

COUNTY CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the
Virginia Association of Counties

December 5, 2018



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Discussion of Possible Public Referendum for Multi-Billion Dollar State Bond to Fund School Modernization



The flagship recommendation discussed by the Senate Local Government Subcommittee on School Facility Modernization is to hold a public referendum set for 2019 asking Virginians to authorize the General Assembly to secure a \$3-\$4 billion general obligation bond to fund school modernization needs across the Commonwealth. The Subcommittee discussed dedicating a portion of anticipated state revenues from internet sales tax available as a result of the Supreme Court's [Wayfair](#) decision to provide initial financing for the bond. The Subcommittee weighed the implications of holding a referendum in a General Assembly election year and the political mandate for action to be gained if such a referendum were to pass. Any such proposal will need to be approved by the General Assembly.

The Subcommittee met on November 30 in Richmond to discuss a variety of potential recommendations for the upcoming 2019 General Assembly Session. Senator Bill Stanley, who created the Subcommittee earlier this year, discussed how the subcommittee was designed to examine the problem of aging school infrastructure across the Commonwealth and the Subcommittee's recent tour of the state visiting schools and meeting with education stakeholders.

Many localities face significant challenges in raising sufficient funds to undertake capital school construction or renovation projects. According to a 2013 [report](#), more than 40 percent of Virginia's public school buildings and facilities were built at least 50 years ago and another 20 percent were constructed at least 40 years ago. The condition of the facilities in which children are educated has a direct impact on their ability to learn. Issues like inadequate climate control, lack of modern electric circuitry and internet capacity, and leaking roofs can negatively affect student assessment performance and staff morale, as well as posing major equity concerns. Subcommittee members cited the example of teaching curriculum subjects such as cybersecurity in a Virginia middle school built prior to World War II with only one electrical outlet in it per classroom.

Subcommittee members also discussed recommending that the availability of any additional funds be done in concert with updating existing [regulations and guidelines](#) for school facilities to ensure that school security, equity, and facility longevity issues are addressed. Senator Barbara Favola suggested looking to the Virginia's SMART SCALE process as a potential model. The Subcommittee also discussed the [possibility](#) of promoting use of Opportunity Zones created through the federal Tax Cuts

Mental Health Study Commission Makes Recommendations for 2019

The Joint Subcommittee to Study Mental Health Services in the Commonwealth in the 21st Century met on December 4, along with its two workgroups, to finalize recommendations for the upcoming 2019 General Assembly session, to plan its work for the remainder of 2019, and to discuss the future of the Joint Subcommittee after its scheduled expiration in December 2019.

Discussion at the System Structure and Finance work group largely continued a conversation from previous meetings regarding the issuance of temporary detention orders (TDOs) and their effect on overcrowding at state hospitals, including the need to improve community-based services so as to address mental health needs before they spiral into crises. Members also discussed the need for alternatives to hospital emergency rooms for individuals to receive care when they are experiencing crisis, such as psychiatric emergency centers, which typically allow individuals to recover from crises over the course of 24 hours with the assistance of peer recovery specialists, medical and mental health staff. The work group received a briefing from staff from the Institute for Law, Psychiatry, and Public Policy, which included several recommendations that were approved by the workgroup and subsequently adopted by the full Joint Subcommittee.

The Criminal Diversion work group received a presentation on behalf of its Expert Advisory Panel from Leslie Weisman, Client Services Entry Bureau Chief of the Arlington County CSB, who discussed the differing interpretations among many jail staff members and health care providers of what health-related information may be shared about jail inmates without violating privacy laws, and encouraged legislators to clarify that information may be shared for the purposes of providing treatment. The work group continued to discuss the issue of requiring the adoption of standards for the provision of mental health care in local and regional jails, but did not recommend that CSBs be mandated to provide treatment within jails.

The full Joint Subcommittee adopted a series of legislative and budgetary recommendations for the 2019 Session, including:

- Prioritizing funding for detailed planning for the replacement of the aging Central State Hospital
- Requiring the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) to develop a plan to “right-size” the state hospital system relative to the need for inpatient beds
- Allowing magistrates to issue medical TDOs (which allow temporary detention of patients who are incapable of consenting to treatment when the medical standard of care calls for intervening to avoid injury or death) without requiring that a judge be determined to be unavailable
- Allowing information sharing between private hospitals and CSBs when CSBs are involved in discharge planning for patients in private hospitals
- Clarifying that a law enforcement officer has the authority to keep a person subject to a TDO in custody until the TDO is served (this recommendation addresses a situation in which the eight-hour emergency custody order expires between the TDO being issued and when it is served)
- Directing that a study be undertaken of options for treating individuals with mental illness who also have complex medical needs
- Requesting that JLARC undertake a study of CSB funding and supervision, including how models of other state-supervised, locally-administered systems might be applied
- Requesting funding for a pilot psychiatric emergency center
- Recommending that the General Assembly take under consideration a package of recommendations on telemental health services, including additional funding for a telemental health pilot project in southwest Virginia, requiring the state Medicaid agency to allow schools to be used as sites for telehealth services, and creating a workgroup to explore models of contracting for telepsychiatry services for CSB clients
- Requiring that the Department of Criminal Justice Services include sensitivity to individuals experiencing mental health or substance abuse crises in its training standards and model policies
- Requiring the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court to develop a statewide evaluation model and conduct ongoing evaluations of the effectiveness of local specialty dockets
- Clarifying when health-related information regarding CSB clients who are incarcerated may be shared between jail staff and CSB staff
- Requiring the Board of Corrections to develop standards for the provision of mental health services in local and regional jails

