The General Assembly will consider Governor Northam’s proposed amendments at the reconvened session on Wednesday, April 7. The Governor proposed amendments to 36 bills (including several pairs of House and Senate companion bills) and offered 18 amendments to the state budget.

An overview of the Governor’s amendments of interest to local governments may be found below.

**HB 2207 (Jones)/SB 1375 (Saslaw)** establish a presumption that COVID-19 causing the death or disability of firefighters, emergency medical services personnel, law-enforcement officers, correctional officers, and regional jail officers is an occupational disease compensable under the Workers’ Compensation Act. As passed by the General Assembly, the bills provide that this presumption applies to any death or disability caused by infection from the COVID-19 virus occurring on or after September 1, 2020. The Governor’s amendments apply the presumption beginning July 1, 2020. VACo has requested that any retroactive application of this presumption be accompanied by state funding assistance.

**HB 1890 (Price)/SB 1395 (McClellan)** impose certain oversight requirements on local voting practices, in addition to other provisions creating causes of action at the state level. The Governor’s amendments clarify some ambiguous language about the applicability of the requirements to submit certain election-related practices for a public comment period or to the Attorney General for approval. The Governor’s proposal makes clear that all localities are subject to these requirements. VACo had encouraged the Governor to consider a delay in the bills’ provisions regarding review of local redistricting plans, given the unprecedented delay in receipt of 2020 Census data, as there will be limited time for localities to develop local redistricting plans and submit them for either a 75-day process of public notice and comment or a 60-day Attorney General review between Census...
Dear VACo Members –

It’s time for the 2021 Achievement Awards Program. Any county department is eligible to compete so ENTER NOW!

Achievement Awards Submission Form

All entries are required to be submitted in electronic form. No paper copy submissions are necessary. The electronic copy should be a PDF or WORD file. Email entries to Gage Harter at gharter@vaco.org.

Submissions must be received by July 1, 2021.

Last year, we processed 76 entries and selected 21 winners from 14 Counties. VACo presented awards at 14 Board of Supervisors Meetings, recognized winners at the virtual Annual Conference, and issued a news release to statewide media.

The judges for the 2021 Achievement Awards will be announced soon.

VACo has received more than 800 entries over the past decade. Last year’s Best Achievement winner was Prince William County for its “Human Rights Student Leadership Council” program.

VACo encourages all Counties, big and small, to enter the 2021 Achievement Awards Program. Please contact gharter@vaco.org with questions or for more information.
On April 1, the Commission on School Construction and Modernization held its first meeting to discuss issues related to K-12 school infrastructure. Funding for school construction and renovation is one of the biggest concerns and responsibilities of local governments in the Commonwealth, and research indicates that the quality of physical learning environments has direct impacts on the educational outcomes of students. However, many localities struggle to finance their share of the multi-billion-dollar backlog in school construction and modernization needs. In advance of the meeting, VACo sent the Commission a letter reiterating our long-held support for additional state resources and additional funding options for capital and school construction costs.

Created by enabling legislation from Senator Jennifer McClellan in 2020, the Commission is tasked with assessing the Commonwealth’s school facilities and determining school construction and modernization funding needs, identifying funding mechanisms, and making recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly. This is to include: establishing best practices in school modernization and construction for school divisions; creating standardized construction designs and procurement practices to recommend and make available to local school divisions; identifying potential cost-saving measures for implementation by local school divisions to minimize construction and modernization costs where possible. This is the third state study and commission within the past decade to examine this issue, following an effort undertaken by then-Governor Bob McDonnell in 2013, and more recently, a 2018 effort by the Senate Local Government Committee’s Subcommittee on School Facility Modernization. This
latter effort was led by Senator Bill Stanley, who along with Senator McClellan is also serving now on the current Commission.

While more up-to-date information is needed, the fact that this issue continues to be a topic of concern for local governments and discussion by the General Assembly is revealing. According to the 2013 Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) study, 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.

Updating information on and quantifying the scope of the K-12 facility needs will be one of the initial priorities of the Commission. In addition to voting to elect Senator McClellan as Chair, and Delegate Chris Hurst as Vice-Chair, discussion focused on the Commission’s workplan. Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. James Lane, who also serves on the Commission, was tasked with bringing information from VDOE and surveys from each local school division back to the Commission to identify the current scope of facility needs, information on potential correlations between construction needs and socio-economic demographics, information on capital expenditures made by local governments, including: standard lengths in capital improvement plans, local composite indexes for school divisions, school asset replacement values, local fiscal stress, as well as ability to raise local funds and debt capacity, and data on use of existing school construction financing resources such as bonding through the Virginia Public Schools Authority (VPSA). This information will likely be presented at the next meeting, likely to be held in mid-to-late May at a date yet to be determined.

Commission staff from the Division of Legislative Services also provided a brief overview of recent legislative efforts in the General Assembly pertaining to this issue dating back to the 2019 session. Most of these bills have been previously reported in various issues of Capitol Contact and VACo’s Legislative Summaries, however of particular interest to VACo was discussion of HB 1634 (Edmunds), which was legislation from 2019 that authorized Halifax County to impose an additional local sales and use tax of up to one percent, if initiated by a resolution of the local governing body and approved by the voters at a referendum. Revenue from the tax would be used solely for capital projects for the construction or improvement of schools. This authority has since been expanded to eight additional localities. VACo strongly supports expanding this authority statewide; however, legislation to expand it to a ninth locality during the 2021 General Assembly session failed in a House Finance Committee Subcommittee after passing the Senate.

