

# COUNTY CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the  
Virginia Association of Counties

August 2, 2017



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## State proposes model to grade Counties on their fiscal health



[Budget language](#) adopted in 2017 directs the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA), Martha S. Mavredes, to establish a work group to develop an “early warning system” for localities in fiscal distress. This system is intended to allow the state to flag certain localities determined to be in financial trouble for certain follow-up actions, including potential state intervention. Ms. Mavredes held a meeting with the workgroup on July 31 to unveil a proposed model to evaluate local fiscal stress; this tool is based on Louisiana’s Financial Assessment Model (FAM) and uses factors such as a locality’s ratio of reserves relative to its liabilities and its sufficiency of reserves relative to its General Fund revenue. APA staff ran data from localities’ Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports from Fiscal Years 2014, 2015, and 2016 through the model to generate sample scores. These scores, as well as information on the ratios used in the model, were circulated to county administrators for review this week.

As envisioned by the APA, if a locality’s FAM score fell below a certain threshold, the APA would follow up with a questionnaire that would probe certain qualitative factors affecting a locality’s financial situation, such as whether a locality was delinquent in making required contributions to the Virginia Retirement System or experienced any significant problems in collecting receivables in the current or prior fiscal year. The draft questionnaire also asks whether “external factors,” such as unfunded mandates or a change in the local economy, affected the locality’s budget. The draft questionnaire was also circulated to county administrators for review.

A challenge facing the workgroup is addressing the potential unintended consequences of encapsulating a locality’s financial situation, which may be affected by factors outside its control, in a numerical score. Members of the workgroup are in agreement that contextual information will be important in making determinations about local fiscal stress.

**Counties are encouraged to review the proposed model and questionnaire to determine whether they will present an accurate picture of a locality’s financial health.**

Comments on the proposed FAM model and questionnaire may be directed to VACo staff (Katie Boyle | [kboyle@vaco.org](mailto:kboyle@vaco.org) and Dean Lynch | [dlynch@vaco.org](mailto:dlynch@vaco.org)). In addition, VACo will be hosting a webinar with Ms. Mavredes and her staff in the near future, which will afford local representatives the opportunity to ask questions as well as offer suggestions for improvements.

VACo Contacts: [Dean Lynch, CAE](#) and [Katie Boyle](#)

# 2017 VACo County Officials' Summit

9 a.m. | Monday, August 21, 2017 | DoubleTree by Hilton Charlottesville | [Agenda](#)



## Ed Gillespie and Ralph Northam to speak at the VACo County Officials' Summit

*Lieutenant Governor candidates Fairfax and Vogel will also speak*

On Tuesday, November 7, Virginians will elect the next Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General as well as 100 Delegates. This important election day will certainly impact counties and local governments.

VACo is excited to announce that **Ed Gillespie** and **Lieutenant Governor Ralph Northam** will separately share their vision for Virginia with county supervisors, administrators and staff at the County Officials' Summit.

VACo is also pleased to welcome **Justin Fairfax** and **Senator Jill Vogel**, who will also speak separately and discuss their policy proposals.

[Register today](#) to join your peers in Charlottesville on August 21 for the County Officials' Summit. The event runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch is provided with event registration.

VACo Steering Committees will meet from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**VACo Members - Send us your questions for the speakers. Please email [gcharter@vaco.org](mailto:gcharter@vaco.org) with your name, county and question. Please indicate the speaker you wish to address.**



**ED  
GILLESPIE**



**RALPH  
NORTHAM**



**JUSTIN  
FAIRFAX**



**JILL  
VOGEL**

[REGISTRATION FORM](#) | [REGISTER ONLINE](#) | [AGENDA](#)

## Ruby Brabo elected to NACo Executive Committee

King George County Chair Ruby Brabo was elected on July 24 to serve a two-year term on the NACo Executive Committee. Her selection as South Region Representative came at the NACo Annual Conference in Franklin County, Ohio.

“I am honored and excited about the opportunity to represent my county and Virginia on the NACo Executive Committee,” Brabo said. “I believe this will afford us many more connections and opportunities through networking, which is a key component of being involved with NACo. The benefits of being involved with NACo and VACo have already been well demonstrated through the issues of fracking, solar farms and the EPA setting of local targets.”

Brabo has served on the King George County Board since 2011. Her home county’s strong military presence and its obligations toward the Chesapeake Bay Watershed have given Brabo an appreciation for how deeply federal policy can affect local government.

Brabo has served as Vice Chair of NACo’s Veterans and Military Services Committee, where she worked to bring the voices of veterans to policy makers. She is also a member of the Rural Action Caucus and the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee.

“Ruby’s election as South Region Representative on the NACo Executive Committee is not only important for our Commonwealth but for the entire South,” VACo Executive Director Dean Lynch said. “Ruby’s service to her home county of King George has been transformative and if there’s one thing we know about Ruby – it’s her willingness to fight for what she believes in. VACo stands by and supports Ruby as she begins her service as NACo South Region Representative.”

