hiring needs, and aims to serve as a replicable workforce pipeline model for the region. Specifically, launch an industry-informed and recognized life science certificate focused on laboratory skills and troubleshooting in good laboratory practices (GLP) and CAP/CLIA certified environments. This program will complement Northern Virginia Community College's (NVCC) biotechnology program by enhancing competency and offering upskilling and reskilling opportunities for current workers, including displaced federal employees.
- *Advance innovation district placemaking, branding, and governance best practices for the Commonwealth*. Drawing from top Innovation District models, the project includes the creation of a district-wide brand, wayfinding, and identity-building infrastructure. A regional steering committee and focused group, comprising GMU, the City of Manassas, Prince William County, the Prince William Chamber, and district-based businesses, will

## Innovation District

guide the branding, governance, and financial model. The planning study defined the governance model to include representation from local government, higher education, private sector leaders, and community partners. These strategies intend to support long-term district sustainability and enhance its appeal to businesses, workers, and investors.

### *GO Virginia Planning Grant Results*

This project builds on the outcomes of the 2023 Innovation District planning study, which included regional asset mapping, industry cluster analysis, and the development of a governance and sustainability framework. The study engaged over 50 stakeholders from local government, education, and private sectors and identified more than 150 innovation-related assets across Region 7. Demand for an Innovation District in Manassas was confirmed through interviews conducted with the GO Virginia Region 7 Life Science Workforce group and the Regional Entrepreneurship Initiative. The interviews also informed programs that would drive company recruitment, retention, and growth.

Type of Funds	Totals
<b>GO Virginia Request</b>	<b>\$ 2,604,410</b>
<b>Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$ 1,302,598</b>
Local Match	\$ 475,000
<b>Additional Leverage</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 3,907,008</b>

GO Virginia funds will be used for equipment, salaries and fringe benefits, contract services, travel, outreach, website development, supplies, rent and lease, fees and licenses, and grant management services provided by the support organization. Match for this project includes salaries/fringe (\$638,457 cash contribution and \$317,047 in-kind contribution), lab operation fees (\$200,000 in-kind contribution), outreach (\$23,543 cash contribution and \$30,000 in-kind contribution), and indirect costs (\$93,551 in-kind contribution).

### **Previous Grant Performance**

The applicant previously received a \$100,000 GO Virginia planning grant to establish the foundation for the Region 7 Innovation District. This effort included regional asset mapping, a scalable operations and sustainability framework, a proposed governance structure, and

## Innovation District

recommendations for future investments. The current implementation proposal builds directly on the findings of that planning phase.

In a separate effort launched in 2021, NANO-Imagine, the applicant received a \$2,500,000 GO Virginia award to support a nanotechnology workforce development program. This program utilizes a recently constructed 1,946-square-foot Nanofabrication Facility, which consists of a Class 1000 cleanroom and Class 100,000 characterization lab equipment purchased with GO Virginia funds. The project also supported the launch of high-tech startups in that sector via an Entrepreneurship Credential Class. The project committed to training 140 individuals, creating three new businesses, and securing employment for 185 individuals. To date, the project has reported 137 trainees and new industry partnerships with the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Fortescue, and Zestron. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2025.

### Project Impact/Outcomes:

- 216 people trained (including participants from the life science certification course, senior capstone projects, and the programming of the young professionals' network)
- 4 new businesses created
- 50 businesses served
- \$25M raised by businesses served
- 20 patents filed
- 117 jobs created
- 8 businesses attracted
- 12 existing businesses expanded

### Workgroup Discussion:

- Prince William County is providing a significant cash match.
- Strong coordination with VIPC and VEDP to define and promote consistency across Innovation Districts and explore shared tools, resources, and branding.
- Meaningful collaboration between NVCC, GMU, Manassas, Prince William, and district-based businesses represents a locally driven model, with the potential to inform a statewide Innovation District framework that supports replication and best-practice sharing across regions.
- Supported by a quarterly steering committee and focus groups, with regular partner meetings held over the past 18+ months to provide updates and gather input.

- Builds directly on the GO Virginia-funded planning phase, with clear continuity into implementation.
- Presents a strong placemaking opportunity through entrepreneurial and workforce initiatives tailored to the needs of high-tech industry partners.