Joint Subcommittee members also agreed to recommend extending the Joint Subcommittee’s duration for two additional years, and discussed several options for ensuring a continued focus on mental health in the future, such as establishing a permanent commission.

Roanoke County Board Names New Administrator

Longtime Assistant
County Administrator
Dan O'Donnell takes
the helm



The Board of Supervisors of Roanoke County is pleased to announce the appointment of Daniel R. O'Donnell as Roanoke County's next administrator. The Board voted unanimously to appoint O'Donnell following a closed session meeting Tuesday afternoon.

"Dan has a wealth of knowledge about Roanoke County government," said Board Chairwoman Martha Hooker. "I know he will step seamlessly into this role and provide excellent leadership for the benefit of the County and its citizens."

"It is a privilege to serve the citizens of Roanoke County as their administrator," said O'Donnell. "I look forward to working with the Board of Supervisors and our excellent County staff to continue building on the successes we have achieved."

O'Donnell has served as Assistant County Administrator for Roanoke County since June 2000 where he has been responsible for direct oversight of departments including Fire & Rescue, Police, Parks, Recreation & Tourism, Social Services, and Libraries. He has also served as a liaison to the Sheriff's Department, Circuit Court, and Commonwealth's Attorney. O'Donnell currently represents the County on boards including Blue Ridge Behavioral Health Care, Regional Juvenile Detention Commission, Court Community Corrections Board, Drug Court Advisory Board, Community Policy and Management Team, Western Virginia Regional Jail Authority, Western Virginia Industrial Facilities Authority, and is a member of the Executive Budget Team.

O'Donnell has overseen the County's first Strategic Plan initiative to guide policy, budget decisions, and service delivery choices for a five year period. He also served as the project manager for the \$30 million Green Ridge Recreation Center construction project and the \$28 million public safety center construction project.

Prior to coming to Roanoke County, O'Donnell served as County Administrator for Steuben County, New York, from 1996 to 2000. He also served as County Administrator for Berkeley County, West Virginia, from 1991 to 1996. Prior to 1991, O'Donnell worked in two economic development agencies in the Baltimore, Maryland area.

O'Donnell holds a Master of Public Administration degree from West Virginia University, where he was elected to Pi Alpha Alpha, the national honor society for Public Administration education. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from West Virginia University. The International City/County Management Association has recognized O'Donnell as a Certified Local Government Manager annually since 2003. He is also professionally active as a member of the Virginia Local Government Manager's Association and the Virginia Association of Local Human Service Officials.

O'Donnell will follow current County Administrator, Thomas Gates, who announced his resignation in November. Gates' last day is January 4, 2019 following four years as the County's leader.

O'Donnell will assume his new position January 5, 2019.

Interested in the Virginia Grocery Investment Fund?



Across the Commonwealth, 1.7 million people, including 480,000 children, live in underserved areas or low-income communities with limited supermarket access. The Virginians living in these areas, often called “food deserts,” are unable to access fresh produce, lean meats and other nutritious food.

Seeking to end this growing problem, the Closer To My Grocer coalition has been convened and is presenting a bill to the General Assembly in an effort to create the Virginia Grocery Investment Fund (VGIF). The VGIF will create public/private partnerships that leverage state dollars with private money to provide one-time, low-interest loans and forgivable loans to encourage grocers to open or renovate stores in underserved communities in an effort to alleviate food insecurity statewide. As the 2019 General Assembly session draws near, the Closer To My Grocer coalition wants to hear from local government and community leaders in order to develop deeper knowledge about local needs and interests and to better inform where the proposed Virginia Grocery Investment Fund will have the greatest impact.

Please click [here](#) or follow the link at the end of this article to take part in a quick, 5-minute survey.

Your participation is much appreciated and will be of great service to the coalition.

VGIF Survey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KDW5C3Y>

VACo Contacts: [Chris McDonald](#) and [Angela Inglett](#)

Visit Prince George County, VA, and the Crosspointe Centre Water Tank



Crosspointe Centre, home to Rolls Royce and CCAM, is the location of this Prince George County, VA water tank.

The purpose is to serve the industrial park area, which also includes Service Center Metals, Metal Span, Goya, Carolina Container, Perdue, and many other businesses.

The 500,000 water tank was constructed in 2000 with an overflow elevation of 285.75 feet.

The location has a co-located Mid-Atlantic Broadband fiber POP site at the base of the tank.