The South Region Representative’s area of coverage spans the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.



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## Kincannon Appointed Acting Fairfax County Executive

Fairfax County Park Authority Executive Director Kirk Kincannon has been appointed Acting County Executive by the Board of Supervisors, effective September 16. Kincannon will serve in the position until a permanent appointment is made. County Executive Ed Long retires on September 15.

Kincannon has been Executive Director of the Fairfax County Park Authority since January 2014, overseeing a three-time National Gold Medal award-winning agency and recognized national leader in environmental stewardship, historic and natural resource preservation, park and recreation facility design, innovation, inclusive programs and innovation. The Park Authority includes 425 parks encompassing over 23,000 acres of parkland, historic properties, recreation centers, golf courses and nature centers.

Kincannon previously served as Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Boulder, CO. He was the City of Alexandria’s Director of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities for five years and deputy director for four years. He is a native of Fairfax County.



Long announced his retirement in early May. He has served as the county’s administrative leader since April 2012 and has worked for Fairfax County for almost 40 years, including as Director of the Department of Management and Budget and Deputy County Executive/Chief Financial Officer.

Novak Consulting Group is assisting the Board of Supervisors and the Department of Human Resources with the search process.

## **Commonwealth Transportation Board revises revenue sharing guidelines**

On July 19, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) approved revisions to the Revenue Sharing CTB Policy and Guidelines. A subcommittee appointed by CTB considered comments from various stakeholders, including VDOT District Staff and Local Governments.

The entire document, entitled "Revenue Sharing Program Guidelines," may be found at this link: [http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/local\\_assistance/Revenue\\_Sharing\\_Program\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/local_assistance/Revenue_Sharing_Program_Guidelines.pdf).

Here are some of the highlights contained in the "Guidelines":

- The total funds available each fiscal year for revenue sharing will be determined by the CTB. The maximum annual allocation will be \$200 million, with the minimum allocation being \$15 million.
- A locality may apply for a maximum of \$5 million in matching allocations per fiscal year (\$10 million on a biennial cycle) and the maximum lifetime matching allocation per project is limited to \$10 million.
- Priority will be given to projects that meet a transportation need identified in the Statewide Transportation Plan (VTRANS) or to projects that can accelerate advertisement of a project in a locality's capital improvement plan
- Construction and maintenance projects will be evaluated and prioritized for funding as follows:
  - Priority 1 – construction projects that have previously received Revenue Sharing Funding as part of Program application process.
  - Priority 2 – construction projects that meet a transportation need identified in the Statewide Transportation Plan (VTRANS) or when funding will accelerate advertisement of a project in a locality's capital improvement plan.
  - Priority 3 – projects that address deficient pavement resurfacing and bridge rehabilitation.
  - Priority 4 – All other eligible projects.
- A locality must commit to its matching fund allocations at the time its application for funding is submitted. A resolution from the locality which includes its commitment to fully fund the project is also required.
- The local matching funds must be collected prior to the beginning of work.

The next application cycle for Revenue Sharing projects will begin August 1 and will be for a two-year cycle. Counties will receive an official invitation to apply for Revenue Sharing Program funding in the upcoming weeks. Contact Julie Brown ([Julie.Brown@VDOT.Virginia.gov](mailto:Julie.Brown@VDOT.Virginia.gov)) or Debbi Webb-Howells (804.786.1519 or [Debbi.Webb-Howells@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:Debbi.Webb-Howells@vdot.virginia.gov)) with questions about revisions in the Revenue Sharing Program.

**VACo Contacts:** [Joe Lerch, AICP](#) and [Larry Land, CAE](#)

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## **Webinar tentatively scheduled on Revenue Sharing Revisions**

VDOT has tentatively scheduled a webinar to review the changes and answer any questions on August 17 at 10 am. VDOT will also use this opportunity to discuss the new two-year application cycle and the online application process. VDOT is asking all interested persons to register for participation in the webinar at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HJPJYYZ>, so that participants can be emailed log-on instructions and any updates or changes to the schedule.

## Visit Rockingham County and the Turkey Statues



Visit Rockingham County and the Turkey Statues  
Rockingham County boasts hundreds of turkey farms and has a proud tradition that dates back to the Roarin' 20s.

"The modern turkey industry has its roots in Rockingham County," said Hobey Bauhan, President of Virginia Poultry Federation, in a 2011 interview. "Back in the 1920s, a man named Charles Wampler, Sr., experimented with incubating turkey eggs and raising turkeys in confinement. He was successful and that was really the genesis of the modern turkey industry."

The industry grew in Rockingham, so much that in the 1950s, the county adopted the moniker, "Turkey Capital of the World."

Enter the locality on Route 11 from the north or south and you'll see beautiful bronze statues of turkeys that were erected in the 1950s.