VACo appreciates the attention of the Commission to this issue and stands by ready to assist it with any efforts that will lead to action by the General Assembly to provide additional state resources and local authority to local governments to ensure that we have the tools needed to provide modern and safe learning environments for students across the Commonwealth. More information on the Commission on School Construction and Modernization and a recording of the April 1 meeting can be found here and here respectively.

VACo Contact: Jeremy R. Bennett
Visit Stafford County and Government Island

Located in the middle of Stafford I-95 exit 140, visit the quarry where the U.S. Government’s most famous buildings were born. Government Island, a historic 18th and 19th century quarry site provided Aquia sandstone for the construction of the U.S. Capitol and the White House and other historic buildings in Washington, D.C.

Today this 17-acre park is a historic scenic nature preserve and archaeological site. It has a boardwalk, ideal for observing aquatic and native plants, birds and other wildlife. Other amenities include a 1.5-mile trail (the first two trail segments are handicap accessible), and interpretive signs to help depict its rich, nationally significant history. Government Island is a scenic heritage trail, and also on the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register. Located in the middle of Stafford I-95 exit 140.

**Admission:** Free | **Contact:** 540.658.4871  
**Website:** [https://staffordcountymuseum.com/artifact/old-capitol-gatepost/](https://staffordcountymuseum.com/artifact/old-capitol-gatepost/)  
**Address:** 191 Coal Landing Road, Stafford, VA 22554

**SOURCE:** TOUR Stafford Virginia
Become a Certified Supervisor

The Virginia Association of Counties offers the Virginia Certified County Supervisors’ Program: an opportunity for county supervisors to learn how to more effectively and efficiently lead in their communities.

Since its inception in 2005, more than 80 supervisors representing more than 40 counties have completed this training program, earning credentials as a certified county supervisor. Of greater importance, each supervisor has gained the insight, perspective, and confidence needed to address the challenges and opportunities of the local governance experience.

The Virginia Certified County Supervisors’ Program features a five-course curriculum, designed to maximize engagement and enhance scholarship. Each course begins with a six-hour topically driven, classroom session, followed by seven weeks of relevant reading assignments and 90-minute virtual sessions to discuss situation-based exercises. The final component of each eight-week course is a concluding six-hour classroom session, which includes a review of the reading and assignment material.

VACo Contact: Karie Walker

| Inventing Your County’s Future: The Role of Community Planning |
| Registration Form | Register Online |
| Opening Session | May 28 |
| Closing Session | August 6 |
| Registration Deadline | May 10 |

| Governance in the 21st Century: The Role of Leadership |
| Registration Form | Register Online |
| Opening Session | September 10 |
| Closing Session | October 29 |
| Registration Deadline | August 13 |
VACo’s Associate Membership Program is the most efficient and cost-effective way to showcase your company to decision makers from Virginia’s 95 counties. This access can play a major role in your marketing efforts, and it benefits counties by identifying potential suppliers in a broad range of services. See how these four VACo Associate Members can help your county.

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Guidehouse and the American Rescue Plan

With the recent passage of the American Rescue Plan Act, counties in the commonwealth will be receiving additional funding to cover eligible expenses and economic recovery. Localities are often unaware that advisory services related to this funding are available to provide communities with access to subject matter expertise and additional staffing resources. In many cases, these services are covered by federal funds.

Guidehouse is a global management consulting firm headquartered in McLean, Virginia. We have been involved in virtually every large-scale stimulus and recovery program in recent history, including the U.S. Treasury’s Troubled Asset Relief Program, President Obama’s American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, hurricane recovery efforts in Puerto Rico, and others.

Guidehouse has convened a COVID-19 Center of Excellence, centralizing responses to our various federal, state, and local clients’ COVID-19 situations so that we can best leverage leading practices and share systems and tools across teams. Leveraging our experience, and our in-depth understanding of this funding, we can help you navigate what can be a cumbersome, document-heavy process. We utilize tested tools and techniques to help your team move as quickly as possible to serve those in need.

Guidehouse is currently supporting state and local government clients across the country to optimize COVID-19 related federal funding, including:

- Identifying the needs of your community, including conducting rapid relief assessments as necessary.
- Identifying the best funding sources for activities and programs.
- Developing a federal funding strategy, based on restrictions, availability, and impact.
- Setting up program and compliance management functions to guide the implementation of programs, reduce duplication of benefits risk, and monitor program activities.

We know this is a challenging time and appreciate how incredibly important it is to ensure that this federal money is spent efficiently, purposefully, and expeditiously. Guidehouse stands ready to assist in responding to this crisis.

Contacts

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Webinar Invitation – Generate higher-interest income on every dollar

Free live Webinar on liquidity data | Tuesday, April 13 | 130pm

Budgetary pressures have never been greater for local governments. Stretching every dollar and making certain it works efficiently for your county are challenges you know very well.

That’s why VACo urges you to attend a free, live 15-minute webinar at 130pm on Tuesday, April 13, with VACo Premier Partner cashVest® by three+one®.

Garrett Macdonald, Vice President of cashVest® by three+one®, will host the webinar and discuss liquidity data – how to use it, and how counties across the country have benefitted from putting liquidity analysis to work. The Webex invitation is below.

cashvest® by three+one® uses proprietary algorithms to produce data-driven analysis and time-horizon evaluations. This information is applied to safely increase yields on current cash deposits and enhance revenue sources.

We look forward to seeing you at 1:30 pm on April 13 for a live webinar on maximizing the value of every dollar – a breakdown of how cash can be best utilized for current & future operating needs, offsetting banking fees, borrowing, and earnings/savings opportunities.