#### DHCD Staff Recommendation:

Based on workgroup discussion and review, staff recommends the project for **approval, with a contingency that VIPC will participate in the Innovation District steering committee.**

Application Review Checklist	
<b>Economic Impact</b>	
Metrics and Outcomes Program Aligned and Defined	YES
Positive Return on Investment (3 or 5 years)	YES
<b>Regional Cooperation</b>	
Meaningful Local Participation	YES
Regional Plan Alignment (G&D, REI, or TPPI)	YES
Demonstrates Regional Coordination	YES
<b>Project Readiness</b>	
Defined Timeline and Milestones	YES
Budget Complete and Match Verified	YES
<b>Sustainability</b>	
Clear and Executable Plan	YES
Evidence of Sustained Demand for Project	YES



## Per Capita Applications

## Start-up Ecosystem

## Per Capita Application

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### SOVA Fab Lab at the SOVA Innovation Campus

**Region:** 3

**Applicant:** SOVA Innovation Hub Corporation

**Participating Localities:** Charlotte County (advisory committee), Halifax County (advisory committee), Mecklenburg County (advisory committee), Pittsylvania County (advisory committee), Town of South Boston (advisory committee), and the Town of Halifax (advisory committee)

**Targeted Industries:** Advanced Manufacturing and Information Technology

**Investment Strategy:** Startup Ecosystem

**Type of Project:** Per Capita Implementation

**Project Goal(s):** Establish a digital fabrication laboratory to support entrepreneurship and workforce development, in order to grow high growth sectors in the region.

**Project Description:** The SOVA Innovation Hub plans to establish the SOVA Fab Lab project, a state-of-the-art digital fabrication laboratory in South Boston to accelerate entrepreneurship, strengthen STEM talent pathways, and support regional innovation in Southern Virginia. The Fab Lab will serve as a hands-on learning and business incubation space, equipped with 3D printers, laser cutters, electronics workstations, and other digital fabrication tools that enable rapid prototyping and product development.

Led by the SOVA Innovation Hub, in partnership with Microsoft TechSpark and the Fab Foundation, the project is informed by the research, design, and programming models of a GO Virginia Region 3 planning grant awarded for the SEED Innovation Hub. The SOVA Innovation Hub aims to serve new entrepreneurs, existing businesses, and provide workforce skill training. The lab is intended to help transform the rural community by located within an underserved area where individuals have limited access to technology resources. The facility will also provide a platform for adult and youth workforce development by offering STEM education programs in partnership with schools, community colleges, and regional economic development organizations.

Through business-building workshops, technical training, mentor engagement, and open-access

## SOVA Fab Lab at the SOVA Innovation Campus

maker programs, the SOVA Fab Lab will support 100 businesses and engage at least 20 new mentors during the grant period.

Type of Funds	Totals
<b>GO Virginia Request</b>	<b>\$ 510,000</b>
<b>Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$ 260,000</b>
Local Match	\$0
<b>Additional Leverage</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 770,000</b>

GO Virginia funds will be used for equipment purchases, contracting services for equipment installation and training, program outreach, fiscal management by the subgrantee, and grant management services by the support organization. Match for this project includes contract services for a makerspace coordinator (\$150,000 cash contribution) and rent for physical space (\$110,000 in-kind contribution).

A full local match waiver is being requested which meets the criteria for fiscal stress.

**Previous Grant Performance (if applicable):** The SOVA Innovation Hub has previously served as a GO Virginia subgrantee, receiving two startup ecosystem grants: *Entrepreneur & Innovation* and, more recently, the *RISE Build-to-Scale Initiative*. Together, these awards total just over \$1 million. To date, the subgrantee has reported achieved outcomes of 258 entrepreneurs served, 41 jobs created, and 28 new businesses launched.

### Project Impact/Outcomes:

- 100 Businesses Served
- 20 Mentors engaged
- 84 jobs created

### Workgroup Discussion:

- Counties of Halifax, Mecklenburg, Pittsylvania; and the Towns of South Boston and Halifax will be engaged with the project through representation on the SOVA Fab Lab Liaison Committee.

## SOVA Fab Lab at the SOVA Innovation Campus

- The fab lab will coordinate with other fab labs and maker spaces in the region to avoid redundancy of programming and fill a gap within this subregion.
- Programming from previously funded RISE Build-to-Scale project will continue to offer early-stage services to founders.

### DHCD Staff Recommendation:

Based on the workgroup discussion and application review, staff recommends this project for approval and its accompanying local match waiver for approval.

Application Review Checklist	
<b>Economic Impact</b>	
Metrics and Outcomes Program Aligned and Defined	YES
Positive Return on Investment (3 or 5 years)	YES
<b>Regional Cooperation</b>	
Meaningful Local Participation	YES
Regional Plan Alignment (G&D, REI, or TPPI)	YES
Demonstrates Regional Coordination	YES
<b>Project Readiness</b>	
Defined Timeline and Milestones	YES
Budget Complete and Match Verified	YES
<b>Sustainability</b>	
Clear and Executable Plan	YES
Evidence of Sustained Demand for Project	YES

## Per Capita Application

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### Virginia Tidewater Aquaculture & Maritime Innovation Incubator Program

**Region:** 6

**Applicant(s):** Greater Reedville Association (GRA)

**Participating Localities:** Lancaster County (advisory board) and Northumberland County (cash match and advisory board)