# Mark Your Calendars



## Regional FirstNet/AT&T State Plan Conferences



As recently reported in the news, Virginia became the first state to “opt in” to FirstNet, the national First Responder Network Authority created under federal law in 2012. The purpose of FirstNet is to build an “interoperable” public safety broadband network so that first responders will have a reliable and robust communications system to handle crisis situations.

These sessions will provide attendees with an explanation of FirstNet’s proposed Virginia State Plan, Virginia’s actions to study the Plan, and various technologies that will leverage Virginia’s future public safety dedicated broadband network. Attendees will have a chance to ask questions, which enables sponsors to collect feedback for review and analysis of FirstNet’s impact on the Commonwealth.

See the conference schedule below and register for the one nearest you. **NOTE:** the hyperlinks allow for direct registration to attend.

VACo Contacts: [Joe Lerch, AICP](#) and [Phyllis Errico, Esq.](#)

Regions are hyperlinked	Password all CAPS and the #
<a href="#">Region I</a> <b>September 12, 2017</b>   Eanes-Pittman Safety Training Center   Chesterfield, VA <a href="#">INFORMATION FLYER</a>	REGION1
<a href="#">Region II</a> <b>August 17, 2017</b>   Germanna Community College   Culpeper, VA <a href="#">INFORMATION FLYER</a>	REGION2
<a href="#">Region III</a> <b>August 23, 2017</b>   Liberty Mountain Conference Center   Lynchburg, VA <a href="#">INFORMATION FLYER</a>	REGION3
<a href="#">Region IV</a> <b>August 9, 2017</b>   Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center   Abingdon, VA <a href="#">INFORMATION FLYER</a>	REGION4
<a href="#">Region V</a> <b>September 27, 2017</b>   Mariner’s Museum   Newport News, VA <a href="#">INFORMATION FLYER</a>	REGION5
<a href="#">Region VI</a> <b>September 19, 2017</b>   The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center   Roanoke, VA <a href="#">INFORMATION FLYER</a>	REGION6
<a href="#">Region VII</a> <b>August 30, 2017</b>   Prince William County & Fire Rescue Training Center   Nokesville, VA <a href="#">INFORMATION FLYER</a>	REGION7

NEWS FROM OUR  
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

## Siemens and AES join forces to create Fluence, a new global energy storage technology company

*Fluence combines the extensive technology expertise, unique energy storage market experience, and global reach of Siemens and AES to offer proven and cost-competitive energy storage systems for a rapidly transforming sector.*

*Fluence will deliver the Advancion and Siestorage energy storage platforms and will continue to develop new storage solutions and services, reaching customers in over 160 countries.*

*The transaction is expected to close in the fourth quarter of calendar year 2017 following regulatory approvals.*



Siemens AG (“Siemens”) and The AES Corporation (NYSE: AES, “AES”) announced on July 11 their agreement to form a new global energy storage technology and services company under the name Fluence. The joint venture will bring together AES’ ten years of industry-defining experience deploying energy storage in seven countries with over a century of Siemens’ energy technology leadership and its global sales presence in more than 160 countries. Combining the proven AES Advancion and Siemens Siestorage energy storage platforms with expanded services, Fluence will offer customers a wider variety of options to meet the challenges of a rapidly transforming energy landscape. The company will empower customers around the world to better navigate the fragmented but rapidly growing energy storage sector and meet their pressing needs for scalable, flexible, and cost-competitive energy storage solutions.

Siemens and AES will have joint control of the company with each holding a 50 percent stake. Fluence’s global headquarters will be located in the Washington, DC area with additional offices located in Erlangen, Germany and select cities worldwide. The transaction is expected to close in the fourth quarter of calendar year 2017, subject to regulatory and other approvals.

Fluence will operate independently of its parent companies, combining the robust capabilities and expertise from Siemens’ battery-based energy storage solutions group under the Energy Management division with AES’ subsidiary, AES Energy Storage. AES and Siemens are currently ranked among the leading energy storage integrators worldwide by Navigant Research. Together, the two companies have deployed or have been awarded 48 projects totaling 463 MW of battery-based energy storage across 13 countries, including the world’s largest lithium-ion battery-based energy storage project near San Diego, California.

“As the energy storage market expands, customers face the challenge of finding a trusted technology partner with an appropriate portfolio and a profound knowledge of the power sector. Fluence will fill this major gap in the market. With the global reach of an experienced international sales force as well as Siemens’ leading technology platform Siestorage at its disposal, Fluence will be perfectly equipped to serve this very interesting market,” said Ralf Christian, CEO of Siemens’ Energy Management Division.