Please RSVP to Karie Walker at kwalker@vaco.org
As required by legislation passed in the 2020 General Assembly amending the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act (CBPA), the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has drafted changes to state administrative code to be incorporated into local land use regulations. (NOTE: the CBPA requires all “Tidewater Virginia” localities - as defined in state code - to incorporate and enforce the criteria of the regulations developed pursuant to the Act).

The first change proposes a new section in the regulations entitled “Climate change resilience and adaption criteria” that localities are required to incorporate into their ordinances and enforce after three years of their effective date. The newly proposed criteria are intended to address “coastal resilience and adaptation to sea-level rise” and entail significant new restrictions on permitted activities within the 100-foot buffer adjacent to waterways (a.k.a. the Resource Protection Area or RPA). These include prohibiting localities from granting exceptions for (1) placing “fill or other material” within the buffer area; and (2) permitting any encroachments into the “seaward 50 feet of the buffer area.” The proposal also requires localities to consider “the impacts of climate change or sea-level rise” that proposed developments will have on RPAs and grants authority to require “the installation of additional measures or design features” to address such impacts.

The second proposal amends existing criteria to require that any modifications to the buffer area (such as establishment of sight lines or erosion control projects) preserve existing mature trees to the “maximum extent practical.” Additionally, when new buffer areas are established (such as when agriculture or silviculture activities are converted to other uses), “the planting of trees should be utilized to the maximum extent practical.”

For more information on the proposed new coastal resilience and adaptation to sea-level rise criteria, please click here. For more information on the proposal to incorporate additional requirements related to preservation and establishment of mature trees in the RPA, click here. Both webpages include links to an online portal for submitting comments by the May 3 deadline.

VACo Contacts: Joe Lerch, AICP and Chris McDonald, Esq.
A statewide stakeholder group has been meeting since January to develop an implementation plan for the new Marcus Alert system established in legislation passed during last summer's special session. The legislation seeks to ensure that individuals experiencing behavioral health crises receive a behavioral health response to the extent possible, and a specialized response from law enforcement when necessary. The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) and the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) are leading the state's implementation efforts, and have convened the stakeholder group to prepare the implementation plan, which is required by the 2020 legislation to be developed by July 1, 2021. (VACo held a webinar with DBHDS and DCJS staff in December 2020, which provides an overview of the Marcus-David Peters Act; a recording of the briefing may be found at this link.)

In preparing the implementation plan, workgroup members have received briefings from a variety of guest speakers, as well as presentations from workgroup members. Presentations have included an overview of crisis services in several Community Services Boards (CSBs), a discussion of special considerations regarding the interaction of individuals with developmental disabilities with the criminal justice system, and a briefing on the role of peer supports in serving individuals in crisis. Information about the workgroup may be found on DBHDS’s webpage dedicated to the Marcus-David Peters Act, available at this link. Recordings of several community listening sessions held by the workgroup may be found on DBHDS’s YouTube page, available at this link. Recordings of several workgroup meetings are available on Shenandoah County Sheriff Timothy Carter’s YouTube page, available at this link.

In accordance with the new law, the implementation plan must inventory current crisis intervention and mobile crisis teams and other collaborations between Community Services Boards (CSBs) and law enforcement agencies. As part of this effort, the workgroup is preparing a survey to be sent to CSBs, Crisis Intervention Team programs and Crisis Intervention Team Assessment Centers, law enforcement agencies, and Public Safety Answering Points.

The first set of Marcus Alert programs and crisis teams must be established by December 1, 2021. The first cohort of CSBs and localities to implement the system are Orange, Madison, Culpeper, Fauquier, and Rappahannock Counties; Prince William County; the City of Bristol and Washington County, including the towns of Abingdon, Damascus, and Glade Spring; the City of Richmond; and the City of Virginia Beach. By July 1, 2023, five additional teams must be established, and all CSB catchment areas must be served by a Marcus Alert system by July 1, 2026. In addition, the legislation requires every locality, by July 1, 2021, to establish a database that is accessible to the 911 system to provide mental health and emergency contact information that may be helpful in responding to a crisis (this information would be voluntarily provided by individuals with certain behavioral health or other conditions or their parents or guardians). By July 1, 2022, every locality must have established protocols for the diversion of 911 calls to crisis centers and the participation of law enforcement in the Marcus Alert system; the state implementation plan will establish a framework for the local plans. A summary checklist of local requirements prepared by DBHDS may be found at this link.

The workgroup is scheduled to hold four more meetings. DBHDS is receiving comments and questions at marcusalert@dbhds.virginia.gov. All comments received prior to May 16, 2021 will be reviewed by the workgroup.

VACo Contact: Katie Boyle
Secretary of Transportation Shannon Valentine and Secretary of Natural Resources Matthew Strickler recently released the interim report on orphan drainage outfalls. This is most often an issue when eroding stormwater outfalls associated with Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) subdivision streets cause issues for private property owners. Specifically, in certain older subdivisions generic drainage easements (not assigned to any party) that extend beyond the VDOT right-of-way are not being claimed and maintained by VDOT. These are known colloquially as “orphaned outfalls” as there is no assigned entity to maintain them. Years of neglect and lack of maintenance have led to severe erosion problems for some private property owners directly impacted by these drainage systems. This issue was first raised to VACo’s Transportation Steering Committee by Isle of Wight County, but is likely a problem in other counties. As most counties do not own, operate, or maintain public drainage systems, they cannot take responsibility for outfalls on private land without risk of being subject to a perpetual and potentially expensive MS4 permit.