**Targeted Industries:** Aquaculture

**Investment Strategy:** Startup Ecosystem

**Type of Project:** Implementation

**Project Goal(s):** To grow and expand regional entrepreneurship activity focused on the waterman industry.

**Project Description:** The Greater Reedville Association (GRA) has embarked on a multi-part approach to renovate Festival Halle, a former school building and now a community center, located in Reedsville, VA. The first element is converting a portion of the space into a commercial kitchen to help local waterman bring their products directly into the marketplace and expand into markets outside the region and state. The second element is implementing an incubator program to support small businesses through specialized resources, skill development, financial tools, and market expansion. The first phase of the incubator program will focus on training components to include:

1. Food safety
2. Marketing and branding
3. Human resources and human capital management
4. Small business operations, accounting, and financial management

The food safety training will focus on food safety and regulatory compliance specific to shellfish and seafood processing. Regulatory organizations include Virginia's Department of Health's Shellfish Safety Division and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. GRA has established a 12-week program that covers regulatory requirements, safety handling and storage practices, and other relevant topics. After completing the training, GRA will work with the Kilmarnock office of the VA Division of Shellfish Safety to coordinate watermen certifications.

## Virginia Tidewater Aquaculture & Maritime Innovation Incubator Program

The final design of the incubator programming sessions will be coordinated with the instructors, as managed by the advisory board and with help and guidance of multiple stakeholders including the Virginia Waterman's Association, the Oyster Growers Association, University of Mary Washington's Small Business Development Center, and the Rivers Region Entrepreneurial Ecosystem, Lancaster County, and Northumberland County, among others.

Type of Funds	Totals
<b>GO Virginia Request</b>	<b>\$ 280,800</b>
<b>Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$ 140,400</b>
Local Match	\$ 25,660
<b>Additional Leverage</b>	<b>\$ 103,186</b>
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 524,386</b>

GO Virginia funds will be used for equipment, installation of equipment, salaries for a portion of the program administrator, and grant management services by the support organization. Match for this project includes equipment and installation of equipment (\$64,990 cash contribution), cost share for the program coordinator's salary (\$54,750 cash contribution), and advisory group activities (\$20,660 in-kind contribution).

A local match waiver in the amount of \$2,420 is being requested.

### Project Impact/Outcomes:

- 27 jobs created
- 10 existing businesses expanded
- 20 businesses served
- \$190,000 total funds raised by businesses served

### Workgroup Discussion:

- Opportunity to help watermen scale up and sell their products directly to markets outside the state.
- A significant amount of cash match showing true cost share.
- Strong industry support from Virginia Waterman's Association and The Oyster Growers Association.
- Opportunity to have more structured programming through other support services to complement the proposed programming.

## Virginia Tidewater Aquaculture & Maritime Innovation Incubator Program

### DHCD Staff Recommendation:

Based on workgroup discussion and review, staff recommends the project for approval and its accompanying local match waiver for approval.

Application Review Checklist	
<b>Economic Impact</b>	
Metrics and Outcomes Program Aligned and Defined	YES
Positive Return on Investment (3 or 5 years)	YES
<b>Regional Cooperation</b>	
Meaningful Local Participation	YES
Regional Plan Alignment (G&D, REI, or TPPI)	YES
Demonstrates Regional Coordination	YES
<b>Project Readiness</b>	
Defined Timeline and Milestones	YES
Budget Complete and Match Verified	YES
<b>Sustainability</b>	
Clear and Executable Plan	YES
Evidence of Sustained Demand for Project	YES

# Per Capita Applications

## Workforce Development



## PER CAPITA APPLICATION

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### GOTEC Launch in the New River Valley and Roanoke County

**Region:** 2

**Applicant(s):** Montgomery County Public Schools

**Participating Localities:** Montgomery County (cash and in-kind), Roanoke County (cash and in-kind), Giles County (cash and in-kind), Pulaski County (cash and in-kind), City of Radford (cash and in-kind)

**Targeted Industries:** Transportation and Autonomy Manufacturing, Materials and Machinery Manufacturing, Life Sciences and Biotechnology, and IT, Engineering, and Emerging Technologies

**Investment Strategy:** Workforce Development

**Type of Project:** Implementation

**Project Goal(s):** To increase the pool of qualified workers supporting the Transportation and Autonomy Manufacturing, Materials and Machinery Manufacturing, Life Sciences and Biotechnology, and IT, Engineering, and Emerging Technologies industry clusters.

**Project Description:** Montgomery County, in partnership with Roanoke County, Giles County, Pulaski County, and the City of Radford, proposes launching the Great Opportunities in Technology and Engineering Careers curriculum in GO Virginia Region 2.

This project includes establishing a GO TEC training lab in the following schools: 1) Auburn Middle School (Montgomery County), 2) Hidden Valley Middle School (Roanoke County), 3) William Byrd Middle School (Roanoke County), 4) Narrows High School (Giles County), 5) Dalton Intermediate School (City of Radford), and 6) Pulaski county Middle School (Pulaski County).