“Over the past ten years, AES has become a global leader in utility-scale, battery-based energy storage. Today AES’ Advancion platform is present in seven countries with more than 200 MW of energy storage deployed, including the largest installed system of its kind in the world,” said Andrés Gluski, AES President and CEO. “Partnering with Siemens to form Fluence will offer both large and small customers the full gamut of proven, state-of-the-art energy storage solutions in over 160 countries. This will accelerate the integration of renewables into the energy network of tomorrow.”

The grid-connected energy storage sector is expected to expand from a total installed capacity of three gigawatts (GW) at the end of 2016 to 28 GW by 2022 according to IHS Markit, which is equivalent to the power used by 18.6 million households. By incorporating energy storage across the electric power network, utilities and communities around the world will optimize their infrastructure investments, increase network flexibility and resiliency, and accelerate cost-effective integration of renewable electricity generation.

The AES Advancion and Siemens Siestorage technology platforms each support a multitude of energy storage applications, together representing an industry-leading suite of choices for customers. Siemens brings its experience in microgrid and islanding applications, renewable hybrid technology, black-start capability, and consumer peak shaving, building on its intimate knowledge of customer power needs as a leading global original equipment manufacturer (OEM). AES brings its deep expertise in utility-scale battery-based energy storage solutions for flexible peaking capacity, ancillary services such as frequency regulation, transmission and distribution reliability, and renewable integration applications dating back a decade and representing several of the largest energy storage installations in the world.

To learn more about Fluence, visit [www.fluenceenergy.com](http://www.fluenceenergy.com).

Watch the announcement at [www.siemens.com/press/fluence](http://www.siemens.com/press/fluence).

# VACo Regional Meeting

Join us on August 10 | Region 6 | Clarke County

## VACo Members -

We are excited to bring a 2017 Regional Meeting to VACo Region 6. Regional representatives are invited to attend and will soon receive an informational email. This is an opportunity for county elected officials to share local and regional problems and solutions. We expect an open discussion and your attendance adds to the value of the meeting.

We also invited all state legislators in the VACo Region 6 area. The event format allows for lawmakers to hear your concerns and answer some of your questions.

The meeting includes an educational presentation as well as a session that gives local representatives an opportunity to share their issues. We encourage you to attend and represent your county.

Please RSVP to Valerie Russell at [vrussell@vaco.org](mailto:vrussell@vaco.org).

[Click here to view informational flier.](#)

VACo Contact: [Joe Lerch, AICP](#)



The Virginia Association of Counties invites you to join us at the 2017 VACo Region 6 meeting on **Thursday, August 10 from 6 to 8 p.m.** at John H. Enders Fire Company Social Hall, 9 South Buckmarsh Street, Berryville, VA 22611.

Expected attendance includes Board Chairs, Vice Chairs, Supervisors, Legislators, Planning District Commissioners and County Administrators and Executive Staff from Clarke, Frederick, Greene, Madison, Page, Shenandoah and Warren Counties.

## VACo 2017 Region 6 Meeting Agenda

### WELCOME

Barbara J. Byrd | Supervisor, Clarke County & Region 6 Director, VACo Board of Directors  
Dean Lynch | Executive Director, VACo

### VACo EDUCATION

Broadband/Wireless  
Chesapeake Bay/Stormwater

### CONVERSATIONS WITH STATE LEGISLATORS (Invited)

Senator Emmett W. Hanger Jr. (24 <sup>th</sup> Senate District)	Delegate Nicholas J. Freitas (30 <sup>th</sup> House District)
Senator Mark D. Obernstein (26 <sup>th</sup> Senate District)	Delegate C. Todd Gilbert (15 <sup>th</sup> House District)
Senator Jill Holtzman Vogel (27 <sup>th</sup> Senate District)	Delegate Dave A. LaRock (33 <sup>rd</sup> House District)
Delegate Robert B. Bell, III (58 <sup>th</sup> House District)	Delegate J. Randall Minchew (10 <sup>th</sup> House District)
Delegate Chris Collins (29 <sup>th</sup> House District)	Delegate Michael J. Webert (18 <sup>th</sup> House District)

### ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION OF LOCAL ISSUES

Clarke County | Frederick County | Greene County | Madison County |  
Page County | Shenandoah County | Warren County

Sponsored by



## Work group holds first meeting on stormwater

On July 11 a newly formed 23 member Work Group authorized under [HB 1774 \(Hodges\)](#) met for the first time. The Work Group's purpose is to develop a series of recommendations that will be submitted to the 2018 General Assembly on how to make management of stormwater workable for all localities and the state. Within the past three years there have been at least two work groups convened for that very purpose.

Discussions at the July 11 meeting included a large number of diverse ideas that will continue to be discussed by the Group as it continues its work through the fall. Consistent with HB 1774's provisions, the Group meetings are being facilitated by the Virginia Coastal Policy Center at the William and Mary Law School.