The interim report provides a brief overview of the issue and outline of the workplan to be followed for the remainder of the 2021 calendar year. This will include an evaluation of inadequate drainage outfalls, a summary of how each locality addresses drainage easements for projects not constructed by VDOT, a review of the legal structures at the state and local level governing this issue, and an investigation and evaluation of funding approaches to maintain drainage outfalls – orphaned or otherwise.

The report was authorized following the adoption of budget amendment language from the 2020 session introduced by Senator Lucas and Delegates Tyler and Brewer at the request of VACo, which is grateful for their continued attention and work on this issue. The final report will be submitted to the Chairs of the House Appropriations, Senate Finance and Appropriations, House Transportation, Senate Transportation, House Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources, and Senate Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources Committees by September 2021. However, the interim report notes that the magnitude and complexity of the work may require additional time and an extension by the 2022 General Assembly if appropriate.

The full text of the interim report may be viewed [here](#).

VACo Contact: [Jeremy R. Bennett](mailto:jeremy.r.bennett@va.gov)
The recently-enacted American Rescue Plan Act contains significant resources for Virginia counties. VACo has launched a page on its website to serve as a resource hub for implementation of the new law, including analyses of the legislation and questions submitted to the Department of the Treasury regarding the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, as well as information on other sources of funding in the Act. VACo will continue to share additional information, such as Treasury guidance, on this page as it becomes available.

The toolkit may be found at [American Rescue Plan Act - Virginia Association of Counties (vaco.org)](https://vaco.org).
Legislation enacted in 2020 authorizes counties to impose a local cigarette tax at a rate not to exceed $0.40 per pack, effective July 1, 2021. In order to assist members who may be considering implementing the new taxing authority, VACo has developed an online toolkit to provide a centralized location for relevant information. The toolkit will be updated with additional resources as they are developed.

Current resources posted in the toolkit include:

- Resources regarding development of revenue estimates
- Information regarding regional models for implementation
- Legislative Resources
- Tax Stamp Resources – Includes the previously recorded SICPA-Meyercord webinar & a recording of the live Q&A session on March 10, 2021, examples of SICPA Cigarette Tax Stamps, and a link to contact SICPA-Meyercord for tax stamp information
- County Ordinances

VACo will be compiling copies of county cigarette tax ordinances in order to assist members that may be considering adopting similar ordinances in the future. If your county adopts a cigarette tax ordinance, VACo would appreciate receiving a copy.

VACo Contact: Karie Walker
data being made available to localities in late summer and the end of the calendar year. No changes to these provisions were made.

**HB 2168 (Scott)** establishes civil penalties for gambling devices being placed in an unregulated location, as defined in the bill, and authorizes the Attorney General, an attorney for the Commonwealth, or the attorney for any locality to initiate legal action to enjoin the operation of such devices. The Governor’s amendment deletes some language that had been interpreted by some observers as allowing “games of skill” to continue operating for an additional year beyond their scheduled expiration at the end of FY 2021. Games of skill, or “gray machines,” had been authorized to operate for one year via gubernatorial amendments to legislation passed in the 2020 session, subject to a per-machine tax that was dedicated to COVID-19 relief efforts.

**SB 1221 (Favola),** as passed by the General Assembly, allows Loudoun County to provide local health services under contract with the State Board of Health. The Governor’s substitute would extend this authority to Prince William County and the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park.

**Marijuana legalization**
The Governor’s most extensive amendments were offered to **HB 2312 (Herring)/SB 1406 (Ebbin),** which would establish a path for legalization of marijuana in Virginia. The Governor’s amendments largely center around five key policy areas:

- **Expedited Legalization:** The Governor’s amendments speed up the legalization of personal possession of marijuana. While the legislation as passed by the General Assembly delayed legalization until 2024, the Governor has proposed allowing adults 21 years of age or older to legally possess up to one ounce of cannabis beginning July 1, 2021, though commercialization will still be delayed.

- **Home Cultivation:** In addition to the expedited legalization of possession date, the Governor also proposed that the effective date for home cultivation be sped up as well. Under his proposed amendments, households would be permitted to grow up to four cannabis plants beginning July 1, 2021. Such plants must be labeled with identification information, must remain out of sight from the public view, and must be out of range of individuals under the age of 21.

- **Public Health Funding:** The Governor has proposed two budget amendments relating to the marijuana legislation: the first funds public awareness campaigns on the health and safety risks of marijuana, and the second funds training to help law enforcement officers recognize and prevent drugged driving. These amendments also include explicit language directing ongoing support for public health education.

- **Worker Protections:** Under the Governor’s proposed amendments, pursuant to § 4.1-900 of the legislation, the new Cannabis Control Authority is authorized to revoke a company’s business license if it interferes with union organizing efforts, fails to pay a prevailing wage as defined by the United States Department of Labor, or classifies more than 10 percent of employees as independent contractors.

- **Expedited Expungements and Sealing of Records:** The Governor has proposed new language that seeks to speed up the process of expungements and sealing of criminal records on marijuana offenses. The language, found in § 19.2-392.1 and § 19.2-392.2, simplifies the criteria for the sealing of records and allows for expungements as soon as state agencies are logistically able to do so.
Budget Amendments

The Governor proposed 18 amendments to the state budget, many of which are technical changes. Notably, the Governor did not amend language passed by the General Assembly that would stipulate that additional federal pandemic relief funds approved by Congress after January 1, 2021, would be placed in a trust fund and appropriated through a general appropriation act, a provision that would require legislative involvement in decisions regarding use of these funds, rather than the relatively free hand afforded to the Governor in prioritizing use of the Coronavirus Relief Funds contained in the March 2020 CARES Act. With the retention of these provisions, a special session to appropriate the funds distributed to Virginia in the American Rescue Plan Act can be expected sometime later this year.