Mark Your Calendars



**2019 VACo County Government Day In Partnership
with VAPDC's 50th Anniversary**



January 31, 2019

Omni Richmond Hotel

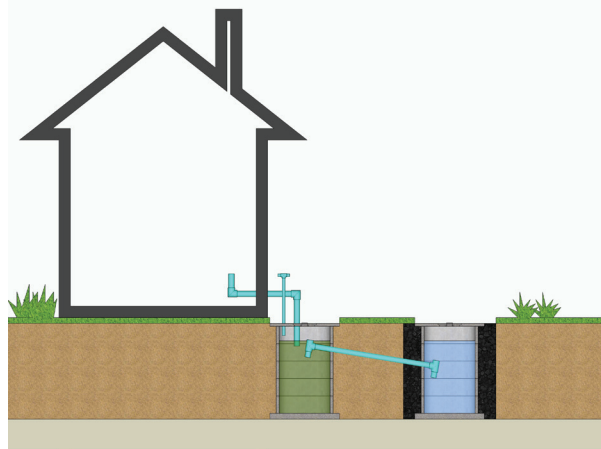
100 S 12th Street | Richmond, VA 23219

[Omni Room Reservation Form](#) | [Registration Form](#) | [Register Online](#)

Deadline for room reservations is January 11

The Virginia Association of Counties invites county officials to VACo County Government Day on January 31, 2019 at the Omni Richmond Hotel.

Governor Ralph Northam will be the keynote speaker. VACo staff will report on legislation affecting local governments, then county officials are encouraged to go to the Capitol to participate in committee meetings and lobby state legislators. In the evening, county officials are strongly encouraged to invite their state legislators to dinner.



Opportunity to comment on hardship guidelines for VDH design for septic and well services

With passage of [HB 888](#) during the 2018 legislative session, the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) is making the transition to outsourcing evaluation and design services for onsite sewage systems and private wells for new construction to the private sector. VDH will continue to provide regulatory oversight of private sector providers of these services and serve as “a provider of last resort for a property owner who demonstrates a specific hardship in obtaining private sector evaluation and design services.”

Per the recently adopted 2019 Legislative Program, “VACo supports the private sector providing onsite sewage system design, installation, and repair services, as long as the services can be provided at affordable rates and in a timely manner, and as long as VDH continues to provide these direct services as well.”

By July 1, 2019 VDH must develop guidelines for qualifying hardships based on:

- the availability of properly licensed service providers working within a locality or region;
- the disciplinary history of private sector providers, and
- the cost of private sector services.

A [draft](#) of these guidelines is now available for review and comment. Comments on this initial draft may be submitted online at this [VDH webpage](#). For any questions regarding the initial draft, contact Lance Gregory, Director of the Division of Onsite Sewage and Water Services, Environmental Engineering, and Marina Programs, at 804.864.7491 or by email at Lance.Gregory@vdh.virginia.gov.

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

BOND Continued from Page 1

and Jobs Act of 2017 to incentivize investment in school modernization. The Subcommittee directed legislative staff from the Division of Legislative Services to work with Senators to provide final language for these recommendations before the General Assembly convenes.

Lastly, another possible angle of engaging the school modernization issue discussed by the Subcommittee involves the Judiciary. On September 6, Senator Stanley sent a [letter](#) to Attorney General Mark Herring asking him for formal opinions on several points pertaining to the federal and state constitutionality of inequalities in education opportunities for all posed by inadequate or deteriorated school facilities. Several acts of [litigation](#) have been filed and are under review in other states that contend unequally denying citizens a quality education prevents the equal exercise of existing constitutional rights and as such, is in violation of the 14th amendment.

VACo Contact: [Jeremy R. Bennett](#)

Virginia Board of Workforce Development Meeting and \$5 Million Community College Career Pathways Announcement



The Virginia Board of Workforce Development held its last meeting of 2018 on November 28 at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. The Board is a business led group that acts as an advisor to the Governor and the General Assembly to provide direction and oversight to the workforce development system. These responsibilities are enabled by Virginia [Code](#) and the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act ([WIOA](#)). The Board met to hear/approve several reports and presentations of note listed below and will not reconvene until March 2019.

Chief Workforce Development Advisor Megan Healy discussed the recent [announcement](#) made by Governor Ralph Northam allocating \$5 million of federal workforce discretionary funds to redesign career pathways offered through the Virginia Community College System. Colleges will compete for funds, receiving a minimum of \$100,000 and a maximum of \$500,000. This is part of the Governor's "G3 plan" (get skilled, get a job, give back). The goal is to prioritize workforce credentialing over course credits, with success defined by students obtaining a job. Innovations will likely include accelerated courses to reduce the burden on students and free up classroom space for more students. The focus will also likely be on industries most in need of workers with an emphasis on careers that provide a living wage. Dr. Healy is also coordinating with the Department of Social Services to ensure that the 23 Community Colleges can successfully process the estimated 60,000 individuals who might enroll as a result of the Medicaid expansion work requirements.