This GO TEC launch will include hands-on experiential learning modules in automation & robotics, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, manufacturing engineering, metrology, precision machining, welding, IT coding, and networking, and healthcare technologies.

## GOTEC Launch in the New River Valley and Roanoke County

Type of Funds	Totals
<b>GO Virginia Request</b>	<b>\$ 994,212.64</b>
<b>Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$ 518,956.20</b>
Local Match	\$ 518,956.20
<b>Additional Leverage</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 1,513,168.84</b>

GO Virginia funds will be used for indirect costs, grant management by the grantee, and for equipment. The match for this project includes teacher salaries (\$378,530.01 cash contribution), supplies (\$16,513 cash contribution), contract services (\$40,000 cash contribution), and rent/lease space (\$83,913.19 in-kind contribution).

### Project Impact/Outcomes:

- 1135 people trained
- 1 new program/credential implemented

### Workgroup Discussion:

- This project demonstrates a strong collaboration between the five school districts that are participating, including in-kind and cash match contributions.
- The project applicant has demonstrated a strong collaboration with the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research and understanding of how the various GO TEC curricula will support technical skills necessary to build a workforce relevant to their area industries.

## GOTEC Launch in the New River Valley and Roanoke County

### DHCD Staff Recommendation:

Based on workgroup discussion and application review, staff recommends this project for **approval**.

Application Review Checklist	
<b>Economic Impact</b>	
Metrics and Outcomes Program Aligned and Defined	YES
Positive Return on Investment (3 or 5 years)	NO
<b>Regional Collaboration</b>	
Meaningful Local Participation	YES
Regional Plan Alignment (G&D, REI, or TPPI)	YES
Demonstrates Regional Coordination	YES
<b>Project Readiness</b>	
Defined Timeline and Milestones	YES
Budget Complete and Match Verified	YES
<b>Sustainability</b>	
Clear and Executable Plan	YES
Evidence of Sustained Demand for Project	YES

## Per Capita Application

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### SVCC Occupational Training Facility Expansion

**Region:** 3

**Applicant(s):** Southern Virginia Community College (SVCC) Foundation

**Participating Localities:** Nottoway County (in-kind match and regional workgroup), Town of Blackstone (regional workgroup), and Commonwealth Regional Council (regional workgroup on behalf of its member localities).

**Targeted Industries:** Energy-dependent sectors, including Information Technology & Communications and Manufacturing; Logistics & Transportation

**Investment Strategy:** Workforce Development

**Type of Project:** Implementation

**Project Goal(s):** To increase the pool of a qualified workforce and help meet the unmet demand for commercial truck drivers and power line workers in the region.

**Project Description:** This proposed project, through EDA and Tobacco Commission funding, calls for the construction of a 6,000+ square foot Power Line Worker Training School on a 4.82-acre lot. The site is adjacent to the current workforce development training center located at the Blackstone campus of Southside Virginia Community College (SVCC). In addition, the existing truck driver training range will be enlarged to facilitate an increase in the number of students to be served. The new construction will allow for an expansion of workforce development training opportunities in the power line worker and truck driving training programs. Specific beneficiaries include power-generating companies (such as Dominion Power), solar facilities, and other energy producers. Expansion of the truck driving training program will ensure products of advanced manufacturing businesses reach markets and customers in a timely manner.

GO Virginia funding will be used to complete the expansion project through the acquisition of technology equipment in the classrooms and two new semi-trucks and trailers, allowing more students to be served annually in the power line worker and truck driver training programs. Additionally, as the new training facility is built, existing classroom space will be reallocated to allow other programs to be expanded, including diesel mechanics/technicians, fiber and telecommunication installers and repairers, and solar photovoltaic installers.

## SVCC Occupational Training Facility Expansion

Type of Funds	Totals
<b>GO Virginia Request</b>	<b>\$ 570,000</b>
<b>Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$ 285,000</b>
Local Match	\$ 151,800
<b>Additional Leverage</b>	<b>\$ 3,136,457</b>
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 3,991,457</b>

GO Virginia funds will be used for technology and training equipment and grant management services by the support organization. Match for this project includes architectural and engineering services of the new building (\$133,200 cash contribution) and donated land from Nottoway County (\$151,800 in-kind contribution).

### Project Impact/Outcomes:

- 50 people trained
- 200 credentials awarded

### Workgroup Discussion:

- The recent attraction and growth of major employers in the region—along with the expansion of the Microsoft Data Center and multiple solar farms—has created significant demand to expand Southside Virginia Community College’s truck driving and power line training programs.
- Significant local investments from Nottoway County in the SVCC Blackstone campus over the years.
- Strong track record with SVCC placing program completers into employment.