Budget amendments of interest to local governments are outlined below:

**Amendment 3:** Budget language as passed by the General Assembly extends certain election practices that were instituted for the November 2020 election (the ability to cure errors on absentee ballot envelopes, the requirement for ballots to be sent with prepaid postage, and authorization for use of drop-off locations) to special elections and primaries held during the period between enactment of the budget and June 30, 2021, after which time legislation passed during the 2021 General Assembly special session making these provisions permanent takes effect. The Governor’s amendment extends these provisions to cover general elections occurring until June 30.

**Amendment 5:** Budget language currently allows the Superintendent of Public Instruction to grant temporary flexibility or to issue waivers of certain deadlines and requirements, such as accreditation, testing, school calendars, and reports, in recognition of school closures or other effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This flexibility currently applies to FY 2020 (school year 2019-2020) and FY 2021 (school year 2020-2021); the Governor’s amendment would extend the authority through FY 2022 (school year 2021-2022).

**Amendment 7:** The Governor’s amendment authorizes the appropriation of additional federal Medicaid revenue for current services as authorized in the American Rescue Plan Act, but does not allow any expansion of Medicaid programs unless authorized by the legislature, and requires any state funds freed up by the federal dollars to be retained until reappropriated by the General Assembly.

**Amendment 8:** The enrolled budget directs $33.2 million in federal funds for school age child care; the Governor’s amendment allows these funds to be used for broader child care purposes.

**Amendment 11:** Clarifies that a waiver from the Criminal Justice Services Board is only required for use of certain high-caliber rifles and ammunition for use in such rifles and not for other types of firearms or ammunition. The waiver requirement was established in legislation passed during the 2020 special session.

**Amendment 12:** Provides $1 million General Funds (GF) in FY 2022 for the Virginia State Police to provide training to state and local law enforcement agencies in detection of driving under the influence of drugs. As discussed above, this amendment is part of the Governor’s policy proposals related to marijuana legalization.

**Amendment 14:** Provides $1 million GF in FY 2022 for evidence-based marijuana prevention and education programs and public health campaigns. As discussed above, this amendment is also part of the Governor’s marijuana policy proposals.

VACo Contact: [VACo Legislative Team](mailto:vaco@vaco.org)
Cybersecurity Collaborative is where government security leaders go to share experiences and insight, access CISO approved tools, and collaborate to solve their problems in real-time.

Membership tiers to meet diverse needs and budgets

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Tiers and benefits

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Power your security strategies with invaluable peer collaboration

Email membership@cyberleadersunite.com to learn more
The Cybersecurity Collaborative (CSC) is a private membership organization for cybersecurity leaders to share experiences and insights, access CISO approved tools, and collaborate with peer to solve their problems in real-time.

Member benefits include:

- **Task Force Working Groups**: Member-only Collaboration to develop tools and solutions free of vendor or analyst influence
- **CISO Rapid Response**: On-Demand collaboration with CISOs to help you solve your most pressing challenges including private direct messaging
- **Tool & Policy Library**: CISO developed tools and policies to develop and strengthen your security program.
- **Morning Security Reports**: Real-time situational awareness curated and emailed to members every morning free of ads.
- **Virtual Briefings & CISO Boardrooms**: Closed-door, private briefings with CISOs and national security leaders for unique insights on threats, policy, and solutions.
- **Leadership Development Program**: 12-week program developed in partnership with General Colin Powel and the Professional Development Academy

Please Contact Foss Baldwin at Foss@cyberleadersunite.com to learn more!

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**Cybersecurity Ask the Expert Webinar**

w/ Dawn Cappelli, CISO, Rockwell Automation  
April 15 @ 2pm E.T.

**Topics Include**: Insider Threat, Risk Management, InfoSec Program Development, Leadership

[Register Here](#)

Dawn Cappelli, VP of Global Security and Chief Information Security Officer at global manufacturing leader Rockwell Automation. Dawn has a wealth of industry knowledge in the areas of information security, risk management, and insider threat risk mitigation. Previously, Dawn served as the Director and Founder of the CERT Insider Threat Center at Carnegie Mellon’s Software Engineering Institute. Dawn is recognized as one of the world’s leaders in insider threat mitigation and works with government and industry leaders on national strategy issues. Dawn joins Todd Fitzgerald, Vice President of Cybersecurity Strategy at CyberRisk Alliance, to talk about her journey through the field of cybersecurity, her latest initiatives at Rockwell Automation, and her team’s involvement in Cybersecurity Collaborative’s SecDevOps Supply Chain Integrity Task Force.
You can feel more confident as you approach retirement

According to a study of recent retirees, **64% wish they had been more knowledgeable** about retirement saving and investing.* Come find out more about key considerations as you approach retirement.

To learn more, meet with your Nationwide Retirement Specialist at our next event.


**To learn more, attend our upcoming webinar:**

**Approaching & Living in Retirement**

April 16, 2021 from 12:00-12:45

Can’t make it? Other webinars and videos are available at [www.NRSFORU.com](http://www.NRSFORU.com)

**For more information contact:**
Lynn Robinette, MBA, CRC
434-534-5673
lynn.robinette@nationwide.com

**For more information contact:**
Selmon Robinson, CRC
540-505-4406
robins26@nationwide.com

To register for this webinar, scan this code:
The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) has announced a new grant program for FY2022 that seeks to combat hate crimes across the Commonwealth. The Hate Crimes Grant Program will provide a total of $1.5 million to localities that have established a partnership program with institutions and/or nonprofit organizations that have been targets of or at risk of becoming targets of hate crimes.