The Board heard a [presentation](#) from Qian Cai, Director, Demographics Research Group at UVA Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service on the number, demographics, and regional differences of unemployed Virginians using data from 2012-2016 American Community Survey of the U.S. Census. This was done in response to legislation [HB 1552 \(James\)](#) from last session. According to the presentation, even though Virginia's unemployment rate is at an 11-year low of 2.9 percent, approximately 168,000 Virginians are unemployed. An additional 482,000 Virginians are not in the labor force but are otherwise able to work, and are not students, stay-at-home parents with sufficient income, or recipients of retirement or disability benefits, for a combined total of approximately 650,000 out-of-work individuals. Of note, individuals ages 25-34 are overrepresented in the out-of-work population, as are African-Americans and Hispanics, and individuals with an education level of High School/GED Education or less.

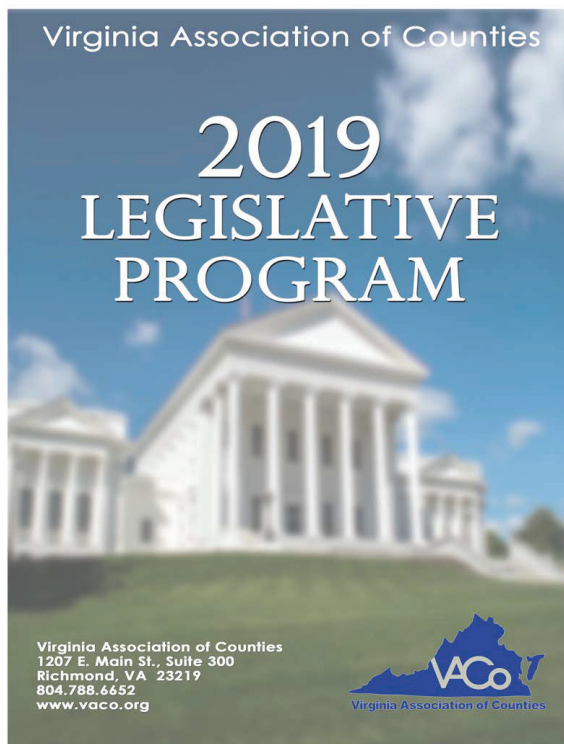
Much attention was given to the "disconnected youth" population of 16-24 year olds, who are neither in school nor working. Sixty-one percent of these individuals are living in poverty, compared to just 12 percent of the general population. This obviously places a strain on state and local resources. Seventy-three percent of these individuals have an education level of High School/GED or less. Only 38 percent are actively searching for a job.

The Board also received a [report](#) from Jeff Brown, Director of the Workforce Services Division at Virginia Employment Commission (VEC), on the implementation of a statewide Workforce Dashboard. This initiative was started in response to legislation [HB 1600 \(Byron\)](#) from last year that mandated implementation of a Workforce System to foster workforce development and training and better align education and workforce programs to meet current and projected skills requirements of an increasingly technological, global workforce. Furthermore, this dashboard must provide tools that will inform policy makers and the public on issues such as state and regional labor market conditions, the relationship between the supply and demand for workers, workforce program outcomes, and projected employment growth or decline (and other Labor Market Information (LMI)). VEC joined a group of several other states known as the Montana LMI Consortium that provided existing models for Virginia to use. According to Brown, phase 1 of the process - translating existing LMI data into a user-friendly format - is already complete.

Albemarle County Supervisor and VACo Board of Directors Member Ann Mallek is a member of the Virginia Board of Workforce Development. A list of the Board's full membership can be found [here](#).

VACo Contact: [Jeremy R. Bennett](#)

VACo Releases 2019 Legislative Program



After months of steering committee meetings, lively debate and participation through the Association's legislative process, VACo adopted its [2019 Legislative Program](#). The Legislative Program is organized according to VACo's Steering Committees.

[VACo's 2019 Legislative Program](#) addresses other priorities in the realms of Economic Development and Planning, Education, Environment and Agriculture, Finance, General Government, Health and Human Services, and Transportation.

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

Federal Resource Guide Available for Rural Communities Facing Substance Abuse

The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and the United States Department of Agriculture recently released the [Rural Resource Guide to Help Communities Address Substance Use Disorder and Opioid Misuse](#). The Rural Resource Guide, which was developed by the Rural Opioid Federal Interagency Working Group, provides an extensive list of potential sources of federal assistance, categorized by topic for ease of reference. In addition to programs specifically targeted towards substance abuse, the resource list encompasses a variety of federal programs in areas such as housing, education, and transit.

In addition to the Rural Resource Guide, USDA's "Opioid Misuse in Rural America" [website](#) also features a [Community Assessment Tool](#), which provides detailed information on overdose rates by county in addition to other demographic information.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

Roanoke County Board of Supervisors Announces Appointment for Windsor Hills District

The Board of Supervisors of Roanoke County is pleased to announce the appointment of David F. Radford to fill the vacancy in the Windsor Hills Magisterial District. Mr. Radford will hold office until a special election in November 2019. The person elected at the special election will serve the remainder of Joseph P. McNamara's term as a result of his election to the Virginia House of Delegates. Mr. McNamara's term expires December 31, 2021.