Work Group members representing local government are Thomas Swarzwelder who is both Administrator and Attorney for King and Queen County, and David Nunnally, who directs Caroline County's Erosion and Sediment Control program. Other Work Group members with local government affiliations are Lewie Lawrence, Director of the Middle Peninsula Planning District; Eldon James with the Rappahannock River Basin Commission; and Chris Pomeroy, Counsel to the Virginia Association of Municipal Stormwater Agencies (VAMSA.) Other work group members represent environmental organizations, academia, the development industry and other diverse interests.

The Work Group will try to agree on its recommendations by October 31. The following is a schedule of full Work Group meetings. The locations have not yet been determined.

August 30	9am - 4:30pm		September 27	9am - 4:30pm
October 18	9am - 4:30pm		November 29	9am - 4:30pm

## Financial Facts

GASB has issued a new standard, Statement No. 86, for state and local governments to apply when accounting for extinguishment of debt prior to its maturity. In this Statement, GASB establishes rules for accounting for the transactions in which cash and other monetary assets acquired with only existing resources are placed in an irrevocable trust for the sole purpose to extinguish debt.

Current GASB standards already provide guidance for accounting and reporting when cash and other monetary assets acquired with the proceeds of refundable bonds are placed in a trust for future repayment of outstanding debt. Statement No. 86 addresses situations in which only existing resources (and no bond proceeds) are used to acquire cash and other monetary assets placed in a trust for the future repayment of outstanding debt.

The debt, cash and other monetary assets placed in trust are no longer reported on the financial statements when debt is defeased in substance but governments are required to disclose information in the financial statement notes about debt that has been defeased in substance. Statement No. 86 also provides guidance related to prepaid insurance on debt that is extinguished and notes to the financial statements about debt that has been defeased.

The standard takes effect for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2017.

VACo Contact: [Vicky Steinruck, CPA](#)





## Virginia Counties Recognized for Model Programs

**RICHMOND (August 1, 2017)**—The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) is pleased to announce the 17 recipients of the 2017 Achievement Awards recognizing model local government programs. VACo received 79 submissions.

Winning entries focused on addressing high priority issues that challenge counties today.

[Winning Achievement Award Submissions](#) | [Winning Program Descriptions](#) | [2017 Achievement Awards Entries](#)

“This is the 15<sup>th</sup> year of the Achievement Awards Program, and we couldn’t be more proud of the innovative work done by our member counties,” VACo Executive Director **Dean Lynch** said. “I want to thank all who participated. It seems we are faced with more complex challenges every year, but Virginia’s counties have found creative ways to overcome them.”

**Tedd Povar**, Associate Director of the Virginia Institute of Government; **Dr. Sheryl Bailey**, Senior Vice President at Springsted Incorporated and former Chesterfield County Deputy County Administrator; and **Ted McCormack**, retired VACo Lobbyist, served as judges for this year’s statewide competitive awards program.

**York County** and its **Home-Based Business Assistance Program** won this year’s Best Achievement Award.

Ted McCormack explained why York County was the overall winner in 2017. “York County’s Home-Based Business Assistance Program is innovative and focuses on an important but often overlooked aspect of a local economic development – meeting the needs of home-based businesses and helping them to grow.”

For the first time in the Achievement Awards Program history, the judges selected a Best Small County Achievement Award (50,000 or less population) and a Best Large County Achievement Award. **King and Queen County** captured the Best Small County Achievement Award while **Chesterfield County** earned the Best Large County Achievement Award. “The Achievement Awards Program is a treasure trove of ideas for all localities in Virginia,” Povar said. “I encourage all county administrators and staff as well as elected officials to review the 79 entries this year. The VACo Achievement Awards is not just a competition but also a sharing of ideas. Each batch of entries every year is a best practice repository available to everyone in the Commonwealth to learn from and perhaps replicate.”

Dr. Bailey said she’s encouraged by the creativity counties showed to find solutions. “This is the first time I’ve judged the VACo Achievement Awards, and I come away very impressed,” Dr. Bailey said. “The future is certainly bright if this is an indication of the resourcefulness and ingenuity of county staff and leadership. I’m inspired by the good work done by Virginia’s counties.”

**Chesterfield County** tops the all-time Achievement Awards list with 26. Chesterfield County has won an award in each of the 15-year history of the program. **Henrico County** and **Loudoun County** are tied for second with 20 awards, respectively. **Prince William County** is fourth with 18.

The VACo Achievement Awards is a competitive program open to local government members of the association. VACo will present awards at Board of Supervisors meetings and recognize award-winning counties at the 2017 Annual Conference in November.

[Winning Achievement Award Submissions](#) | [Winning Program Descriptions](#)

[Achievement Awards Website](#) | [2017 Achievement Awards Entries](#)

[Past Winners](#) | [Past Judges](#)

VACo Contact: [Gage Harter](#)

## Proposed Changes to Smart Scale include limiting the number of applications



The Commonwealth Transportation Board is also considering changes that could take effect in “Round 3” of the “Smart Scale” Program during FY 2019. Following the first two rounds of the program, VDOT’s staff has been evaluating ways in which the program may be improved. Some components of the program were discussed with VACo’s Transportation Steering committee when it held a special meeting on June 15.