## SVCC Occupational Training Facility Expansion

### DHCD Staff Recommendation:

Based on workgroup discussion and review, staff recommends the project for approval.

Application Review Checklist	
<b>Economic Impact</b>	
Metrics and Outcomes Program Aligned and Defined	YES
Positive Return on Investment (3 or 5 years)	YES
<b>Regional Cooperation</b>	
Meaningful Local Participation	YES
Regional Plan Alignment (G&D, REI, or TPPI)	YES
Demonstrates Regional Coordination	YES
<b>Project Readiness</b>	
Defined Timeline and Milestones	YES
Budget Complete and Match Verified	YES
<b>Sustainability</b>	
Clear and Executable Plan	YES
Evidence of Sustained Demand for Project	YES

## Per Capita Application

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### Advanced Engineering and Manufacturing Technician Program

**Region:** 4

**Applicant(s):** Rowanty Technical Center (with Prince George County Public Schools as the fiscal agent)

**Participating Localities:** Dinwiddie County Public Schools (cash), Prince George County Public Schools (cash), Sussex County Public Schools (cash)

**Targeted Industries:** Advanced Manufacturing

**Investment Strategy:** Workforce Development

**Type of Project:** Per Capita Implementation

**Project Goal(s):** To grow the pool of qualified workers in the advanced manufacturing industry by establishing new workforce credential programming.

**Project Description:** The Rowanty Technical Center seeks funding to establish an Advanced Manufacturing and Robotics Program serving Dinwiddie County, Prince George County, and Sussex County. The program would enable graduates to finish with a workforce readiness certification, forklift certification, OSHA10 certification, and Smarta Automation Certification Credentials. It would begin by focusing on high school students and eventually look to expand to adult learners and include work-based learning opportunities such as internships. The program looks to enforce talent pipelines by connecting with GO TEC programming offered in the localities for middle schoolers on one end, and with Brightpoint Community College programming for dual enrollment or after high school on the other.

#### Project Budget:

Type of Funds	Totals
<b>GO Virginia Request</b>	<b>\$ 520,000</b>
<b>Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$ 260,000</b>
Local Match	\$ 79,000
<b>Additional Leverage</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 780,000</b>

GO Virginia funds will be used for equipment for the programming, hardware/software for the programming, contractor work, and materials to prepare the classrooms for the equipment,

## Advanced Engineering and Manufacturing Technician Program

subgrantee grant administration, and support organization grant management. Matching Funds will be used for equipment costs (\$100,000 cash contribution), salaries and fringe for the course instructor (\$64,000 cash contribution), relevant CTE teaching certifications for the instructor (\$2,000 cash contribution), supplies for the program (\$10,000 cash contribution), student certification costs (\$3,000 cash contribution), salaries associated with grant administration (\$60,000 in-kind contribution), website development costs for the program (\$1,000 in-kind contribution), and remodeling work costs (\$20,000 in-kind contribution). Of the \$260,000 in total match, \$179,000 is cash match and \$81,000 is in-kind match.

### Project Impact/Outcomes:

- 40 people trained
- 20 job placements
- 20 businesses served
- 20 new interns placed
- 1 new apprenticeship created
- 1 new program implemented
- 120 credentials awarded
- 15 students completing dual enrollment programs

### Workgroup Discussion:

- Strong partnership between localities
- Alignment with broader workforce education initiatives, connecting middle school programming in participating school divisions before this program and community college programming for students following program completion.
- Meaningful cash match contributed to the project by regional partners

### DHCD Staff Recommendation :

Based on the workgroup discussion and application review, staff recommends this project for **approval**



## Advanced Engineering and Manufacturing Technician Program

Application Review Checklist	
<b>Economic Impact</b>	
Metrics and Outcomes Program Aligned and Defined	YES
Positive Return on Investment (3 or 5 years)	YES
<b>Regional Collaboration</b>	
Meaningful Local Participation	YES
Regional Plan Alignment (G&D, REI, or TPI)	YES
Demonstrates Regional Coordination	YES
<b>Project Readiness</b>	
Defined Timeline and Milestones	YES
Budget Complete and Match Verified	YES
<b>Sustainability</b>	
Clear and Executable Plan	YES
Evidence of Sustained Demand for Project	YES

## Per Capita Application

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### GO TEC Expansion

**Region:** 4

**Applicant(s):** The Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CCAM)

**Participating Localities:** City of Richmond (cash), Charles City County (cash and in-kind), Prince George County (cash)

**Targeted Industries:** Advanced Manufacturing, Information Technology, Bioscience, Logistics

**Investment Strategy:** Workforce Development

**Type of Project:** Per Capita Implementation

**Project Goal(s):** To create career exploration opportunities in targeted industries in GO Virginia Region 4 by creating Career Connection labs as a part of the GO TEC hub-and-spoke model.