The goal of this program is to minimize bias-motivated incidents by providing funding that supports institutions and/or nonprofit organizations that may be at risk based on race, religious conviction, color, gender, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, or national origin.

The maximum amount that may be requested by a locality is $50,000. Applications must be submitted in the DCJS Online Grants Management System (OGMS) by 5pm on April 19, 2021.

For more information on this new grant opportunity, please visit the [grant program information page](#) and review the [program guidelines and requirements](#).

Guidelines and Forms | [PDF icon FY 2022 Hate Crime Grant Program Guidelines](#)

**Grant Coordinators**
Tracy Matthews | 804.371.0635 | [email Tracy](#)
Nicole Phelps | 804.786.1577 | [email Nicole](#)

**VACo Contact:** [Chris McDonald, Esq.](#)
The Local Assistance Division will be holding a Transportation Alternatives Applicant Workshop and a Revenue Sharing Applicant Workshop as webinars in the month of April. Details for each applicant workshop can be found below, along with registration information.

**Transportation Alternatives (TA) Applicant Workshop**  
**Wednesday, April 14 from 10am-noon**

This webinar will review program eligibility, the application process, and scoring criteria.

The TA Applicant Workshop is strongly recommended for localities and other project sponsors that are interested in applying for FY 2023/2024 federal Transportation Alternatives (TA) funding. In addition to local governments, schools, regional park authorities, federally recognized tribes and federal natural resource agencies are eligible to apply.

To register for this webinar please visit: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MSVXCWX](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MSVXCWX)  
Joining information will be sent 24 hours prior to the webinar.

**Revenue Sharing Applicant Workshop for Local Governments**  
**Thursday, April 29 from 10am-noon**

This webinar will review program eligibility and the application process.

The Revenue Sharing program provides for a dollar-for-dollar match to primary, secondary or urban improvement, reconstruction, construction or maintenance projects being funded by counties, cities or towns. Fiscal Year’s 23/24 application has enhancements that will improve the application process for both locality and VDOT users. We will also discuss the availability of funds, project schedules and present an overview with helpful hints of the Smart Portal application process.

The Applicant Workshop is strongly recommended for localities that are interested in applying for Revenue Sharing funding.

To register for this webinar please visit: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MF9QT7D](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MF9QT7D)  
Joining information will be sent 24 hours prior to the webinar.
Localities
We at VTCA appreciate that over 300 VDOT and Locality personnel are currently registered for the 2021 VTCA-VDOT Consultant Forum on April 15! We acknowledge that more and more localities are joining our events and conversations, as you are increasingly taking on greater roles on administering your own transportation projects.

If you have not yet registered (!!FREE OF CHARGE!!), we hope that you please consider representing your locality at one of the large transportation conferences in the Commonwealth.

With the choice of four breakout tracks (and 12 breakout sessions) surrounding Aggregates, Design, CEI, and LAP, there will be no shortage of content surrounding the Virginia Transportation Program.

The Forum will include nine breakout room discussions with localities showcasing their LAPs (Design and Construction), including, but not limited to Charlottesville, Spotsylvania, Loudoun, Abingdon, Fairfax, Suffolk, Harrisonburg, Rockingham, Chesterfield, Roanoke, Christiansburg, and Lynchburg. If you would like to contribute your respective transportation programs, please reach out to VTCA’s Jeff Bragdon at Bragdon@vtca.org.

Please consider participating in this event and fill out the localities registration form and return it to Dana Morris at dana@vtca.org. We hope to see you there!
Last week, the National Association of Counties (NACo) Board of Directors approved plans to relocate the 2021 NACo Annual Conference to Prince George’s County, Md., just outside of Washington, D.C., and revise the dates to July 9-12.

The safety of all attendees – our members, guests, staff, vendors and partners – is our top priority. The nation is on track to vaccinate all eligible and willing adults by the end of May, and we are reimagining the conference agenda and format to reduce the overall number of sessions and maximize the use of our entire conference space to avoid overcrowding. Additionally, the conference will be a hybrid event. Participants will be able to choose either an in-person or virtual conference experience.

We will share more information in the coming weeks. In the meantime, please save the date and help us with our planning efforts by completing the short poll below.

HELP US IN OUR PLANNING EFFORTS

Help us with our conference planning efforts by completing a short poll. This poll will allow us to better estimate the demand for in-person and virtual conference experiences.

COMPLETE THE POLL
In a new series of video blogs, our partners at three+one® present their proven methods for turning the tide of economic waves in a changed marketplace since COVID. cashvest® by three+one® offers a comprehensive 6-step plan to navigate these new marketplace realities to provide your county with certainty during uncertain times.

cashvest® by three+one® has developed a comprehensive plan to navigate a changed marketplace since COVID. We previously shared the first two steps in this pathway; today we share Step 3 for getting your public or higher-ed entity on the financial Pathway to Recovery® with our 6-step plan.

Check out the 3rd step video

Check out the 2nd step video

Check out the 1st step video
REBOOTING EDUCATION WITH FURNITURE AND SANITATION

It’s 2021 and schools are faced with the complex task of getting students, faculty, and staff back into classrooms safely. This task will require a variety of well thought out plans. Plans that address the logistics and scheduling of a greater number of smaller class sizes and plans that support keeping those spaces clean. With extensive experience, The Supply Room can help ease the stress of designing and executing these plans.