"David has prior experience in serving Roanoke County while on the Planning Commission and is familiar with the departments and staff," said Board Chairwoman Martha Hooker. "His good business acumen, coupled with his background working routinely with budgets and finance make him an excellent representative for the Windsor Hills District."

"I am humbled and honored to represent the Windsor Hills Magisterial District during this interim period," said newly appointed Supervisor David F. Radford. "My desire to serve as supervisor comes from the heart to help our community grow, prosper, and remain an attractive, vibrant community."



Mr. Radford, 60, is currently studying to receive a Master of Engineering degree in Construction Engineering Management from the University of Alabama Birmingham. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from East Carolina University. Mr. Radford is a small business owner providing professional management of turnkey construction services for light commercial, land acquisition and development, along with single and multi-family projects. His previous experience includes work as a Lease and Property Tax Accountant with Advance Auto Parts, a Project Manager with English Construction Company, and a Property Manager/Owner/Developer with Woodhaven Investments, Inc. In addition to serving six years on the Roanoke County Planning Commission, Mr. Radford has also overseen multiple construction projects across the Roanoke Valley, including Green Ridge Recreation Center, Mason's Crest Community, Woodhaven Office Park, McVitty Forest, South Jefferson Place, Glen Ivy, and numerous other single and multi-family communities. Mr. Radford is married with three children.

The Board accepted applications for the vacancy until November 18. Twelve applications were received. Applicants were asked to submit a 300-word essay on why they wanted to be the Supervisor to represent the Windsor Hills Magisterial District and why they felt they were qualified to serve. The Board voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Radford.



MEDIA RELEASE

Economic Development & Tourism Office

Stafford County Economic Development & Tourism hires Marc G. Smith

Marc Smith from Fredericksburg will join the Stafford County ED&T team as their new Business Development Professional. John Holden, Director, notes that "Marc brings close to 15 years' of experience in the commercial real estate development and economic development, most recently with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership recruiting and attracting major businesses to the Commonwealth."

Holden adds, "Marc brings substantial local development knowledge, having previously working for Spotsylvania County, WJ Vakos Companies, Jarrell Properties Inc., and Chrismarr Commercial." Mr. Smith's primary focus will be twofold. First, he will be reaching out to existing businesses to seek opportunities for expansion. Mr. Smith will also be in Stafford's continued focus on attracting new business investment to the County. Mr. Smith will work closely with Rick Cobert, Manager for Economic Development, and the Stafford County Economic Development Authority on their ongoing efforts to support business growth and develop projects for the County.

Mr. Smith is a lifelong resident of the Fredericksburg area, attending elementary school in Stafford. He is eager and is looking forward to his work for the County. In his spare time, he enjoys attending church, working out, and spending time with his family.



2019 Finance Forum

Tuesday, January 8, 2019 | 10am - 5pm

Greater Richmond Convention Center | 403 N. Third Street | Richmond, VA 23219

[Register](#) | [Agenda](#)

The 2019 Finance Forum provides an excellent opportunity for local elected officials and staff to be brought up to date on key finance-related issues. Recommended attendees include: members of city and town councils, managers and administrators, budget and finance officers, legislative liaisons, and other interested local government staff.

Cancellations must be submitted in writing by December 30, 2018.

Please contact Sandy Harrington at 804.523.8524 or sharrington@vml.org with questions.

February 1-2, 2019

VACo Training Center | 1207 East Main Street | Richmond, VA 23219

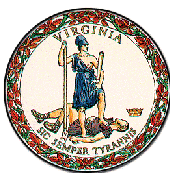
[Registration Form](#) | [Register Online](#)
[Omni Room Reservation Form](#)

Calling all board chairs and vice chairs, VACo's 2019 Chairpersons' Institute is fast approaching! Hosted at the VACo Training Center on February 1-2, 2019, the Institute will offer an educational experience carefully tailored to the needs of community leadership.

Board chairs and vice chairs must be active leaders who encourage teamwork and manage conflict; they must be confident problem solvers as well as visionary leaders. While these skills cannot be developed overnight, the Institute provides a strong foundation upon which to build.

Developed by a committee of experienced county officials, the Chairpersons' Institute provides an opportunity to study practical strategies in critical areas like budgeting, communication, and goal setting. If you want to learn more about the structure and functions of county government, active leadership, communications, meeting management, decision making, and coalitions building, then this is the course for you.





COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PUBLIC HEARINGS NOTICE

**GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE 2018-2020 BIENNIAL
STATE BUDGET**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS AND SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEES OF THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY WILL HOLD REGIONAL PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE 2018-2020 BIENNIAL STATE BUDGET, AS FOLLOWS:

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2019

(Hearings begin at 10:00 a.m.)