**Project Description:** The Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CCAM) seeks funding to expand the reach of the GO TEC program in GO Virginia Region 4. This organization previously established GO TEC career connections labs in schools in Dinwiddie County, Surry County, Sussex County, the City of Petersburg, the City of Colonial Heights, and the City of Hopewell as part of a GO Virginia project, which was approved in June 2023. This project would add new career connections in middle schools in Charles City County, Prince George County, and in three middle schools in the City of Richmond.

#### Project Budget:

Type of Funds	Totals
<b>GO Virginia Request</b>	<b>\$ 970,835</b>
<b>Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$ 513,940</b>
Local Match	\$ 497,940
<b>Additional Leverage</b>	<b>\$ 104,661</b>
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 1,589,436</b>

GO Virginia funds will be used for equipment for career connections labs, outreach, subgrantee administration costs, and support organization grant administration costs. Matching Funds will be used for coordination fees (\$48,000 cash contribution), salaries and fringe for teachers (\$453,940 cash contribution), and lab space (\$12,000 in-kind contribution). Of the \$513,940 in total match, \$501,940 is cash match and \$12,000 is in-kind match.

## GO TEC Expansion

**Previous Grant Performance:** The applicant previously received a GO Virginia award of \$1,150,571 to establish Career Connections labs in six (6) localities. This grant is currently ongoing, and the project period will end in Summer 2025.

### Project Impact/Outcomes:

- 1,200 people trained

### Workgroup Discussion:

- Strong support from regional partners and coordination with these groups
- Good financial support for the project from participating localities
- Expansion will serve a new subregion in GO Virginia Region 4

### DHCD Staff Recommendation:

Based on the workgroup discussion and application review, staff recommends this project for **approval**.

Application Review Checklist	
<b>Economic Impact</b>	
Metrics and Outcomes Program Aligned and Defined	YES
Positive Return on Investment (3 or 5 years)	NO
<b>Regional Collaboration</b>	
Meaningful Local Participation	YES
Regional Plan Alignment (G&D, REI, or TPI)	YES
Demonstrates Regional Coordination	YES
<b>Project Readiness</b>	
Defined Timeline and Milestones	YES
Budget Complete and Match Verified	YES
<b>Sustainability</b>	
Clear and Executable Plan	YES
Evidence of Sustained Demand for Project	YES

## PER CAPITA Application

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### Expressway to Power

**Region:** 8

**Applicant(s):** Laurel Ridge Community College

**Participating Localities:** Clarke County (advisory), Frederick County (advisory), Page County (advisory), Shenandoah County (advisory), Warren County (advisory), City of Winchester (advisory), City of Front Royal (advisory)

**Targeted Industries:** IT and Emerging Technologies

**Investment Strategy:** Workforce Development

**Type of Project:** Implementation

**Project Goal(s):** To increase the pool of qualified workers supporting the IT and Emerging Technologies industry cluster.

**Project Description:** Laurel Ridge Community College proposes launching a new education-to-workforce powerline program. This program will include two entirely new curricula: Powerline Worker and Power Industry Fundamentals. In addition to these two curricula, Laurel Ridge will modify and customize existing Heavy Equipment Operation, CDL, and VDOT Flagger programs that will need to be modified to meet the unique specifications and requirements relevant to the powerline industry.

This proposal will include three cohorts trained in the above-noted curricula on Laurel Ridge's Middletown Campus and will also include a final experiential learning component that will be offered in partnership with Southside Virginia Community College at the Occupational Technical Center at Fort Barfoot in Blackstone, Virginia. A fourth cohort will also complete the training curricula and will be the first cohort to utilize the currently under-construction experiential learning facility at Laurel Ridge's Middletown campus.

## Expressway to Power

Type of Funds	Totals
<b>GO Virginia Request</b>	<b>\$ 401,374</b>
<b>Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$ 200,687</b>
Local Match	\$ 0
<b>Additional Leverage</b>	<b>\$ 792,920</b>
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 1,394,981</b>

GO Virginia funds will be used for equipment and curriculum development. Matching funds will be used for equipment (\$200,687 cash contribution).

A full local match waiver is being requested.

### Project Impact/Outcomes:

- 60 people trained
- 56 job placements
- 6 businesses served
- 56 apprenticeships created
- 3 new programs implemented
- 392 credentials awarded

### Workgroup Discussion:

- This project is an industry-led and informed initiative that includes private donations from Rappahannock Electric Cooperative, Dominion Power, River City Construction, and Mas Tec.
- This project also demonstrates multi-region collaboration through a partnership with Southern Virginia Community College through participating in curriculum development and integration, as well as shared use of an experiential learning facility in Blackstone, Virginia.