Smart Scale is lauded by supporters as a program that distributes transportation projects throughout the state on the basis of an objective scoring process. Due to limitations in transportation revenues, however, there was only about \$1 billion available for projects approved under “Round 2” of Smart Scale for a total of about \$9 billion worth of projects applied for by local governments in FY 2017.

VDOT staff is recommending the imposition of a limit on the number of projects for which a local government may apply in any given round. Specifically, a limit of 4 applications for localities with a population less than 500,000, and 8 applications for localities with a population more than 500,000. It is possible that CTB could adopt changes to the Smart Scale program at its October meeting. For more information see [Staff recommendations for improving the process - Round 3](#), a presentation to the CTB at their July meeting. VACo will continue to monitor this situation.

VACo Contact: [Larry Land, CAE](#)

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## FEMA Proposal Affects All Communities Participating in the National Flood Insurance Program

FEMA has recently published notice of its intent to adopt a policy for managing minor development activities within the floodplain. See <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/131010>.

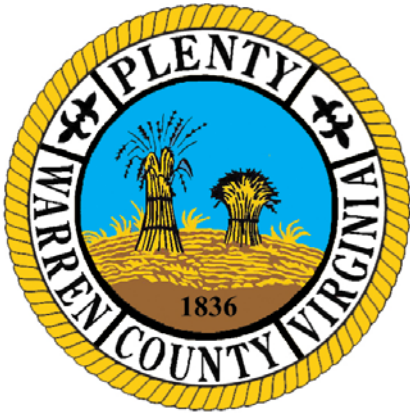
This policy proposal stems from a FEMA concern that many relatively minor low-impact activities which meet the definition of “development” within the NFIP regulations (CFR 44) are not being reviewed by participating localities and that while none individually are likely to increase risk within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), the cumulative impacts over time could have that effect.

The draft FEMA Policy Guidance creates a new required process—Review, Assess & Document (RAD)—to manage and permit low-to-no-impact development activities within the SFHA. This process is to be applied to any development activity in the SFHA (defined as *any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials*), and especially for those activities which currently do not require a permit and often for which there is not an existing notification requirement within local building, planning or zoning codes.

The public is invited to comment on the draft policy until August 23, 2017. Comments are to be submitted to: [FEMA-Floodplain-Management-Division@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-Floodplain-Management-Division@fema.dhs.gov).

APA’s Legislative and Policy Committee is considering providing comments to FEMA on behalf of APA and asks that members providing comments to FEMA share those comments with the Committee. Please send to [govtaffairs@planning.org](mailto:govtaffairs@planning.org). Also please send your comments to VACo’s Larry Land at [lland@vaco.org](mailto:lland@vaco.org).

VACo Contact: [Larry Land, CAE](#)



## COUNTY OF WARREN

County Administrator's Office  
220 North Commerce Avenue, Suite 100  
Front Royal, Virginia 22630  
540.636.4600

### Warren County to begin Route 340/522 Corridor Transit Service

(Front Royal) – County Administrator Douglas P. Stanley recently announced the start of transit service for the Route 340/522 Corridor starting July 31, 2017, which will extend from Front Royal to the Route 340/522 Corridor and Lord Fairfax Community College (LFCC) in Middletown.

Buses will run Monday through Saturday originating alternately from Royal Plaza or the Warren County Health and Human Services Complex to the Crooked Run and Riverton Commons shopping centers. There will also be limited commuter service to the Rappahannock-Shenandoah-Warren (RSW) Regional Jail and nearby large employers along Fairground Road, Baugh Drive and Toray Drive. The buses will make four runs daily to the LFCC campus Monday through Thursday.

Initiated by Warren County in collaboration with the Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission in response to ridership trends and resident input, the new trolley line will provide Front Royal residents with transit access to additional medical care, education, shopping and employment. Riders will pay one \$1.00 for a one-way fare. Virginia Regional Transit will operate the service.

According to County Administrator Douglas P. Stanley, "We are extremely excited to get this service established. Since commercial development started taking off in the corridor in 2005, I have heard comments about the need for residents in the Town of Front Royal to be able to get out there to shop or get to work. The need was only exacerbated when the RSW Regional Jail opened in 2014. With over 2,600 industrial jobs in the corridor, in addition to the commercial employment, the bus service has the potential to positively impact the lives of many in this community.

"The service has been made possible through the generous support of our corporate partners including Axalta, Crooked Run Shopping Center, Front Royal- Warren County EDA, FDR Services, The Interchange Group, Lord Fairfax Community College, Nature's Touch, Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission, Rappahannock Electric Cooperative, RSW Regional Jail, Sysco, Toray Plastics, and Valley Health. This is truly a Public-Private Partnership."