**FURNITURE**

Desk and table shields with mobile and multi-functional furniture is one key factor in making spaces both safe and flexible. Creative plans will include scenarios for how and when to turn a gymnasium, cafeteria, or common area into a classroom and back in minutes. Flip-top tables can be nested and moved aside quickly when not in use. These tables and shields can also create health checkpoints, sanitation stations, and help direct the flow of traffic at building entrances and in common areas. This combined with clear and consistent signage will ensure students and faculty have the time and space to keep safe.

**SANITATION**

Knowing the difference between cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing and when to do each is the second key to developing you plan. To start, what is the difference?

- **Cleaning:** removes visible dirt, soil and debris – it does not disinfect.
- **Disinfecting:** eliminates bacteria, fungi and certain viruses – it does not remove dirt.
- **Sanitizing:** reduces the number of germs on surfaces or objects to a safe level, as judged by public health standards or requirements – it does not fully eliminate them.

Sanitizing and disinfecting products also vary in their dwell time (the length of time that a chemical must be in contact with the surface and remain wet, in order to achieve the product’s advertised kill rate.) Dwell times can range from a matter of seconds to 10 minutes. Our janitorial and sanitation experts are here to help recommend the best products for your space and put your plan in place.

While the situation with the pandemic is rapidly evolving in every direction, it is important that the solutions you create are adaptable and resilient. Designing a creative plan to keep your faculty and students safe with the ability to flex will help reduce infection and create a stable learning environment. Let’s start a conversation – visit our website or call to get help with your plans and implementation today.
VACo Supervisors’ Forum

Thursday, April 29 | 830am - 5pm | Friday, April 30 | 830am - 1230pm

On April 29-30, VACo will virtually offer its County Supervisors’ Forum! This day-and-a-half event provides Supervisors and other officials with the chance to examine issues you and your counties face daily. Participants are given an overview of local government and the duties of a County Supervisor by local officials who relish in sharing their knowledge and experience.

Check out the Agenda for the Forum

VACo is excited to offer this course to newly elected and incumbent Supervisors, chief county administrative officers and other government managers. Regardless of your role or length of time in local government service, there is always something new to learn, and local leaders will come away with the information they need to steer their community toward a bright future.

For this year’s virtual Supervisors’ Forum - VACo will utilize the Whova event platform. Attendees will have access to the platform on April 5 and can peruse the breakout sessions and ask questions or answer polls, scan the virtual sponsor and exhibit halls to find organizations that save counties money, and network with other supervisors or county staff.

Register today to join us for education that will help you better serve your community.

Deadline for refunds is 4pm on April 15, 2021. Substitutions are welcome. Deadline for registration is 4pm on April 21, 2021.

Forum speakers may refer to the VACo Supervisors’ Manual, which is strongly encouraged for this meeting. If you need a Supervisors’ Manual, please contact Valerie Russell at vrussell@vaco.org with any questions.

VACo Contact: Valerie Russell

REGISTER NOW!
VACo COUNTY SUPERVISORS' FORUM

NAME ____________________________________________________________

TITLE ____________________________________________________________

COUNTY/ORGANIZATION ____________________________________________

EMAIL __________________________________________________________

CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____________________________________________

EXPIRATION DATE _________________________________________________

NAME ON CARD ___________________________________________________

Fax completed registration form with credit card information to 804.788.0083

Or please make payable to VACo. Mail check and completed registration form to 1207 East Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219

Click here to register online

Registration Fee: $350

Thursday, April 29 - 830am to 5pm
Friday, April 30 - 830am to 1230pm

Speakers may refer to the VACo Supervisors' Manual, which is strongly encouraged for this meeting. If you need a Supervisors' Manual, please contact Valerie Russell at vrussell@vaco.org with any questions.
Take Your Leadership Skills to the Next Level Through the NACo High Performance Leadership Academy

The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy is an online 12-week program that empowers frontline county government professionals with the most fundamental leadership skills to deliver results for counties and communities.

NACo launched this program in partnership with the team from the Professional Development Academy, including General Colin Powell, Dr. Marshall Goldsmith, and many other executives from both private industry and government agencies.

Over 1,600 counties have enrolled emerging and existing leaders since the launch of the program last year, with incredible feedback and results. In fact, the positive feedback and demand for this NACo program has been truly unprecedented.

The program has proven relevant and practical for the leaders and is convenient and non-disruptive to busy schedules. The 12 weeks of content are expertly facilitated online, and it takes about 4-5 hours per week for participants to fully engage in the program.

$1,645 per enrollee for VA Counties. (Retail Price $2,495)

The next program begins April 26th. The last day to register is April 9th!

To enroll visit the NACo High Performance Leadership Academy webpage at naco.org/skills.

For questions and assistance in enrolling please contact Luke Afeman at lukea@pdaleadership.com. Professional Development Academy/NACo Leadership Academy.

“This is a transformational leadership program that has proven to be the most scalable, cost effective, and efficient way to make your leaders better.”
- General Colin Powell
Join the National Association of Counties (NACo) in celebrating National County Government Month (NCGM). Held each April, NCGM is an annual celebration of county government and an excellent opportunity for counties, parishes and boroughs to highlight effective county programs and raise public awareness about services provided to the community.

There is no clearer demonstration of this year’s theme – Counties Matter – than the public health emergency and economic crisis we are facing. Now more than ever, our residents are seeing firsthand the essential functions counties perform.

This April, we have an opportunity to reinforce the message that counties provide indispensable services and help our communities stay healthy, safe and vibrant.