## Expressway to Power

### DHCD Staff Recommendation:

Based on workgroup discussion and application review, staff recommends this project for approval and its accompanying local match waiver for approval

Application Review Checklist	
<b>Economic Impact</b>	
Metrics and Outcomes Program Aligned and Defined	YES
Positive Return on Investment (3 or 5 years)	YES
<b>Regional Collaboration</b>	
Meaningful Local Participation	YES
Regional Plan Alignment (G&D, REI, or TPPI)	YES
Demonstrates Regional Coordination	YES
<b>Project Readiness</b>	
Defined Timeline and Milestones	YES
Budget Complete and Match Verified	YES
<b>Sustainability</b>	
Clear and Executable Plan	YES
Evidence of Sustained Demand for Project	YES

## Memorandum

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**TO:** GO Virginia Board Members

**FROM:** DHCD Staff

**RE:** Implementation of Maximum Per Capita Carryover Allowance – Board Policy #14

**DATE:** 6/10/2025

**BACKGROUND:** Pursuant to the second enactment of Item 115 #5c, subsection 5, of the 2022–2024 Biennium Budget, the Board was authorized to rescind per capita funds allocated to regional councils if a council’s unobligated balance exceeded its average annual per capita distribution. On December 13, 2022, the Board adopted Policy #14 to implement this authority. Rescissions under this policy take effect on the first day of each fiscal year.

**BUDGET LANGUAGE:** 5. The Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board may rescind funds allocated to regional councils on a per capita basis if the unobligated balances of a regional council exceed its average annual per capita distribution award. Any funds rescinded pursuant to this paragraph shall be retained in the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Fund (09272) and may be used by the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board for grant awards to competitive projects. The Department shall notify the Chairs of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees within 10 days of the decision by the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board to rescind regional per-capita allocations. The regional council, the amount, and the reason for unused funds shall be included in such notice.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Regions 5 and 7 are projected to have year-end per capita fund balances that exceed their prior year allocations. In accordance with Board Policy #14, an estimated \$1.7 million will be reallocated to the Competitive Fund. DHCD will finalize the calculation and notify the Chairs of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees, as outlined above.

## VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

### a. DHCD Administratively Approved Projects



# Administratively Approved Planning Grant Applications

## Planning Grant Application

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### Microreactor Feasibility Study

**Region:** 1

**Applicant(s):** Wise County

**Participating Localities:** Lee County (advisory), Wise County (advisory), Scott County (advisory), Dickenson County (advisory), City of Norton (advisory)

**Investment Strategy:** Cluster Scale-Up

**Targeted Industries:** IT and Energy and Minerals

**Type of Project:** Planning Grant

**Project Goal(s):** To determine the feasibility of deploying nuclear microreactors as an alternative energy source that would help bolster the growth potential for future business development in Region 1.

**Project Description:** The applicant will issue a Request for Qualifications to procure a consultant that will study the feasibility of utilizing nuclear microreactors to produce alternative power sources for business growth in Wise County. This feasibility study will include an analysis of existing infrastructure that would be adequate for supporting a microreactor, as well as a determination of additional infrastructure investments that would need to occur in order to deploy a microreactor. The feasibility study will also include a detailed economic analysis that will provide localities with necessary data on direct and indirect economic impacts, additional expected capital expenditures, job creation, and long-term revenue potential.

## Microreactor Feasibility Study

### Project Budget:

Type of Funds	Totals
<b>GO Virginia Request</b>	<b>\$ 100,000</b>
<b>Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>
Local Match	\$ 0
<b>Additional Leverage</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 150,000</b>

GO Virginia funds would be used for hiring a contracted entity to develop the microreactor feasibility study, including an inventory of existing infrastructure that could support a reactor. The match for the project will also be utilized for the hiring of the contracted entity for the same scope of work of this project (cash).

### Products

- Microreactor Feasibility Study

### Staff Discussion:

- The applicant states that microreactors are a potential strategy for expanding electrical capacities that could support high-power usage industries such as data centers.
  - This strategy is likely intended to mirror similar efforts in Haskell County, Texas, where a microreactor company is producing 30 microreactors with the express purpose of powering data centers.
  - Data centers are an extremely high power usage industry that Southwest Virginia is likely unable to accommodate without significant additional investments in energy capacity.
  - Data Centers are a high tax revenue-generating industry that requires little workforce to achieve. It's estimated that other data center projects, such as the Microsoft data center in Mecklenburg County, provide upwards of 40% of the total tax revenue for the locality.
  - Based on a range of assumptions and the current market, it could take as many as 20 microreactors to power a large data center and would likely cost several hundred million dollars to build – though a large end user would allow a positive ROI in 20 or so years.

## Planning Grant Application

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### ShenValley Meat Processing Cooperative

**Region:** 8

**Applicant(s):** Page County

**Participating Localities:** Page County (cash), Shenandoah County (advisory), Rockingham County (advisory), Augusta County (advisory)

**Investment Strategy:** Cluster Scaleup

**Targeted Industries:** Agriculture and Value Added Food

**Type of Project:** Planning Grant

**Project Goal(s):** To grow and diversify the regional economy by creating a meat processing cooperative and shared services model for cattle producers both within the Region 8 footprint and expanding into other GO Virginia Regions.