- **Fairfax County** – Fairfax County Government Center
(12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035)
- **Roanoke** – Virginia Western Community College, Whitman Theatre
(3099 Colonial Ave., SW, Roanoke, VA 24015)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2019

(Hearings begin at 12:00 noon)

- **Hampton Roads** – Christopher Newport University, David Student Union (Newport News, VA 23606)
- **Richmond** – Science Museum of Virginia, Dewey Gottwald Center
(2301 W. Leigh St., Richmond, VA 23220)

The purpose of the hearings is to receive comments on the Governor's proposed amendments to the 2018-20 biennial state budget. Those persons wishing to speak may register at each hearing site **no earlier than one hour prior** to the start of the hearing.

Speakers will be taken in the order of registration. Each person may register only one speaker at a time. Speakers are asked to limit their comments to three minutes or less. Speakers representing groups and organizations should consolidate remarks to reduce duplication. Persons unable to attend may comment in writing to either:

Delegate S. Chris Jones
P.O. Box 406
Pocahontas Building
Richmond, Virginia 23218

OR

Senator Thomas K. Norment, Jr.
Senator Emmett W. Hanger, Jr.
P.O. Box 396
Pocahontas Building
Richmond, Virginia 23218

People with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations by calling (804) 698-7480. All requests for reasonable accommodations must be received by 5:00 p.m., Monday December 17th, 2018. Upon request, sign language interpreters will be provided at the specific locations as identified in this Public Hearing Notice.

2019 EXCELLENCE IN VIRGINIA GOVERNMENT AWARDS

**VCU**L. Douglas Wilder School of
Government and Public Affairs

EVGA Nominations Now Being Accepted

Nominations are being accepted through Monday, December 17, for the 2019 Excellence in Virginia Government Awards, sponsored by the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University.

An awards luncheon will be held April 11 at the downtown Richmond Marriott.

“EVGA celebrates people and organizations in the public and private sectors who have made significant contributions to the practice of government and the well-being of our communities and citizens,” said Susan T. Gooden, Ph.D., interim dean of the Wilder School. “As a Top 50 Best Graduate Public Affairs program, the Wilder School looks forward to selecting the honorees and celebrating their successes while also raising money for important student scholarships.”

Nominations are being sought for six awards: community enhancement, Hill-Robinson Expansion of Freedom, innovation in government, private-public partnership, unsung heroes and lifetime achievement. To make a nomination, visit <https://wilder.vcu.edu/news-and-events/excellence-in-virginia-government/>.

For questions regarding the public nominations process, contact Paula Otto, the Wilder School’s senior director of special projects, at piotto@vcu.edu or 804.828.1146.

2018 VACo Annual Conference Thank You



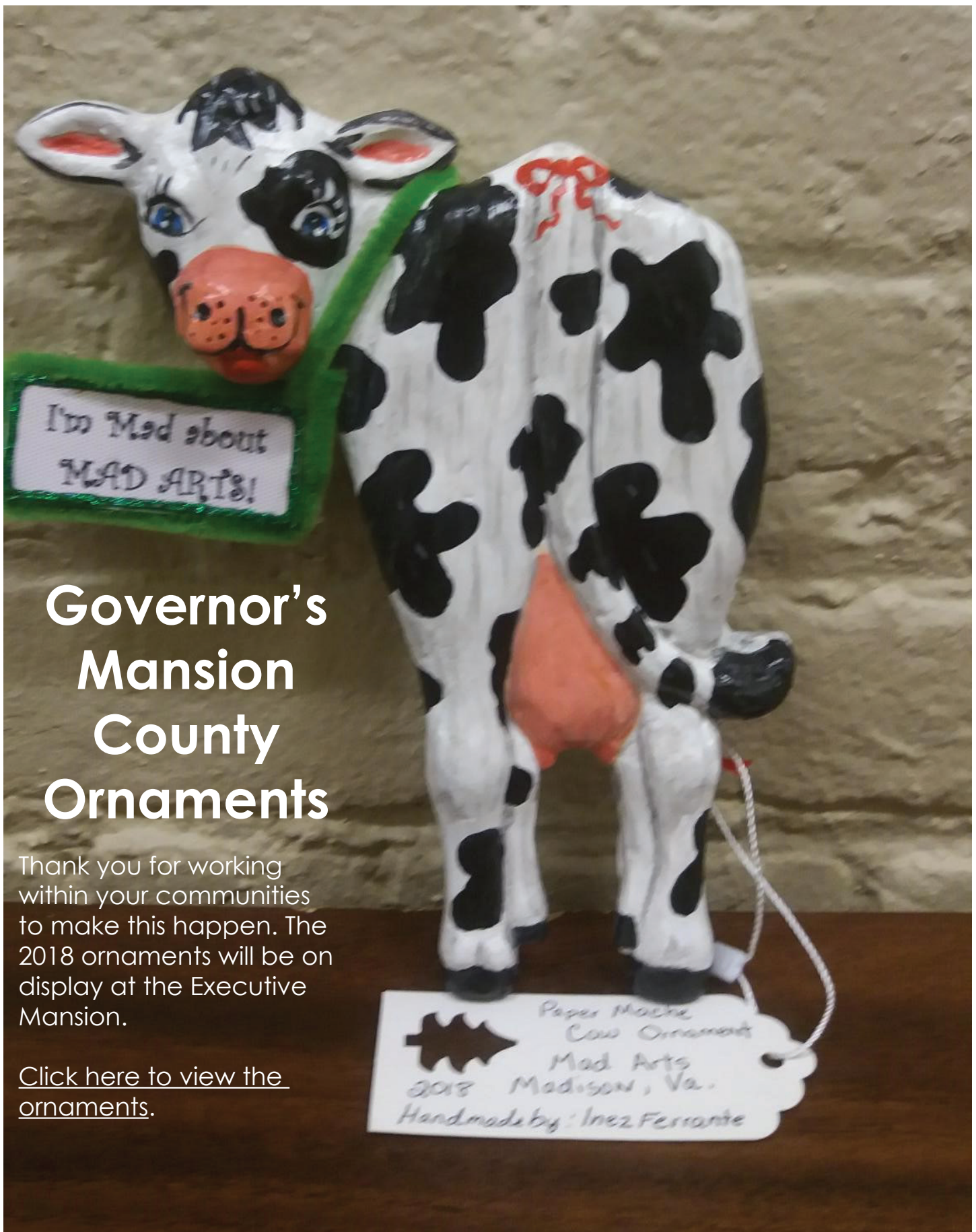
Thank you for making the VACo 84th Annual Conference a success! The Theme **“Commonwealth of Opportunities: Preparing Counties for the Future”** was felt throughout the 2.5 days. Thank you to 2018 Conference Planning Committee Chair, Jeff McKay, Fairfax County Supervisor, and all of the committee members for their guidance, ideas and attention to detail.