Celebrate National County Government Month this April

NCGM TOOLKIT
The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) mobile application is a valuable tool for County officials and staff to better serve their communities. With the VACo mobile app, users can easily stay informed about issues important to Counties with many features, including:

* VACo Events Registration and Info
* VACo Member Directory
* Legislative News and Alerts | Capitol Contact
* VACo Chat
* County Pulse Podcast
* Employment Opportunities

**Downloading the app is easy...**

- Scan the QR Code or search "Virginia Assn of Counties" from the iTunes or Google Play Store
- Opt-in for VACo Push Notifications to receive important VACo alerts
- For access to the most features, request an account with your email and a password
- Once your account is approved, members will have access to all the features.
VIRGINIA COUNTY SUPERVISORS’ MANUAL
EIGHTH EDITION, 2019

ORDER YOURS TODAY
$75 EACH

(SHIPPING IS INCLUDED)
The Eighth Edition (2019) of VACo's *Virginia County Supervisors’ Manual*, is now in stock. The Supervisors' Manual is the number one resource on the framework of county government and the responsibilities of the county board.

**ORDER YOUR ALL-NEW VOLUME NOW**

**ORDER FORM**

NAME: _________________________________ TITLE: ________________________________

COUNTY (OR ORGANIZATION): ______________________________________________________

SHIPPING ADDRESS: _______________________________________________________________

CITY / STATE / ZIP: _________________________________________________________________

PHONE: ______________________ EMAIL: _______________________________________________

**PAYMENT INFORMATION**

Manuals are $75 per copy. Number of Copies _______.

☐ Check enclosed for $__________ Make payable to VACo Services, Inc.

**CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION:**

Charge Options: _____ American Express    _____ MasterCard    _____ VISA

Card No: __________________________ Exp. Date____________________

Cardholder Name: _____________________________________________________________

Authorized Signature: _________________________________________________________

Email for credit card receipt: __________________________________________________

**Mail completed form to:** Virginia Association of Counties
1207 East Main Street, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219-3627

Or FAX credit card purchases to 804.788.0083

Questions? Call 804.788.6652.
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTERNSHIP- BUILDING PERMIT TECHNICIAN</td>
<td>Montgomery County</td>
<td>April 5</td>
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<td>PRINCIPAL PLANNER/PROJECT MANAGER</td>
<td>Hanover County</td>
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<td>SHIFT SUPERVISOR, WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY</td>
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<td>CONVEYANCE SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN</td>
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<td>PARK Ranger</td>
<td>Gloucester County</td>
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<td>CIRCULATIONS SPECIALIST</td>
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<td>DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</td>
<td>Washington County</td>
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<td>VISITOR/COMMERCE CENTER INFORMATIONAL SPECIALIST</td>
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<td>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</td>
<td>Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission</td>
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<td>DIRECTOR OF HUMAN SERVICES</td>
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<td>City of Manassas</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEPUTY COURT CLERK</td>
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**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

- **CITY MANAGER** | City of Savannah Georgia | Posted March 29
- **PERMIT TECHNICIAN** | Isle of Wight County | Posted March 29
- **PART TIME**
  - **FIREFIGHTER/EMT** | Clarke County | Posted March 24
- **FINANCIAL SYSTEMS COORDINATOR** | Chesterfield County | Posted March 29
- **PARKS & GROUNDS MANAGER** | Isle of Wight County | Posted March 29
- **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-DEPARTMENT OF FIRE, EMS & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** | Clarke County | Posted March 24
- **DIVISION DIRECTOR, LDS/SOLID WASTE RECYCLING, ENG & ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE - SITE DIRECTOR** | Fairfax County | Posted March 29
- **MAINTENANCE WORKER II (SANITATION)** | Isle of Wight County | Posted March 29
- **FIREMEDIC II** | Isle of Wight County | Posted March 29
- **UTILITY SYSTEMS MECHANIC** | Isle of Wight County | Posted March 29
- **FINANCIAL ANALYST** | Isle of Wight County | Posted March 29
- **SENIOR ACCOUNTANT** | Town of Culpeper | Posted March 24
- **STORMWATER ENGINEER** | Isle of Wight County | Posted March 29
- **CODE COMPLIANCE INSPECTOR I** | Isle of Wight County | Posted March 29
- **EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE CHIEF OF POLICE** | City of Lexington | Posted March 24
- **PUMP STATION MECHANIC (SEWER DIVISION)** | Isle of Wight County | Posted March 29
- **PRETRIAL PROBATION OFFICER** | Frederick County | Posted March 29
- **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR** | Nottoway County | Posted March 24
- **FINANCIAL ANALYST** | Isle of Wight County | Posted March 29
- **ENVIRONMENTAL CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER** | Campbell County | Posted March 24
- **SENIOR WATER QUALITY TECHNICIAN** | Isle of Wight County | Posted March 29
- **WORKPLACE TRAINING SPECIALIST** | Gloucester County | Posted March 25
- **SPECIALIST INSTRUCTOR** | Gloucester County | Posted March 29
VALUE OF VACo

ADVOCACY
VACo’s lobbying efforts have helped stem the tide of unfunded mandates and have saved Counties millions of dollars every year.

EDUCATION
Our educational programs offer County leaders and staff opportunities to become more effective in their communities.

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT
Some of VACo’s best moments are when members convene and work to improve communities all over the Commonwealth.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
Our business development opportunities offer savings and innovative approaches to delivering services at the County level.

VACo LEADERSHIP

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Fairfax County

President-Elect
Meg Bohmke
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Director of Administration and Finance | Vicky D. Steinruck, CPA
Coordinator of Programs and Development | Karie Walker

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

1207 East Main Street | Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219-3627
Phone: 804.788.6652 | www.vaco.org

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