**Project Description:** The applicant, Page County, will work to develop a business plan for the creation of a meat processing facility and cooperative that will serve GO Virginia Region 8, as well as other meat processors statewide. This business plan will include the following components:

1. Research and development of the most effective structure and governance for the cooperative.
2. Identification of key partner relationships for services that would not be handled by the facility, including harvesting and live receiving.
3. Development of and execution of legal agreements between the public and private partnering entities, including outlining roles and responsibilities, commitments, and the governance structure.
4. Research and development of generic facility designs, including defining necessary components of the facility, such as cooler areas, cold storage, and cattle receiving.
5. Development of a sustainability strategy, including identification of additional funding partners and fundraising strategies for private investment.

## ShenValley Meat Processing Cooperative

### Project Budget:

Type of Funds	Totals
<b>GO Virginia Request</b>	<b>\$ 87,450</b>
<b>Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$ 43,725</b>
Local Match	\$ 30,000
<b>Additional Leverage</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 131,175</b>

GO Virginia funds will be used for legal expenses for the development of legal agreements and securing commitments from partner organizations to participate in the processing steps, to develop a legal agreement supporting the public-private partnership, to develop a private investor package, to develop generic floor plans, and for grant administration. The match for this project will be for the development of facility designs (\$30,000 cash contribution) and for professional services and consulting (\$13,725 in-kind).

### Products

- Comprehensive Cooperative Business Plan

### Staff Discussion:

- The Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission completed a study in 2021 highlighting the critical bottleneck in regional meat processing infrastructure and identified the need for a centralized facility to address these challenges. The applicant directly references this study as evidence for the need for this facility.
- The facility is envisioned to serve both the Shenandoah Valley and other producers throughout the state that otherwise must send their cattle out of state for processing.
- The applicant notes that they will not likely move forward with GO Virginia implementation.
- The applicant has demonstrated a strong understanding of the partners required to develop this facility, including noting their intent to work with partners such as VDACS and the Virginia Cooperative Extension through Virginia Tech. There are also commitments to participate and invest in the vision by private partners, expressly Shenandoah Valley Foods.

## Planning Grant Application

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### Innovation Corridor Roadmap

**Region:** 9

**Applicant(s):** Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development

**Participating Localities:** Albemarle County (cash), Greene County (cash), Fauquier County (cash and in-kind), Orange County (cash), City of Charlottesville (cash), Central Virginia Partnership on behalf of its member localities (in-kind)

**Investment Strategy:** Cluster Scaleup

**Targeted Industries:** Biomedical and Biotechnology; IT & Communicaitons; Light Manufacturing

**Type of Project:** Planning Grant

**Project Goal(s):** To grow and diversify the regional economy by creating an action plan for growing innovation industries in GO Virginia Region 9.

**Project Description:** The Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development requests GO Virginia funds to identify subsectors with competitive advantages and growth opportunities within biotechnology and information technology in the region. In recent years, the region has seen a number of public and private investments in these industries. This effort would look to build on those by evaluating what assets the region possesses, where growth in these target industries is projected, and combining the two to inform what next steps should be taken to ensure growth. In addition to the region's growth and diversification plan and VEDP's InnoVAtive Framework, the proposed planning activities build on recommendations that arose out of combined Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) planning undertaken recently by the two Planning District Commissions in the region. A steering committee consisting of representatives from localities and members of industry will meet every two months during the grant period to provide feedback and guidance to the project team.

## Innovation Corridor Roadmap

### Project Budget:

Type of Funds	Totals
<b>GO Virginia Request</b>	<b>\$ 100,000</b>
<b>Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$ 75,000</b>
Local Match	\$ 35,000
<b>Additional Leverage</b>	<b>\$ 20,000</b>
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 195,000</b>

GO Virginia funds would be used for contract service expenses for hiring a consultant to prepare the plan and support organization administration costs. Matching funds would be used for cost-share on the contract service expenses for the consultant, in-kind staff time for individuals on the advisory committee, and outreach material costs. Of the \$80,000 in matching fund, \$62,500 is cash match and \$17,500 is in-kind match.

### Products

- Quantitative Assessment of Regional assets in core industry focus areas
- Identification of High-Growth Opportunities within these focus areas
- Situational Assessment of region
- Preparation of strategic roadmap for region, to include strategies for implementation

### Staff Discussion:

- Strong regional collaboration. Multiple localities providing cash, UVA and community colleges are involved, PDCs are involved, and there is industry representation
- Strong connections to “Super-CEDS” plan completed by the PDCs in the region recently
- Good opportunities to take findings from study and convert into actionable implementation ideas