Karen Taylor, Senior Project and Operations Manager at the Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission commented, "This new transit service represents a perfect example of what can be accomplished through true regional collaboration. Without participation from multiple private sector, nonprofit, and governmental partners, this opportunity to physically connect prospective employees to available jobs would have never come to fruition. We are proud that NSVRC was able to play a role in fostering that collaboration."

Jennifer McDonald, Executive Director of the Front Royal-Warren County EDA added, "The EDA was happy to participate in a much needed service for the residents and employees of Warren County. We hope this opens up employment opportunities for those that do not have access to affordable and consistent transportation to the employers in the corridor."

According to Russ Gilkison, Superintendent of the RSW Regional Jail, "I am hopeful the trolley service will provide those inmates participating in the work release program, and individuals being released from custody with a safe form of transportation. With the increased traffic speeds on Route 340/522 and during adverse weather conditions, it is not always an ideal option to walk. In addition, the trolley will be a benefit to those in the community who need public transportation access to the Magistrates Office and the jail."

**Public Information Office**

5204 Bernard Drive  
Roanoke, Virginia 24018  
(540) 772-2010



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## News Release

### For Immediate Release

Contact: Brian Clingenpeel  
Community Outreach Coordinator  
Roanoke County Fire & Rescue  
Office: (540) 777-8718 Cell: (540) 400-5360  
[bclingenpeel@roanokecountyva.gov](mailto:bclingenpeel@roanokecountyva.gov)

### Roanoke County Fire & Rescue Receives \$1 Million Grant

**(Roanoke County, VA—August 1, 2017)** Roanoke County is pleased to announce a grant award in the amount of \$1,084,206.00 from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) under the fiscal year 2016 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Response (SAFER) program. The SAFER program is a competitive grant awarded to deserving fire departments that demonstrate a clear need for additional firefighter staffing.

This cost sharing grant will, over a three year period, fund the hiring of 11 firefighter positions. DHS will fund 75% and Roanoke County will fund 25% in the first two years of the grant. In the third year of the grant, DHS will fund 35% and Roanoke County will fund 65%.

Roanoke County Fire & Rescue has for many years been challenged in meeting staffing levels while faced with increased needs for service. The department will utilize the 11 positions to ensure adequate emergency response capabilities. A recruit school scheduled to start in January 2018 will provide training and the new personnel will be assigned to stations beginning in May 2018.

The goal of the SAFER grant program is to assist local fire departments with staffing and deployment capabilities in order to respond to emergencies, and assure that communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards. Local fire departments accomplish this by improving staffing and deployment capabilities so they may more effectively and safely respond to emergencies.

For more information about the SAFER grant program go to  
<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/127856>.

# SIGN UP FOR THE NEXT SUPERVISORS' CERTIFICATION CLASS



## **Making a Governance Difference: The Role of Purpose Driven Policy, Deliberation and Decision Making**

**Opening Session:** September 15, 2017

**Closing Session:** November 3, 2017

**Location:** Albemarle County

**Cost:** \$350

**Registration Deadline:** September 5, 2017

[Registration Form](#) | [Register Online](#)

Can Boards of Supervisors apply innovative decision-making models to create purpose driven policies? Decision making is challenging when multiple elected officials, government professionals, and citizens are involved. Nonetheless, there must be a clear process to move from defining a problem to implementing a course of action and then evaluating the outcome realized.

This class examines legal principles established by the U.S. and Virginia Constitutions, the Dillon Rule, as well as other ordinances and regulations which influence policy making and decision making. Class participants explore how they can work effectively across boundaries as well as apply thinking strategies and the six thinking hats methodology espoused by the [de Bono Group](#).

**VACo Contact:** [Amy Sales, CMP](#)



## **Housing Opportunities Made Equal Event**

### **When**

Friday, September 22, 2017  
9AM to 5PM

### **Where**

Virginia Commonwealth University  
Student Commons  
907 Floyd Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23220

**Registration is now open for *Confronting Barriers:*  
Strategies for Housing Equality.**

**Join Housing Opportunities Made Equal of Virginia and Virginia Commonwealth University's L. Wilder School on September 22, 2017 for a summit on Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.**

[Get more information](#) | [Register Now!](#)

*Confronting Barriers* is an opportunity for planners, government officials, non-profit advocates, and other housing industry professionals to come together to hear from a variety of national and local experts on our responsibility to affirmatively promote equitable access to opportunity in our communities. Participants will gain a better understanding of HUD's Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule (AFFH), build tools for completing the Assessment of Fair Housing, and engage in discussions about the role of prejudice as an impediment to housing access. This day-long educational event will include a morning plenary, morning and afternoon workshops, as well as a lunch-time keynote speaker.

Early-bird registration for this conference is \$70 until July 15. Afterward, the price increases to \$85 for everyone but non-profit attendees.