[Check out our 2018 Annual Conference Recap page](#) to download presentations and watch videos of the sessions.

Thank you to all our Sponsors for your generous support of the Annual Conference. We certainly cannot do it without your participation.

Don't forget to sign up for a [2019 Steering Committee](#). Forms can be found in your conference bags or [online](#). They are due by December 31. Your 2018 committee appointment does not automatically roll over; you must sign up each year. [Sign up now](#) to make sure you get all committee information as soon as it is released!

Thank you, again, for participating in the 2018 VACo Annual Conference. Consider joining the [Conference Planning Committee](#) to help shape the 2019 Annual Conference!



Governor's Mansion County Ornaments

Thank you for working within your communities to make this happen. The 2018 ornaments will be on display at the Executive Mansion.

[Click here to view the ornaments.](#)

Virginia County Supervisors' Manual Eighth Edition



Release date and pre-order
information will be announced in
upcoming issues of County Connections.

SANDS
ANDERSON 

VACo Committee Interest Form



VACo seeks county supervisors and executive staff interested in serving on steering and operational committees. The steering committees consider proposals from member counties for inclusion in VACo's legislative program.

They also provide direction to the VACo staff on policy issues arising from legislative and state agency studies. Steering committee members from VACo's 13 regions are selected to serve.

The operational and ad-hoc committees are responsible for helping direct the staff in the activities, programs and functions of VACo.

Attendance will be expected of committee members at the VACo Annual Meeting, and other committee meetings during the year. VACo asks that committee members or the counties they represent assume responsibility for travel arrangements and costs associated with attending committee meetings. Appointments are made each year by the president of VACo. If you are interested in being considered for an appointment, complete this form and return it by **December 31, 2018** to VACo--Attention: **Valerie Russell**, 1207 East Main Street, Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23219-3627, fax 804.788.0083, or scan and email to vrussell@vaco.org.

County officials who already serve on committees need to submit this form by December 31 to be reappointed to a committee in 2019.

name _____

title _____ county _____

address _____

phone _____ email _____

STEERING COMMITTEES

_____ Economic Development and Planning

_____ Education

_____ Environment and Agriculture

_____ Finance

_____ General Government

_____ Health and Human Resources

_____ Transportation

OPERATIONAL COMMITTEES

_____ Budget and Finance

_____ Conference Planning

_____ Nominating

_____ Communications Committee



Award Categories

Youth Volunteer
 Adult Volunteer
 Senior Volunteer
 Family Volunteer
 Corporation
 Small Business
 Faith-Based Organization
 Educational Institution
 Community Organization

**Winners will be honored
 by the governor at a special
 ceremony in the spring.**

<http://virginiasservice.virginia.gov/volunteering/governors-volunteerism-awards/>

**The deadline for
 nominations is
 December 25, 2018**



*Do you know someone who is always putting others first? How about an organization or business that never hesitates to help out whenever there's problem in the community? The **Governor's Volunteerism and Community Service Awards** are presented in each of the categories listed on the left. The nine outstanding award winners represent the millions of generous Virginians who offer their time and talents to others each year. The Governor's Advisory Board on Service and Volunteerism, the Virginia Service Foundation, and the Virginia Office on Volunteerism and Community Services are honored to assist the Governor in selecting and recognizing these volunteers.*



REGISTRATION | PROGRAM | LOCATION AND LODGING



The Hotel Roanoke and
Conference Center

You are invited to join Governor Ralph Northam at the statewide Governor's Infrastructure Financing Conference at The Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center, Roanoke, Virginia. The conference is designed to bring together government and private sector professionals in discussions that will help facilitate the planning and delivery of much-needed capital improvement projects across Virginia. The conference is being hosted by Governor Ralph Northam and the Virginia Resources Authority.