Interested in co-sponsoring this conference? Email [AFFHsummit@HOMEofVA.org](mailto:AFFHsummit@HOMEofVA.org).

# employment opportunities



The Virginia Association of Counties accepts employment ads in a PDF file or a link to a job site. Please include information for applying, and a link to other important information. Please do not fax your employment ad. VACo members are not charged for placing an employment ad. The cost is \$50 per ad for non-VACo members. VACo publishes the ad on its website and mobile app as well as the upcoming County Connections issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please email [Valerie Russell](mailto:Valerie.Russell).



**ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST** | Fauquier County | Posted August 1



**ROANOKE SENIOR STORMWATER ENGINEER – CIVIL ENGINEER II** | City of Roanoke | Posted July 31



**Franklin County DEVELOPMENT REVIEW SPECIALIST II** | Franklin County | Posted July 31



**Franklin County DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY** | Franklin County | Posted July 31



**James City County PLANS REVIEWER** | James City County | Posted July 28



**James City County PART-TIME PLANS REVIEWER** | James City County | Posted July 28



**CONVENIENCE CENTER ATTENDANT** | James City County | Posted July 28

**Chesapeake VIRGINIA PSYCHIATRIC NURSE** | City of Chesapeake | Posted July 28

**Chesapeake VIRGINIA LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE** | City of Chesapeake | Posted July 28

**Chesapeake VIRGINIA PART-TIME LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE** | City of Chesapeake | Posted July 28



**CODE ADMINISTRATION – CODE INSPECTOR I** | City of Alexandria | Posted July 28



**EMERGENCY SERVICES/ ACCESS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIVISION MANAGER** | Prince William County | Posted July 27



**PLANNING DIRECTOR** | Westmoreland County | Posted July 27



**DEPUTY CLERK I** | Mecklenburg County | Posted July 27



**CHIEF OF ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES** | Fauquier County | Posted July 25



**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** | Fauquier County | Posted July 25



**CUSTOMER ASSISTANT – PARKS** | James City County | Posted July 25



**PARALEGAL** | Albemarle County | Posted July 24



**INSTRUCTOR I/II** | James City County | Posted July 24



**CAPITAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR AND OTHER CAREER OPPORTUNITIES** | James City County | Posted July 24



**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT MANAGER** | Pittsylvania County | Posted July 24



**[ASSISTANT BRANCH SUPERVISOR](#)** | Montgomery County | Posted July 24



**[POLICE CHIEF RECRUITMENT PROFILE](#)** | Chesterfield County | Posted July 20



**[FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST I/II](#)** | New Kent County | Posted July 20



**[INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANT](#)** | Cumberland County | Posted July 18



**[TAX TECHNICIAN](#)** | Montgomery County | Posted July 18



**[ELIGIBILITY WORKER](#)** | Montgomery County | Posted July 18



**[DIRECTOR OF HUMAN SERVICES](#)** | City of Chesapeake | Posted July 18



**[DIRECTOR OF FINANCE](#)** | Albemarle County | Posted July 18



**[PRETRIAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFICER AND OTHER CAREER OPPORTUNITIES](#)** | James City County | Posted July 14



**[DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT](#)** | City of Poquoson | Posted July 13



**[DEPUTY CITY MANAGER](#)** | City of Norfolk | Posted July 13



**[FAUQUIER COUNTY JOB FAIR](#)** | Fauquier County | Posted July 12



**[ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – OPERATIONS](#)** | Pittsylvania County | Posted July 11



**[RISK MANAGER](#)** | Albemarle County | Posted July 11



**[ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT HUMAN RESOURCES](#)** | Gloucester County | Posted July 11



**[BUILDING OFFICIAL](#)** | Rappahannock County | Posted July 10



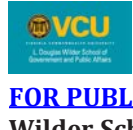
**[CITY ATTORNEY](#)** | City of Manassas | Posted July 10



**[EMERGENCY SERVICES COORDINATOR](#)** | Middlesex County | Posted July 7



**[CIRCULATION SERVICES DIRECTOR AND OTHER CAREER OPPORTUNITIES](#)** | James City County | Posted July 7



**[DIRECTOR OF CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY](#)** | L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University | Posted July 7



**[TREASURY DIVISION CHIEF](#)** | Prince William County | Posted July 7



**[ALBEMARLE CHARLOTTESVILLE UVA ECC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Brochure](#)** | Albemarle County | Posted July 7



**[ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER](#)** | Pittsylvania County | Posted July 5



**[DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT](#)** | City of Falls Church | Posted July 5



**[WASTEWATER FACILITIES MECHANICS](#)** | James City County | Posted July 5





#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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**VACORP:** Chris Carey, Administrator, 888.822.6772

VACo exists to support county officials and to effectively represent, promote and protect the interests of counties to better serve the people of Virginia.

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