The conference will highlight state funding resources available for capital improvement projects focusing on the health and safety of communities. Particular emphasis will be given to funding resources aimed at promoting economic development and job-creation opportunities for Virginians, including tourism. Informative sessions highlighting various sources of funding, including private financing of public infrastructure, public-private partnerships, state and federal loans and grants, bank loans, etc. will be provided as well as the very basics of planning capital projects and developing financial policies that support capital improvement needs. Participants will have the opportunity to earn Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits as well.

In addition to attracting local and state elected and appointed officials, the Governor's Infrastructure Financing Conference may also attract public finance professionals such as bankers, financial advisors, accountants, and attorneys, as well as engineers, builders, consultants, and other professionals who assist local communities in planning and implementing capital improvement projects. This will allow attendees an opportunity to network with professionals who may be able to help with their infrastructure financing needs.

We hope that you will be a part of this exciting event.

For more information, please contact

Jean Bass | Virginia Resources Authority | 804.616.3441 | JBass@VirginiaResources.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@vacounty.org).



DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS | City of Harrisonburg | Posted December 3



WATER COLLECTION APPRENTICE | James City County | Posted November 30



WATER DISTRIBUTION APPRENTICE | James City County | Posted November 30



INDUSTRIAL MECHANIC | James City County | Posted November 30



KINSHIP NAVIGATOR | James City County | Posted November 30



FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST I/II (CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES) | James City County | Posted November 30



ZONING ADMINISTRATOR | Northampton County | Posted November 29



SYSTEM/SOFTWARE ARCHITECT | Montgomery County | Posted November 28



CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER | Williamsburg-James City County Schools | Posted November 28



REFUSE SITE ATTENDANT PART-TIME | New Kent County | Posted November 27



PROGRAM COORDINATOR II - ADULT SERVICES | Hanover County | Posted November 27



PLANNER | The Berkley Group | Posted November 26



FINANCIAL SPECIALIST III | Fairfax County | Posted November 26



DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS | Shenandoah County | Posted November 26



SMALL ENGINE MECHANIC | James City County | Posted November 20



FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST | Montgomery County | Posted November 20



ENGINEER | City of Harrisonburg | Posted November 20



UTILITY PLANNER | Western Virginia Water Authority | Posted November 20



**CONSTITUENT & FOIA
LIAISON COUNTY ADMINISTRATION**
| Chesterfield County | Posted
November 16



**POLICE
ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST** |
Town of Culpeper | Posted November
16



**WEBSITE CONTENT
COORDINATOR** | Northampton
County | Posted November 16



**DIRECTOR
STORMWATER AND RESOURCE
PROTECTION DIVISION** | James City
County | Posted November 16



**PRETRIAL AND
PROBATION OFFICER I/II** | James
City County | Posted November 16



**WASTEWATER
FACILITIES APPRENTICE/SPECIALIST
I/SPECIALIST II** | James City County |
Posted November 16



**TRANSPORTATION
PLANNER/LONG RANGE PLANNER** |
Culpeper County | Posted November
15



**COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR** | Greene County |
Posted November 14



SHELVER CLERK | James
City County | Posted November 14



FINANCIAL ANALYST |
James City County | Posted November
14



**ACCOUNTING
TECHNICIAN I/II** | James City County
| Posted November 14



**RECREATION LEADER
(CHILD WATCH)** | James City County |
Posted November 14



CUSTODIAN Part Time |
New Kent County | Posted November
14



**WATER TREATMENT
PLANT TRAINEE** | Gloucester County
| Posted November 14



**CHIEF FINANCIAL
OFFICER** | Stafford County | Posted
November 14



CITY MANAGER | City of
Franklin | Posted November 8



**BUILDING OFFICIAL/
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE OFFICIAL**
| Craig County | Posted November 7



**BENEFIT PROGRAM
SPECIALIST II** | Montgomery County |
Posted November 7



FRAUD INVESTIGATOR
| Montgomery County | Posted
November 7



SENIOR APPRAISER |
Albemarle County | Posted November
6



**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT MANAGER** |
Albemarle County | Posted November
6



**SENIOR FINANCIAL
ANALYST** | Spotsylvania County |
Posted November 5



**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
OF FISCAL MANAGEMENT** | Bedford
County | Posted November 5



BUILDING OFFICIAL |
Gloucester County | Posted November
2



**SENIOR FACILITIES
SPECIALIST (ELECTRICAL)** | James
City County | Posted November 2



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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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